

Near Orlestone, the range of the green sand hills trends inwards, and is succeeded by lower eminences composed of the Weald clay, which skirts the central part of the marsh, and forms a broad tract of flatter country.

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Towards the south-west extremity of the marsh, the strata of iron sand, forming the central chain of hills, emerge from beneath the Weald clay near Oxney Isle and Rye. At Cliff End near Winchelsea, the barrier of marsh land terminates; and the sea, attacking the foot of this central chain, exposes a bold section of it in a line of cliffs extending thence past Hastings, and terminating at the distance of about seven miles, near Bexhill,

The strata of this formation, near Rye, are coarse-grained and highly ferruginous; near Hastings they are less ferruginous, finer, very loose and friable, frequently crumbling down from the summit of the cliffs in a shower of loose sand, which accumulates in a talus at their base. Traces of vegetable impressions may be frequently here observed.

Taking Winchelsea as a centre, the succession of the formations on either side, intervening between this point and the chalk hills, will be found to correspond. Hence, in proceeding south-westwards we have again to traverse in an ascending order the formations we have already crossed in descent. The alluvial flat of Pevensey marsh, however, here interposed, as was Romney marsh on the other side, has prevented any sections from being formed on the coast; but the Weald clay may be seen forming a broad flat tract from Bexhill beyond Pevensey; and the green sand and chalk marle, though here occupying a less breadth than on the northern side, and not forming a distinct range of hills, may be observed underlying the chalk near the foot of the lofty cliffs of Beachy head.

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Having thus followed the order of these formations as exhibited on the coast, we have next to trace their course through the interior of the Weald; and here we shall depart from our usual arrangement, and commencing with the central chain which forms the nucleus of the whole series, trace the succeeding formations intervening on either side between this and the great boundary of the chalk hills in an ascending, instead of a descending order; since, in this instance, this change of method will be found attended with many advantages.