



National Oceanographic Library – Archive

Dr Ian West Collection

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*Dr Ian West, visiting scientist and retired Southampton University geologist, is a carbonate-evaporite sedimentologist and Jurassic enthusiast, who has long studied and researched on the Wessex coast, and elsewhere, including North Africa. He has been awarded the R.H.Worth Prize for 2008 of the Geological Society of London for the application to amateur geology of the website: *The Geology of the Wessex Coast*.

Borehole Records for Southampton Water and the Solent.

Ian West collected in the 1950s and 1960s, records of more than 1400 shallow engineering boreholes in and around Southampton Water and the Solent. Some are from published sources but most have come from civil engineering work connected with various companies. Note there might be confidentially issues with publishing data from some of these, and permission from companies might have to be obtained. Other additional un-catalogued borehole information also exists, but not in the National Oceanographic Library.

The data in these borehole records is most useful for determining the levels of the Pleistocene periglacial gravels beneath and around the estuaries, for following the courses of the ancient Pleistocene rivers (River Solent and tributaries). It also shows the thickness of the Holocene estuarine mud and provides information on the Eocene strata (Bracklesham Group and Barton Clay and Sand Formations) which underlie the Pleistocene gravels. The records are not in computerised form. They give information from various different datums such as: - Ordnance Datum Newlyn; Ordnance Datum Liverpool; Port Datum Southampton; Port datum Portsmouth; Mean Low Tide Level; Ground Level and others. So each borehole needs correcting to a particular datum such as OD Newlyn. Much of the data is in feet and inches and therefore this must be corrected to metric. The boreholes are described in civil engineering terms and conversion to geological strata is required. Knowledge of the Earnley and Selsey Formations and Pleistocene gravel and Flandrian sequences would be an advantage.

*Acknowledgement, information drawn from Dr Ian West Website

| Borehole Records | Box |
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| The borehole records are in 6 volumes, Twinlock loose-leaf ring binders with index (Vol.1. holds the maps) – all are: <u>CLOSED</u> | |
| Vol.1, U1-U199. Southampton Water (ESSO Refinery Boreholes). Kept with volume 1, Article in the <i>Department of Energy Review, No.15, 1991, pp.8-9, by Ken Major The Southampton story-why boreholes were made-heat from geothermal aquifers.</i> (NOL Stock LP British 28/6/91, transferred to this collection 31/8/95, keep with volume 1 for information) | 1 |
| Vol.2, U200-U408. (ESSO Refinery Boreholes) Southampton Water. Location No.2301, TRESTLE Approach from Old Jetty, Fawley. Carried out for ESSO Petroleum Company Ltd. 25 March-5 April 1956. | 1 |
| Vol.3, U409-U590. Southampton Water. (ESSO Refinery and Harbour Board Boreholes). | 2 |

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| <p>Vol.4, U591-U726. Southampton Water. Borehole Records. (Fawley Power Station Boreholes... etc.) (NB: U727-U740. Records not in folder)</p> | <p>2</p> |
| <p>Vol.5, U741-U1012. Boreholes made for the Southern Railway Company, 1923-27, Messrs Barker-Mill, 1925. Pressure Piling Co. Ltd.</p> | <p>3</p> |
| <p>Vol.6, U1012-U1194. Boreholes, Southampton Docks (Southampton Harbour Board), 25/5/1964</p> | <p>3</p> |