Upper River Witham - River Restoration Projects



Easton including a section through Easton Walled Garden

Location: Easton, Lincolnshire (c7km south of Grantham)

Length: 3.3km

Completion Date: February 2015

Partners: Easton Estate and their farm tenants, Stoke Rochford Estates, Wild Trout Trust (WTT)





The River Witham though Easton Walled Garden - Before

The River Witham though Easton Walled Garden - After

Project objectives

- Reduce the impact of fine sediment as a result of erosion caused by livestock.
- Repair eroding banks and protect them from erosion in the future.
- Trap sediment already in the river.
- Improve the flow and natural cleansing of the gravel bed.
- Improve light levels in over-shaded sections.
- Improve habitat for native brown trout, coarse fish and white-clawed crayfish.
- Ensure that historic features within the Grade II Listed Historic Park and Garden are protected.

What we did

The restoration was undertaken in 3 phases between 2013 and 2015 and involved:

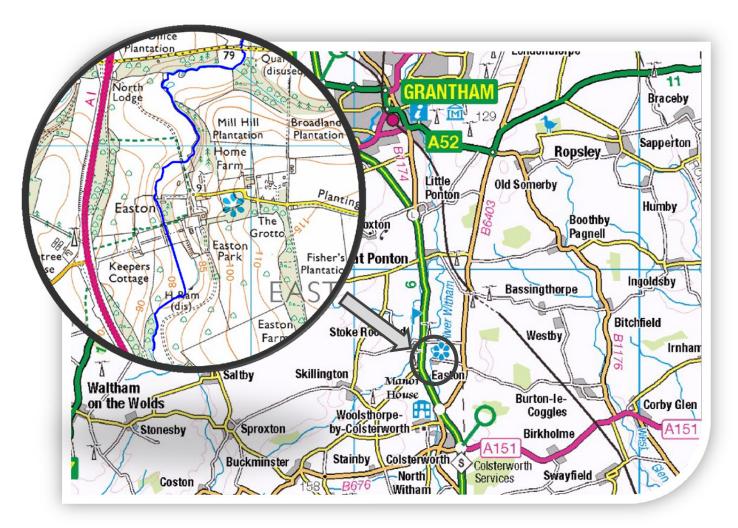
- Weir removal to restore the bed gradient.
- Channel narrowing and flow deflection to create flow variation and beneficial bed scour using log flow deflectors, brushwood mattresses and earth, turf and silt filled enclosures.
- Creation of sections of 2-stage channel and enhancing marginal wetland habitat by reprofiling eroded banks.
- Excavation of pools in the river bed.
- Increasing in-stream woody habitat by securing existing deadwood and layering live riverside trees.
- Fencing to prevent bank erosion by livestock.

The Witham flows through Easton Park, a *Grade II Listed Historic Park and Garden*. Prior to the works a detailed survey was carried out to assess the potential impacts on cultural heritage and a restoration strategy was developed, involving the use of aesthetically sympathetic soft engineering techniques, to protect the sensitive remains.

Visiting the restored section at Easton Park

The restored sections of river in the Easton area are centred on Easton Park. There are some public footpaths in the area, but the best way to see what has been achieved is to visit Easton Park and Walled Garden.

More details can be found here: www.visiteaston.co.uk/visit/opening-times-and-prices







The River Witham though Easton Walled Garden - Before

The River Witham though Easton Walled Garden - After

For further information about the restoration scheme contact:

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