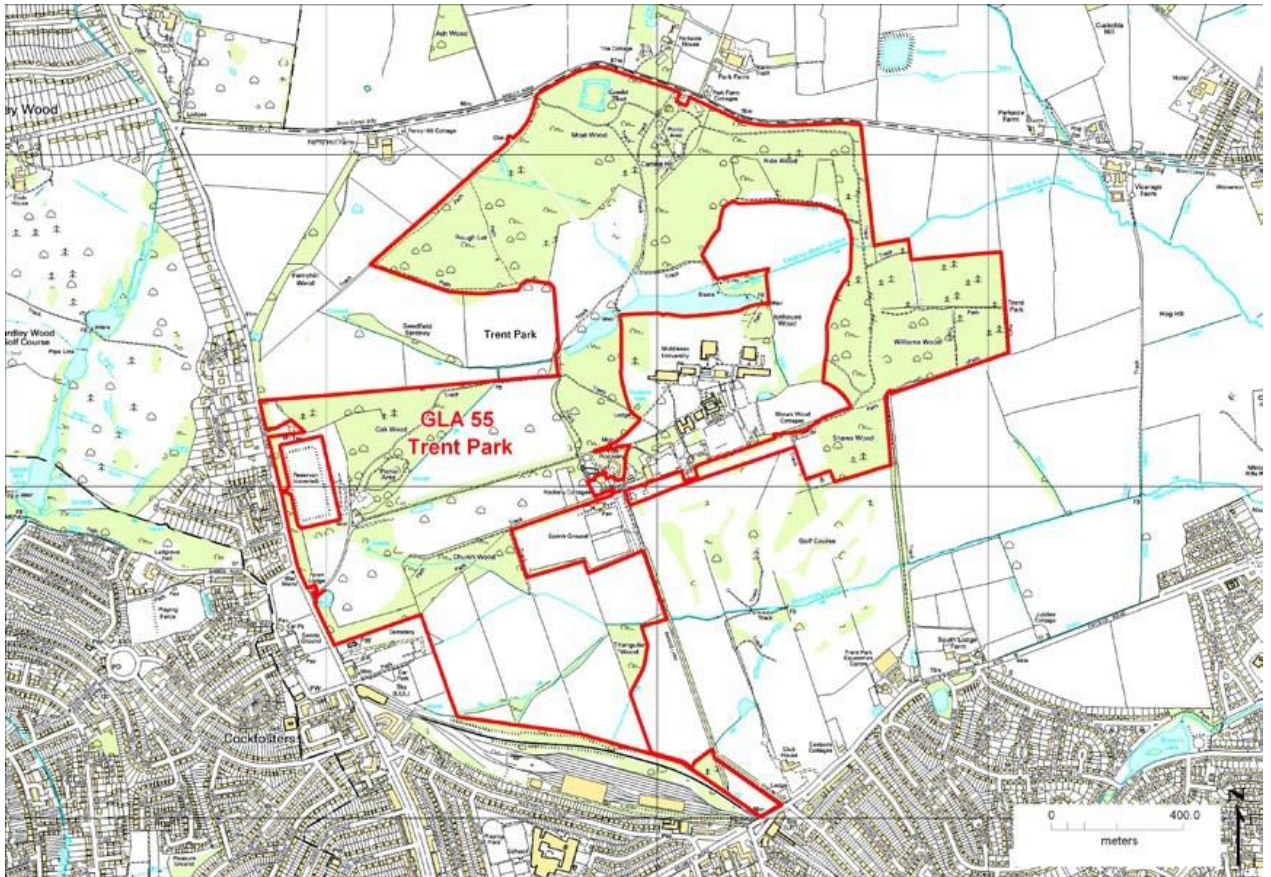




<b>GLA 55 Trent Park</b>	
Grid Reference Park entrance TQ 281 969	Site Type: large public park
Site Area (hectares): 183.83	Current use: Recreational Land with Visitor Centre within London's Green Belt
Site ownership: London Borough of Enfield	Borough: London Borough of Enfield
Field surveyors: Diana Clements Revisited: Allan Wheeler	Date: Summer 2009 Date: March 2019
Current geological designation: LIGS	Other designation: Metropolitan SINCC (Trent Park)
<b>Site Map</b>	OS Topography © Crown Copyright
	
