



Hugh Pearl (Land Drainage) Limited

New Farm
Bobbingworth
Ongar
Essex CM5 0DJ

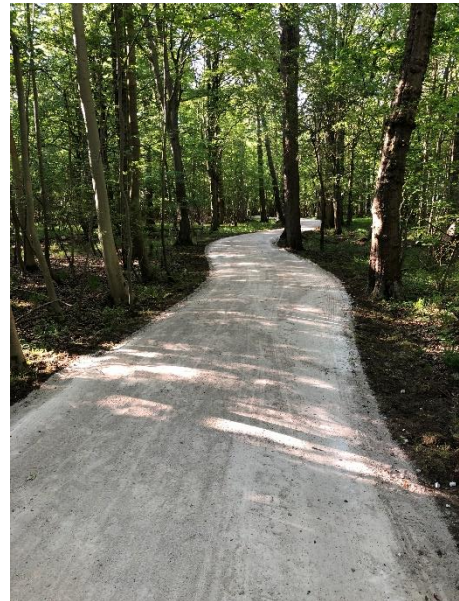
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Case Study

Site Ickworth House
Client National Trust
Contract Multi Use Trail Construction
Duration 7 Months

It is a key strategic objective of the National Trust to get more people 'Outdoors and Closer to Nature' Cycling has been identified as one of four priority activities because of the opportunities it offers to diversify people's access and enjoyment of National Trust land. The 'Cycle Trails Programme' has been developed with the support of Sport England as the first stage of a strategy to provide significantly enhanced recreational access to its Estate.

This contract involved the construction and upgrade of over 9000m of multi user trail which upgraded the existing infrastructure to allow improved access to the estate.



Due to the high profile nature of this site and the funders requirements it was imperative that the trails were constructed to the highest standard of longitudinal and cross falls, to enable this construction we had to utilise our top operators using tilting buckets to create the cross and cambered falls required for the trails, the construction techniques required within the contract required us to be able to upgrade existing access roads and to construct new trails and paths. Where

existing trails were upgraded we were required to ensure that the existing surface was heavily scarified removing any traces of the potholed road that existed, once scarified new material was brought in to upgrade the surface and bring the levels up to the required height to allow drainage, this was then compacted and the surface dressed with grit.



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Other sections of path were upgraded from narrow unsurfaced paths to 2.5m wide stone paths, this was carried out by excavating the additional width and constructing to the standard specification, the existing path was then broken up with an excavator and ripper tooth and the old surface used as a base layer which then had a type 1 layer laid over the surface and graded through with the new width of path and compacted the two together to create a seamless link between them.



This site created a large issue as the trails were designed to go within heavily wooded sections where there was a great risk of damage to the tree's roots, to mitigate this issue we worked with the engineers and Geosynthetics to develop the most cost effective root protection system we could, this proved to be the installation of Geosynthetics Cellweb TRP system with timber edging boards to hold the Cellweb in place during filling, which we over filled to allow access over the surface as we couldn't track machinery alongside due to the root protection area, we then graded the surface back from the end and then had topsoil placed up to the edge of the path to create a grassed verge.

Due to this site having to remain open to the public, special attention had to be paid to the erection of safety signage and fencing to deter them from entering the working space, or where this was not possible the use of banksmen and machinery with all round visibility being utilised.

This contract was completed on time and within budget.



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