

Site Description

London Clay is capped by Dollis Hill Gravel at the top of the hill (top c.6m). There is apparently no Claygate Member present; the summit of Barn Hill is 86m which is just beneath the Claygate Member further east. However, Horsenden Hill (GLA 20) 2½km to the southwest does have Claygate Member as well as Dollis Hill Gravel, with a slightly lower summit at 85m. Dollis Hill Gravel is exposed on the path at the top of Barn Hill just before the pond is reached on the east side.

As well as including this site for its Dollis Hill Gravel, it is thought to be the subject of a painting entitled *Harrow Hill Sand Pit* by Francis Jukes (1798), The painting depicts a quarry with a view behind to St. Mary's, Harrow on the Hill. Barn Hill seems to be the only candidate with the appropriate angle for the view. It would have been Dollis Hill Gravel rather than sand that was being dug. The area is now a pond at the crest of the hill and trees now obscure the view although it can be seen from the open space to the north of the hill. Boards by the pond and the view with the painting and an explanation of the geology could

provide a local interest. The Stanmore Gravel ridge beyond Harrow can also be seen. The painting belongs to the British Library.

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Fragility Natural overgrowing	agility	Natural overgrowing		
Current Site Value				
Community Valuable woodland and green space. 6	mmunity	Valuable woodland and green space.	6	
Potential for two boards, one by pond, the other near the bench on the north side of the hill to include the painting of former quarry and view to St. Mary's Harrow on the Hill. The east and north sides of the hill are on the Capital Ring so the view would require a small (but worthwhile) diversion.	ucation	the north side of the hill to include the painting of former quarry and view to St. Mary's Harrow on the Hill. The east and north sides of the hill are on the Capital Ring so the view would require a small	6	
Geodiversity value				
Recommended by Partnership as a LIGS: For local interest, particularly historical. Would require a small diversion from Capital Ring. Adjacent Horsenden Hill is already a RIGS for the same lithology but that includes Claygate Member.	4			

GLA 63 Barn Hill

An aquatint of Harrow Hill sand pit in 1798 by Frances Jukes can be found on https://tinyurl.com/9mfutztx



View from near the top of Barn Hill, looking west to Harrow on the Hill, June 2012 Photo: Diana Clements



The pond (TQ 193 874) on top of Barn Hill. Photo: Laurie Baker, August 2014