

LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITES

MALDON DISTRICT



Goldhanger Village Well

Site location: Goldhanger Village, junction in front of The Chequers Inn

Grid Reference: TL 9043 0882

Status: Proposed LoGS

Summary of the geological interest:

The Goldhanger village pump is a rare example of a wheel pump. The pump housing has a bronze plaque stating that the well was dug during the hot Summer of 1921 and is 25 metres (70 feet) deep with a further 35 metres (100 feet) of artesian bore. This total depth would take the well and borehole through the mostly impervious London Clay and Lower London Tertiaries into the water-bearing Chalk. The pump is a listed building.



Site Assessment. Local Geological Sites (LoGS) in Essex are assessed using criteria based on DEFRA guidance. An assessment form is used which asks key questions under four value categories: scientific, educational, historical and aesthetic. This site has been assessed and qualifies under these criteria.

Scientific interest and site importance

Many wells in Essex were artesian, which means that water fills the entire well or borehole and overflows at the surface. Due to the shape of the London Basin, water in the permeable Chalk beneath Essex (originally rain water that has fallen on the North Downs and the Chilterns) is confined under pressure beneath the London Clay and when released rises to the surface forming an artesian well.



Goldhanger Village Well. Photo: June 2023.