

this great escarpment as far north as Rowde, near Devizes, where it is again overlapped by the unconformable Cretaceous strata, to reappear at Calne, from whence, on the north-east, it comes on in great force, covering a broad tract of country by Swindon and Longcott. A little east of Longcott, a great tongue of Lower Greensand, running out to Farrington, overlaps the Kimeridge Clay. Escaping from this overlap, the clay runs eastward by Abingdon, Netley, Quainton, and the south end of Stewkley, between which and Leighton Buzzard it is again overlapped by broad-spreading strata of Gault and Lower Greensand. Between this area and the fens of Lincolnshire it doubtless lies deep underground, well to the east of the Chalk escarpment, for it is well known to underlie much of the marshes on either side of the Wash, from whence it trends north in a strip at the base of the Lincolnshire Wolds as far as the Humber, where it is again unconformably overlapped by the Cretaceous strata of the Yorkshire Wolds, to reappear in great force in and around the Vale of Pickering, between Hambleton Hills and Filey Bay in Yorkshire.

The Kimeridge Clay is in places from 500 to 600 feet in thickness, but of late, in a great experimental boring in the Weald of Kent, after passing through the Purbeck and Portland Limestones and Sand, it was pierced to the depth of 921 feet, below which came clays supposed to be the Coral Rag and Oxford Clay, the base of which was not reached at 1,906 feet when for financial reasons the boring was abandoned. The meaning of this seems to be, that whereas these clays, in their range from Dorsetshire to Yorkshire, were deposited in comparatively shallow areas not very far from land, in the Kent area they were laid down in a much deeper sea.