<b>Stratigraphy and Rock Types</b>	
Time Unit: Quaternary	Rock unit: Lowestoft Formation, Albion Glacigenic Group
Rock Type:	Details: Chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays. The till is characterised by its chalk and flint content
Time Unit: Quaternary	Rock unit: Dollis Hill Gravel Member Sudbury Formation, Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup
Rock Type:	Details: Gravel, sandy and clayey in part, with some laminated silty beds. Sand and gravel, locally with lenses of silt, clay or peat and organic material
Time Unit: Eocene	Rock Unit: London Clay Formation and Claygate Member, Thames Group
Rock Type: Clay, silt, sand	Details: Fine, sandy, silty clay/ clayey silt, clay.
<b>Site Description</b>	
<p>Trent Park displays four different lithologies and so is an excellent location for studying geomorphology. Spring lines pick up the junctions between the lithologies and the small streams emanating from them have, in places, cut deep ravines. This must have happened as the ice sheet retreated at the end of the Anglian glaciations, and permafrost in subsequent stadials, when the ground would have been frozen. Evidence of till can be seen on the ploughed fields at the top of the hill, just outside the enclosed park. The London Loop runs through the park.</p>	

<b>Assessment of Site Value</b>		
<b>Geodiversity topic:</b> lithostratigraphy, sedimentology; geomorphology.		
<b>Access and Safety</b>		
<b>Aspect</b>	<b>Description</b>	
Safety of access	There is a car park and public access to Trent Park during opening times (8.30 am to dusk). There are toilets, a cafe and a small Visitor Centre. Also small café by animal sanctuary (in lodge alongside tarmac drive to Trent Park House). Nearest station: Cockfosters on Piccadilly Line.	
Safety of exposure	There are well-marked footpaths throughout the park but actual exposures are limited to temporary exposures and erosion around the fish ponds, by the tarmac drive and approaching the obelisk, and also in some of the streams.	
Permission to visit	Open access.	
Current condition	The park is well maintained with a range of habitats including a series of fish ponds through which the Leeging Beech Gutter flows. Angler erosion have helped expose patches of London Clay. Patches of Dollis Hill Gravel on ground surface alongside tarmac drive towards Trent Park House; also on path up to and around the Obelisk.	
Current conflicting activities	None	
Restricting conditions	Vegetation, limited exposures	
Nature of exposure	Natural hill showing range of rock units.	
<b>Culture, Heritage &amp; Economic</b>		
<b>Aspect</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Historic, archaeological & literary associations	Enfield Council, the Friends of Trent Park and Historic England websites all detail the history of the Park which came into public ownership in 1951 to safeguard the Green Belt. It was originally a royal hunting forest before passing into private hands.	3
Aesthetic landscape	Footpaths through woods and meadows and around ponds used by local community. Car park, toilets, cafés and Visitor Centre within the Park. Sports facilities on the periphery.	8
History of Earth Sciences	Geotrail described in GA Guide 68, Itinerary 4, 2012, pp 57-64	4
Economic geology	None apparent	0
<b>GeoScientific Merit</b>		
Geomorphology	Ridges and valleys provide potential for identifying the different lithologies from clues in the landscape – spring lines, vegetation, small exposures	4
Sedimentology	Exposures of London Clay around the Fish Ponds but other lithologies are a bit more difficult to find unless excavations are made, though gravel is exposed on foot-eroded areas and in streams. Lumps of chalk found in ploughed fields to the north of the public enclosure indicate Lowestoft Till.	4
Palaeontology	None recorded	
Igneous/mineral/ Metamorphic Geology	None	
Structural Geology		
Lithostratigraphy	Important as the area contains four distinct rock units	4
Potential use	Education; use can be made of the existing Geotrail	
Fragility	Natural overgrowing but some exposures maintained by footfall erosion	
<b>Current Site Value</b>		
Community	Valuable woodland and green space.	8
Education	Geotrail in GA Guide 68, 2012. Possible additional information could be displayed in the small Visitor centre. The park is on the London Loop.	6

<b>Geodiversity value</b>	
LIGS: This is a good location for demonstrating the geomorphology of a variety of rock types. The deep gullies emphasise the importance of successive ice ages in creating the landscape seen today.	4
<b>GLA 55 Trent Park</b>	
	
1. Exposure around London Clay lake	2. Deep gully
Photos: Diana Clements	