

# LOCAL GEOLOGICAL SITES

## UTTLESFORD DISTRICT



### UfdG39 Yew Tree Inn Puddingstone, Manuden

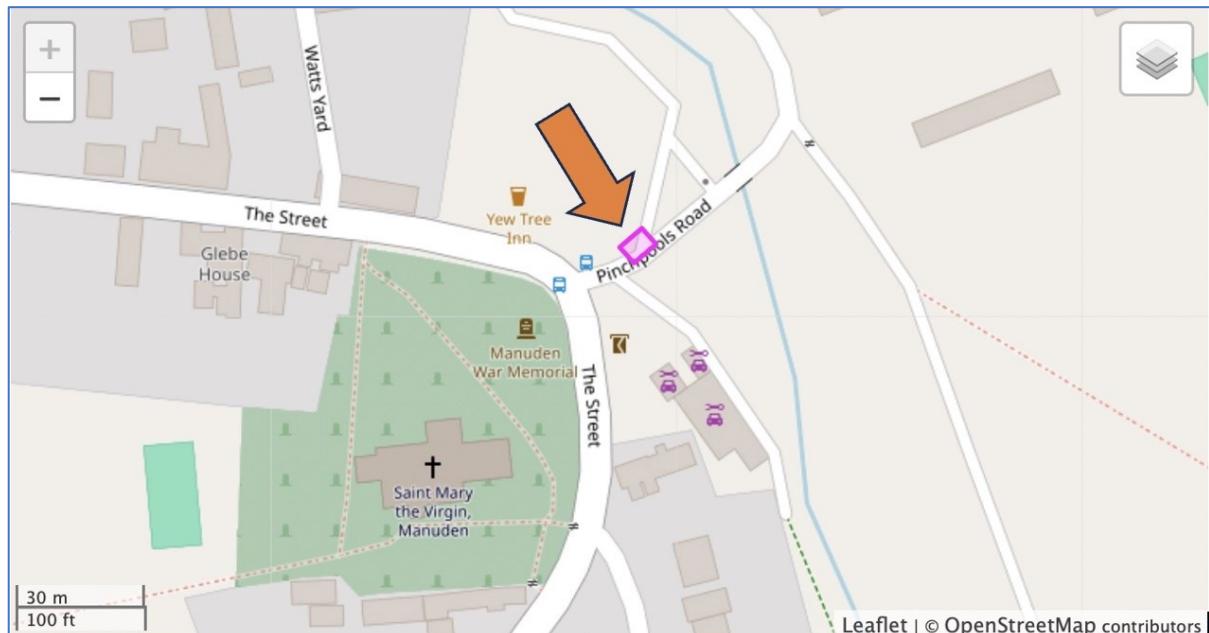
**Site location:** Next to the Yew Tree Inn, Manuden

**Grid Reference:** TL 4753 2641

**Status:** Private land

#### **Summary of the geological interest:**

Next to the Yew Tree Inn is a fine 1.2 metre (4 foot) long boulder of Hertfordshire puddingstone. It has been whitewashed in the past but this has fortunately largely worn off.



**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**

Puddingstone was formed around 55 million years ago when the climate of Britain was hot and a layer of pebbles beneath the surface of the ground became cemented with quartz. They are thus very resistant to erosion and have survived the rigours of the Ice Age. They originated in Hertfordshire, and were probably carried to Essex by the River Thames when it flowed north of its present course. However, the distribution and abundance of Hertfordshire puddingstone in parts of Essex suggests that some occurrences may have a local Essex source.

On the other side of the road next to the churchyard wall is a one metre long sandstone boulder.



*The boulder of  
Hertfordshire puddingstone  
next to the Yew Tree Inn  
at Manuden.*

*Photo: G.Lucy*

**Reference:**

LUCY, G. 2003. Essex erratic boulders: a gazetteer. *Essex Naturalist* (New Series) No. 20. Pages 115-134.