

## Note on Gravels at Kenn, Somerset

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On the 1-in. Old Series geological map (sheet 19), a narrow strip of river gravel is shown extending southwards from North End, 1 mile north-north-west of Yatton station, to the village of Kenn. The gravel outcrop is truncated by the edge of the map, and on sheet 35 to the north none is shown. During the 6-inch mapping by the Geological Survey in 1949-50 it was found that the so-called river gravel occupies an area of about 120 acres on which the village of Kenn is built, and that this patch of well-drained land is separated from the Trias rocks at North End by alluvial clay.

Exposures are, unfortunately, exceedingly rare. At the time of the survey a degraded gravel pit, 150 yards south of Kenn Church, showed some 5 ft. of sand and gravel with pockets of coarse quartz sand containing shell fragments subsequently identified as *Tellina (Macoma) balthica* (Linné). During the cutting of the new Kenn River in 1950 deep excavation north of Kenn Pier showed an extension of the Kenn Gravel beneath 6 ft. of alluvial clay. The dragline method of excavation obscured the section but a general similarity to that noted near Kenn Church could be detected. In the New Kenn River excavation *T. (M.) balthica* was very abundant. The pebbles of the gravel comprise chalk flint, a little Greensand chert, occasional large rounded quartz pebbles, and rounded pebbles of Jurassic strata.

The Kenn Gravels are not a river deposit but marine gravels and may be of the same age as the Burtle Beds. They are differentiated on the Geological Survey Special Quarter-Inch Sheet of the Bristol District (1955).