

**WOOD LAKE EXTENSION
PUDDLEDOCK FARM FISHERY
ST MARY'S LANE
UPMINSTER

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING**



**Essex County Council
Field Archaeology Unit**

November 2010

WOOD LAKE EXTENSION
PUDDLEDOK FARM FISHERY
ST MARY'S LANE
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

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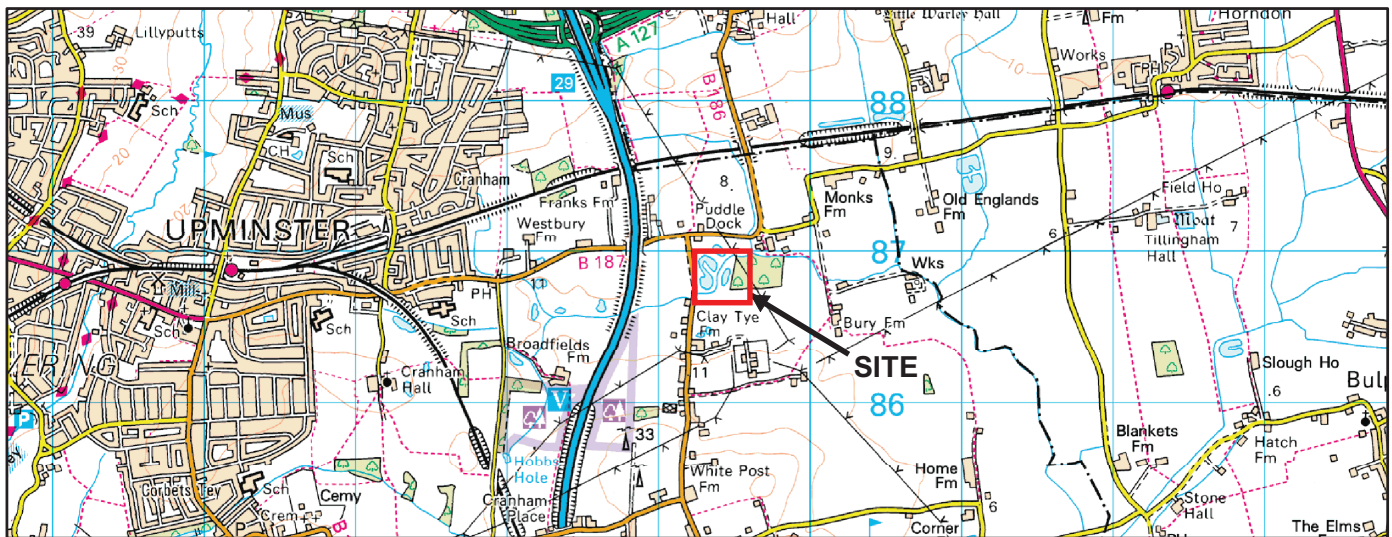
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HER Summary Sheet

Site Name/Address: Wood Lake, Puddledock Farm Fishery, St Mary's Lane, Upminster	
Parish: Upminster	District: London Borough of Havering
NGR: TQ 5940 8680	Site Code: none
Type of Work: Archaeological Monitoring	Site Director/Team: Andy Letch ECC FAU
Dates of Work: 12th & 13th October 2010	Size of Area Investigated: Approx. 2,500m ²
Curating Museum: Museum of London	Funding Source: Client
Further Work Anticipated? No	OASIS No. 87759
Final Report: N/A	
Periods Represented: Modern	
<p>SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:</p> <p>Monitoring works were undertaken during the excavation of an extension to an existing fishing lake at Puddledock Farm Fishery. The work involved observation of the topsoil strip and subsequent excavation into clay deposits to a depth of c.2m (fig. 1).</p> <p>The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area identified by EH GLAAS, with the potential for the presence of alluvial deposits belonging to the Mardyke overlying Head, typically a pebbly sandy clay. Prehistoric remains and palaeo-environmental material have been found within these deposits and the underlying Thames gravels, which have a long history of land use.</p> <p>The area to the south of the lake was until recently covered in trees, shrubs and bushes that had grown since the original excavation of the lake in 1997. Prior to the lake construction the area had been meadowland that was prone to flooding. Removal of topsoil revealed a mixed greyish clay deposit, heavily disturbed by root action, and excavation works related to an access road built to take the spoil from the main lake when it was created (plate 1). The clay deposit was up to 0.8m thick and appeared to lie within a natural depression located in the centre of the extension area, overlying a mid orange natural clay. Clean and undisturbed light brown natural clay was observed toward the edges of the lake extension area (Plate 2).</p> <p>No prehistoric alluvium deposits associated with the Mardyke were identified. Nor were archaeological remains of any kind observed that relate to the past occupation of this vicinity.</p>	
Previous Summaries/Reports: None	
Author of Summary: A. Letch	Date of Summary: 26th November 2010



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Fig.1. Site & lake extension location plan



Plate 1 Excavation viewed to south



Plate 2 Excavation viewed to north

Appendix 1: OASIS form

OASIS ID: essexcou1-87759

Project details

Project name	Wood Lake, Puddledock Farm Fishery
Short description of the project	<p>Monitoring works were undertaken during the excavation of an extension to an existing fishing lake at Puddledock Farm Fishery. The work involved observation of the topsoil strip and subsequent excavation into clay deposits to a depth of c.2m. The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Area identified by EH GLAAS, with the potential for the presence of alluvial deposits belonging to the Mardyke overlying Head. Prehistoric remains and palaeo-environmental material have been found within these deposits and the underlying Thames gravels, which have a long history of land use. The area to the south of the lake was until recently covered in trees, shrubs and bushes that had grown since the original excavation of the lake in 1997 . Prior to the lake construction the area had been meadowland that was prone to flooding. Removal of topsoil revealed a mixed greyish clay deposit, heavily disturbed by root action, and excavation works related to an access road built to take the spoil from the main lake when it was created. The clay deposit was up to 0.8m thick and appeared to lie within a natural depression located in the centre of the extension area, overlying a mid orange natural clay. Clean and undisturbed light brown natural clay was observed toward the edges of the lake extension area. No prehistoric alluvium deposits associated with the Mardyke were identified. Nor were archaeological remains of any kind observed that relate to the past occupation of this vicinity.</p>
Project dates	Start: 12-10-2010 End: 13-10-2010
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	2195 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 2 - Vacant land not previously developed
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON HAVERING UPMINSTER Wood Lake, Puddleduck Farm Fishery
Study area	2500.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 5940 8680 51.5570188279 0.299641718228 51 33 25 N 000 17 58 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
Project brief originator	Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service
Project design originator	Essex County Council Field Archaeology Unit
Project director/manager	Adrian Scruby
Project supervisor	Andy Letch
Type of sponsor/funding body	Landowner

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists?	No
Physical Contents	'other'
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London
Digital Contents	'other'

Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Text'
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Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London
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Paper Contents	'other'
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Paper Media available	'Miscellaneous Material','Report'
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Entered by	Andy Letch (andy.letch@essex.gov.uk)
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Entered on	26 November 2010
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