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A VERY RARE TOOTH OF THE HEXANCHID SHARK NOTORYNCHUS APTIENSIS FROM THE ALBIAN RED CHALK OF HUNSTANTON CLIFFS

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ABSTRACT

Remains of vertebrates, including teeth and bones of fish, are rare in the Lower Cretaceous Hunstanton Red Chalk Formation at Hunstanton in north west Norfolk. With only a few incomplete or fragmentary teeth known from this deposit, the discovery, by Thomas Knight in 2004, of a well preserved lower jaw anterolateral tooth of the hexanchid shark Notorynchus aptiensis (Pictet, 1865) was an extremely rare event. This paper describes this tooth and illustrates other known Red Chalk material from the Hunstanton cliffs.

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THE STRATIGRAPHY OF THE BRITON'S LANE BOREHOLE AND QUARRY, BEESTON REGIS, NORTH-EAST NORFOLK

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ABSTRACT

The Cromer Ridge complex in north-east Norfolk has traditionally been recognised as a push moraine formed during the final retreat of a Scandinavian ice sheet during the Anglian stage. This interpretation is based upon the presence of glaciotectonised North Sea Drift Formation sediments contained within the Cromer Ridge that reportedly include clast lithologies eroded from Scandinavia. Examination of quarry faces and samples from a purpose-drilled borehole at Briton's Lane Quarry on the northern flank of the Cromer Ridge reveal that the ridge has complex, polyphase history. Early-Middle Pleistocene Wroxham Crag Formation gravels are overlain by a thick sequence of intercalated muds and muddy diamictons that were deposited in a large glaciolacustrine basin. These deposits were overridden by two ice advances which deposited the Weybourne Town Till and Bacton Green Till Members of the Sheringham Cliffs Formation. Ice-flow paths reconstructed using derived-clast lithologies, heavy minerals, and allochthonous palynomorphs demonstrate that these ice-advances are British-sourced and further challenge the view that Scandinavian ice deposited the North Sea Drift Formation. The Briton's Lane Sand and Gravel was finally deposited as a large ice-marginal outwash fan following the proglacial deformation of underlying deposits and the construction of the Cromer Ridge.

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