

The Development of Bishop's Meadow in Nettleham

The Bishop's Palace site in Nettleham is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) and is historically very significant, both locally and nationally.

It comprises a total area of some 3 hectares, with 0.5 hectares, on the eastern side of this area, designated pasture land and now known as Bishop's Meadow.

Following the clearance and cultivation of the ground in early 2013, native woodland trees and other shrubs were planted by residents of the village in March, together with special grass and wildflower seed sown later the same year.

A heritage fruit orchard, including varieties of trees that may have been found here in mediaeval times, has also been incorporated in the planting scheme.

In September 2013, work commenced on rebuilding the traditional Lincolnshire dry stone wall which marks the southern boundary of the site.

On the occasion of Tuesday 11 March 2014, HRH The Duke of Kent came to the village and during the course of his visit officially opened the Bishop's Palace site.

Memorial trees, sponsored by individuals and special interest groups in the village, will also be added in future years, together with a number of memorial benches, to enable visitors to sit and enjoy the peaceful and quiet surroundings of this attractive and unique rural setting.



Below and right:
The development of Bishop's Meadow begins with regular mowing of the grass during 2012 and ploughing of the site in early March 2013



Below:
The construction of Prince's Gate is completed in February 2013



Below and centre:
The young trees selected for the Heritage Fruit Orchard are carefully planted by a group of villagers in March 2014



Below:
HRH The Duke of Kent plants the Royal Oak watched by John Evans, (Chairman of the Bishop's Palace Group), Terry Williams (Chairman of Nettleham Parish Council) and Mr Tony Worth (Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire)



Right:
Rebuilding of the traditional Lincolnshire dry stone wall on the southern boundary of Bishop's Meadow commences in September 2013



Above:
Detail showing the construction of the dry stone wall with the central cavity filled with aggregate to create additional strength and durability



Above:
The sign on Prince's Gate commemorating the official opening of the Bishop's Palace site on Tuesday 11 March 2014



Left:
HRH The Duke of Kent performs the official opening of the Bishop's Palace site during his visit to the village of Nettleham on Tuesday 11 March 2014



Left:
The ceremonial spade used by HRH The Duke of Kent to plant the Royal Oak on 11 March 2014 and the commemorative wooden plaque on the tree enclosure

A number of agencies, organisations and individuals are credited with assisting in the creation of this amenity in Nettleham
(in alphabetical order)



NETTLEHAM CE JUNIOR SCHOOL



NETTLEHAM PARISH COUNCIL



Bishops Palace Development Group

(in alphabetical order)

Councillor John Evans
(Chairman)

Nettleham Parish Council

Cherie & Chrissie Clayton
Heritage Fruit Advisors

Julia Finn
Nettleham Parish Council

David Gibbons
Nettleham CE Junior School

Pat Gregory
Nettleham Heritage Association

Nigel Kingston
Nettleham News

Ross Marshall
Environment Agency

Ross & Zoë Tomlinson
Bishop Grosseteste University

Chris Williams
Nettleham Woodland Trust