

LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITES

BRAINTREE DISTRICT



BraG4 Bulmer Brickworks, Bulmer Tye

Site location: Working clay pit at Hole Farm, Bulmer Tye

Grid Reference: TL 8329 3822

Status: **Private**, business premises of Brick and Tile Works

Summary of the geological interest:

London Clay (Harwich Formation) is worked here for making traditional, hand-made red bricks, mostly for the renovation of historic buildings. The sandy clay in the small pit contains a layer of claystone nodules and seams of volcanic ash. This is the only inland exposure of this horizon in the London Clay.



Site Assessment. Local Geological Sites (LoGS) in Essex are assessed using criteria based on DEFRA guidance. An assessment form is used which asks key questions under four value categories: scientific, educational, historical and aesthetic. This site has been assessed and qualifies under these criteria.



Working face of London Clay showing ash bands. Photo I Mercer 2019

Scientific interest and site importance:

The working face is at the base of the London Clay / Harwich Formation section and may expose the contact with the underlying Reading Beds from time to time. It is an important inland exposure of these horizons and the only remaining brick pit in north Essex.