



The Geological Society of London: *East Midlands Regional Group*



MERCIA MUDSTONE SALT AND GYPSUM

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Photo credit: BGS

The Mercia Mudstone Group (or formerly Keuper Marl) is a sequence of predominately mudrock geological units which underlie much of central and southern England. Deposited in the mid to late Triassic the Mercia Mudstone was laid down in three main ways; settling-out of mud and silt in temporary lakes, rapid deposition of silt and fine sand sheets and the accumulation of wind-blown dust on wet mudflats.

The Mercia Mudstone Group is composed predominately of red, occasionally grey and green mudstones and siltstones. Interbedded at certain stratigraphic levels are also substantial Sandstone and evaporite beds, typically Halite, which can cause significant problems during construction. The talk is focussed on the Mercia Mudstone Formation. It will explore geological context and background, provide a brief history of research and a summary of nomenclature.

The talk will also consider salt and gypsum deposits associated with the Mercia Mudstone in terms of occurrence and solution. Specifically, it will cover the occurrence of salt in the Needwood Basin, Stafford Basin and Cheshire Basin. Finally, a summary of a presentation given to the International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA) in 2019 will provide an overview of Mercia Mudstone Periglacial weathering processes.

19:00 Tuesday 8th February 2022

Please note new times

Online Zoom Event – please see email for Registration details

Everyone welcome

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