

Walthamstow Wetlands

Assessment

The outcome of this evolution is a light footed design that accesses and expresses to the visitor the elements of nature, water, industry - the fundamentals of the place. Open to the public since November 2017, the shift in the perception of Wetlands continues within surrounding communities as local people discover what they had previously glimpsed beyond high grass bunds or tough palisade fencing. Wetlands is also finding its way into the wider mental geography of Londoners as green space of city wide significance comparable to Hyde Park (140 hectares) or Hampstead Heath (320 hectares).



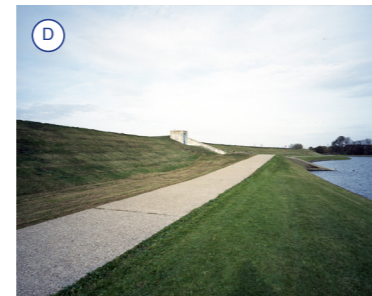
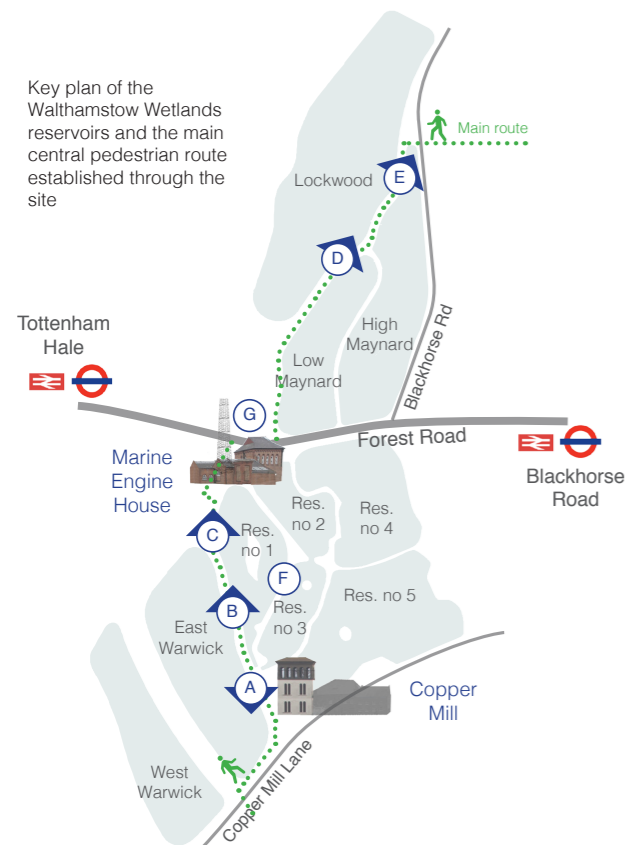
The view from the main route alongside East Warwick reservoir looking south to Canary Wharf



A vantage point at the edge of Reservoir no. 1 looking towards the Marine Engine House



The main pedestrian/cycle route from Copper Mill Lane to Marine Engine House



There is a new cycle/pedestrian route of exposed aggregate concrete



As with all entrances to the site, the bridge at the new entrance at the north of Maynard Lock, crosses over/encounters water

F Enriched reservoir edge ecology



Gorse was planted beside the reservoirs to introduce vibrant seasonal colour. The main pedestrian cycle route was organised to avoid key habitats



The new reedbeds were introduced as an earlier phase of works and are now well established. The reedbeds were part of a wider ecological vision for the site

G Sequence from Forest Road main entrance to Marine Engine House Visitor Centre



Wayfinding is integrated into the ground treatment at the entrances



The pedestrian cycle approach to the visitor centre follows the river edge



The widened platform at the end of the steel boardwalk perches over the River Lea



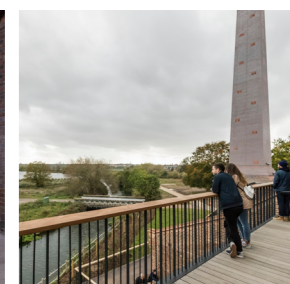
The main route is of generous width to allow shared cycle and pedestrian use



Visitors pass under the railway line on the approach to the Marine Engine House



Exposed aggregate concrete and weathered steel plate of the entrance steps and ramp



The first floor balcony off the Triple Engine Room, with deck and balustrade that are consistent with the boardwalk