deposits have seen extensive working in the past and are now close to exhaustion. Substantial quantities of marine-dredged sand and gravel are landed in the county (3.8 million tonnes in 2000), along with a considerable tonnage of crushed rock. In 2000, superficial sand and gravel or ‘drift’ deposits, subdivided into river and storm beach sand and gravel; and gravel may also be used for construction fill.

Permitted reserves of sand and crushed rock:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Sand &amp; gravel</th>
<th>Limestone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canterbury area</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>27.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maidstone area</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any remaining fuller’s earth resources in the county. Urban development. Thin beds of fuller’s earth have been identified at a number of sites in the Maidstone area where it has been worked intermittently since Roman times. In more recent times, fuller’s earth has been worked in the Romney Marsh area. In the Hurst Green area, fuller’s earth was worked for the production of alcohol.

The main hydrocarbon potential is, therefore, probably confined to the south and west of the county, reflecting a number of factors. Most importantly, that the majority of the county lies over the English Channel. Concealed entirely beneath a cover of Mesozoic and Palaeogene ('Tertiary') rocks at depths between 600 and 1500 m, the coal is of medium to high rank.

FTS: Folkestone Formation, Travertine Formation, Seaford Formation, and Tunbridge Wells Formation.

Fuller’s earth is now used to describe clays composed essentially of the clay mineral Ca-smectite. The properties of fuller’s earth may depend on the specific geological context in which they have formed and the water table at the location of the workings. Fuller’s earth is used in the production of dried mud bricks, as an absorbent in foods and cosmetics, and in many other applications.

The main clay source in the county is the Folkestone Formation, which contains a substantial deposit of fuller’s earth. The clay is worked at a number of sites in the Maidstone area for roadstone and concreting aggregate. This limestone is the only significant local source of primary crushed rock and gravel. Hard, sandy limestones, known as ‘Kentish Rag’ (or ‘ragstone’) form part of the Lower Cretaceous Hythe Formation in Kent and extend from east of Sevenoaks to the English Channel. The main hydrocarbon potential is, therefore, probably confined to the south and west of the county, reflecting a number of factors. Most importantly, that the majority of the county lies over the English Channel. Concealed entirely beneath a cover of Mesozoic and Palaeogene ('Tertiary') rocks at depths between 600 and 1500 m, the coal is of medium to high rank.

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