



Opposite Geomap is a memorial sculpture to honour those who worked and died in the mining and quarrying industry. It was constructed by Graham Tyler and John Wakefield and consists of three elements: stone, iron and coal.



The sculptor, David Yeates, working on an early stage of Geomap.



david yeates
sculpture in stone

This leaflet is funded by the organisations below



Freeminer Norman Ennis (right) and colleague Ron Baldwin point to the mine where they worked. Over 700 years ago King Edward I gave Dean miners the right to mine anywhere within the Forest after they helped him win an important battle, using their mining skills to tunnel under Berwick Castle. A Freeminer must be over 21, born within the Royal Forest of Dean, and have worked down a local coalmine for a year and a day.



Directions

Geomap is at the New Fancy Viewpoint in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, two miles south of the Speech House Hotel (see map). Follow the A40 out of Gloucester, picking up the A4136 towards Monmouth, or take the A48 from Chepstow to Lydney



Supported through Defra's
Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund

The GEOMAP PROJECT



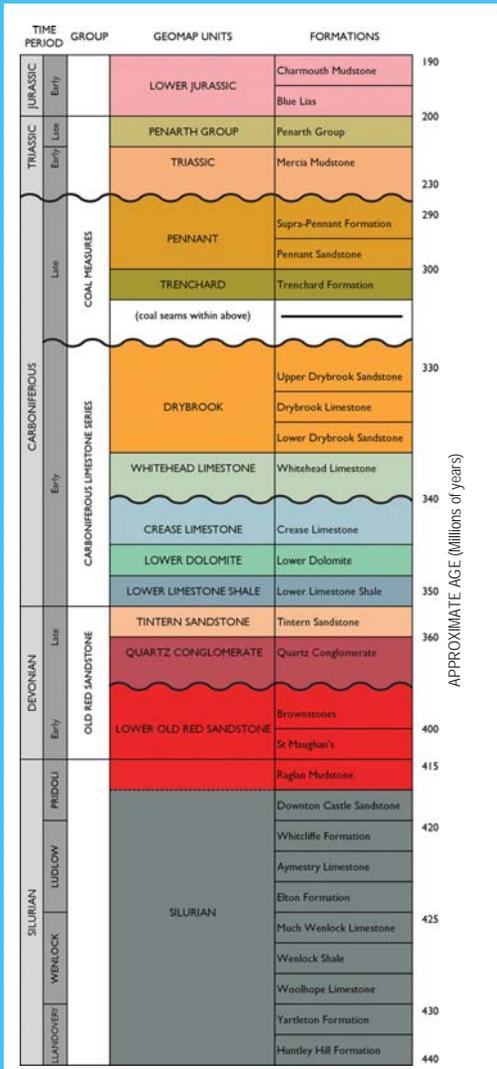
The Geomap Project was commissioned by the Forest of Dean Local History Society.

