

Moorwood Geological Trail

LENGTH OF THE WALK

This walk is suitable for all the family. It is clearly indicated with the waymark signs identified below. The walk is over hilly terrain with many stiles and therefore care should be taken.



STARTING POINT

The walk starts from Hartshill Hayes Country Park. Car parking charges do apply.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on other circular walks in North Warwickshire, Countryside Events & Activities, and Cycleways, please contact North Warwickshire Borough Council, Community Development Division, The Council House, South Street, Atherstone, CV9 1BG, telephone (01827) 719207. More information about activities and events in Northern Warwickshire can be obtained by visiting the Northern Warwickshire Information Centre, Kingsbury Water Park, Bodymoor Heath Lane, Sutton Coldfield, Telephone (01827) 872660.

If you find any problems on public footpaths, please contact Warwickshire County Council's Countryside Access Team on (01926) 410410.

For **HAPPY** walking follow the country code

Enjoy the countryside and respect its life and work

Keep all dogs under control

Keep to public paths across farmland

Fasten all gates

Guard against the risk of fire

Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls

Leave livestock, crops and machinery alone

Help to keep all water clean

Take your litter home

Protect wildlife, plants and trees

Make no unnecessary noise

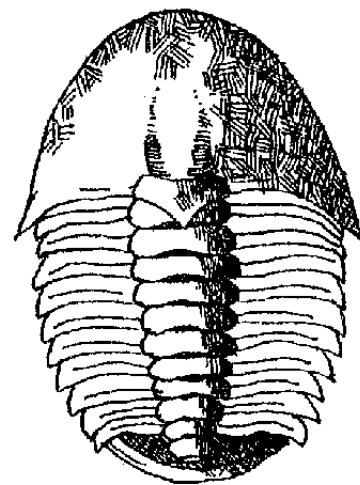
Take special care on country roads

Follow the waymarkers which indicate the route of the walk

Wear strong water-proof footwear

Illustration: The Wall, Alice Brown; Reference: Hearddred's Hill by Joan Allen.

Moorwood Geological Trail



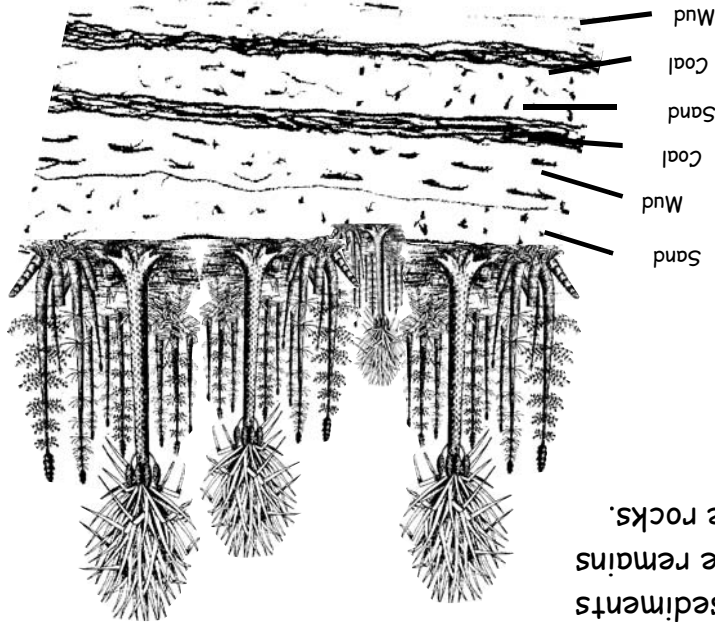
Hartshillia inflata

Cambrian Fossil Trilobite



Warwickshire
Geological
Conservation
Group.

After a long period of time more sands and muds were deposited in warm shallow seas surrounded by great forests and swamps. It was during these years that insects and reptiles appeared. Later still, all this material was buried and became the rocks and coal seams of the coal measures.



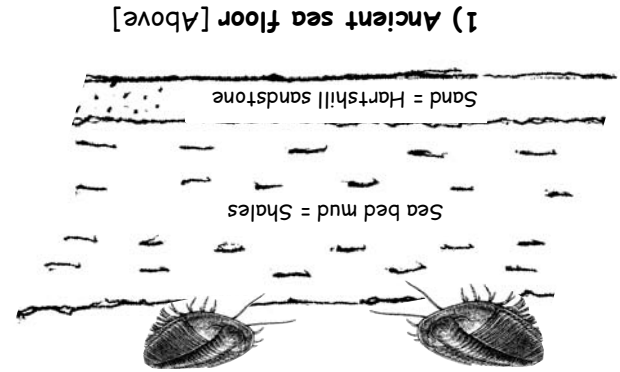
3) Coal Swamp [Left]

There is evidence of human activity around the area dating back to the Stone Age, people having been attracted to the area by the range of rocks and minerals they found. Underpinned by the geology, this long period of activity and occupation, with its social implications and effects on local history, has left much to interest the archaeologist.

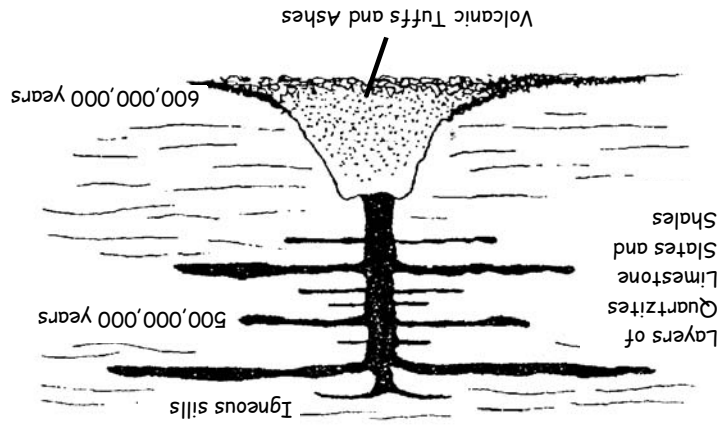
The geology of Warwickshire is the most varied in the country, spanning over 600 million years from the Precambrian times to the sands and gravels of the Pleistocene Period formed during the Ice Ages. If you are interested in the geology of the area and wish to find out further information, then why not join the Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group, details of which can be obtained from:

WGG, c/o Warwickshire Museum, Market Place, Warwick, CV34 4SA.

The scenery on and around the trail reflects the characters of the different rock formations. These were originally laid down as sands and muds on the floors of ancient seas. Over time, these sediments have been changed to sandstone and shales. Occasionally the remains of ancient sea creatures such as trilobites are found in these rocks.



1) Ancient sea floor [Above]



After the sea floor sediments became compressed and hardened into rock, volcanic activity underground forced molten rock between and through layers of the existing rocks to form sills of harder rock.

2) Volcanics [Right]