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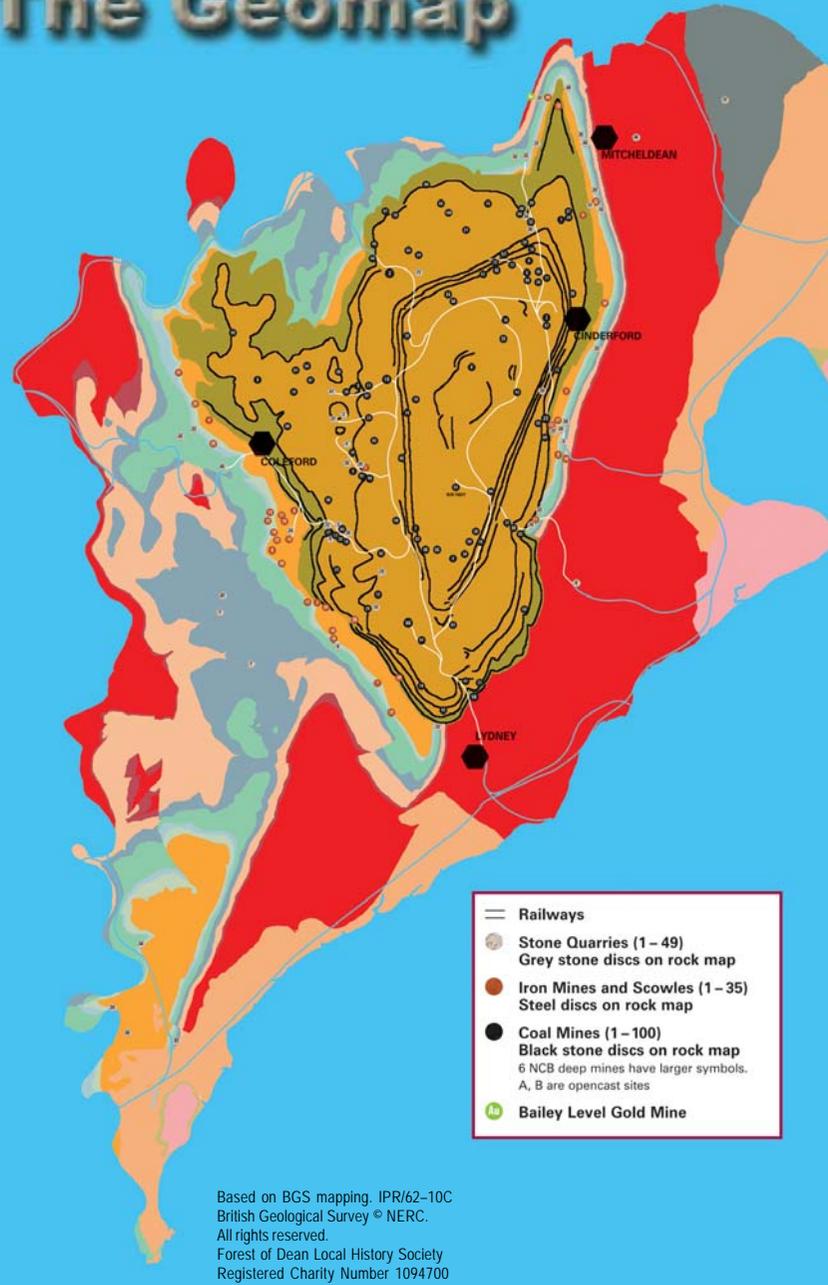


Geological column

The rocks found in the Forest of Dean that make up Geomap are shown as a geological column, giving their formation and local names, as well as their age in millions of years.



The Geomap



What is Geomap?

Geomap celebrates both the geological and the industrial history of the Forest of Dean. The complex geology of the region, formed over millions of years, produced the coal and iron deposits that miners have been extracting for at least two thousand years.

The map represents the geology of the Forest of Dean. Each layer of rock shown on Geomap is made from the actual rock it represents, taken from local quarries. Overlain on the map is the industrial history, demonstrating the link between the underlying geology and the great quarrying and mining industries of the past. It shows the location of 102 collieries, 35 iron mines and 49 stone quarries, as well as the main railway lines and three long-lived tramroads that were so important for the expansion of these industries in the nineteenth century.

How was it made?

The sculptor who created this beautiful work of art is David Yeates of Simply Stone. David first made a full size enlargement of the area's geology map. Using this as a template, he cut the slabs of stone so all the pieces fitted together like an enormous jigsaw you can walk on. To finance the project, the Forest of Dean's Local History Society was awarded a substantial grant from DEFRA's Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund, which is administered by Natural England.

Where is it?

Geomap is located at New Fancy Viewpoint (see map over page). It is best seen from the viewpoint, an old spoil heap of the former New Fancy Colliery, where a spectacular panorama can be enjoyed. It is also an ideal place to watch birds of prey soaring above the woodland and to access footpaths and cycleways.

Like to know more?

Visit our website to learn more about Geomap and the fascinating history of the Forest of Dean:
www.forestofdeanhistory.org.uk

New Fancy Viewpoint