



A NEWCASTLE CITY COUNCIL REGENERATION PROJECT

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Construction of the Barrage to Commence March 08

Introduction

The character of the lower Ouseburn valley was shaped by the industrial revolution and evolving industrial development through the 18th and 19th centuries.

Following the decline of traditional industries much of the former urban fabric has disappeared, particularly the housing, leaving extensive derelict sites, although a few important



The low tide vista

industrial buildings survive.

Newcastle City Council wants to continue regenerating the area and create a vibrant urban village but the current state of the river, with a large drop to the water and

an unsightly exposed bed at low tide, is seen as a disincentive to future development.

The Option

Studies in to the options for managing the water environment in the lower Ouseburn Valley were completed in 2001.

The preferred option selected was the construction of a tidal barrage and navigation lock at the area under the Glasshouse bridge thus encouraging redevelopment by raising of the water level along the river in the lower Ouseburn Valley and improving the value of the waterway for recreation, including navigation.

The barrage will form a gateway feature for the valley, where redevelopment will be encouraged by the constant high water level, while maintaining the tidal environment in the section of the Ouseburn within the Newcastle Quayside redevelopment area.

In summary, the aims of the barrage scheme are to:

- Encourage economic regeneration;
- Raise urban design quality;
- Conserve the natural environment and protect cultural heritage;
- Maintain and improve facilities for recreational uses; and
- Maximise opportunities for all

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Artist Impression



The Development Agency for the North East of England



Project Part-Financed by the European Union

European Regional Development Fund

Ouseburn Barrage



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Design



Artist Impression

The Ouseburn Barrage Order Statutory Instrument came in to being in Feb. 07 , giving permission for the construction & operation of the Barrage . Following a competitive tendering process, the Council has appointed Byzak as the design and construct contractor for the barrage scheme.

Independent project managers WSP are also working on behalf of the Council.

Byzak are being assisted by Entec UK Ltd, who are undertaking the overall engineering design, with specialist lock gate designers Ken Grubb Associates Ltd designing the gate structures.

In accordance with the Council's policy of promoting public art and collaboration between artists and developers in the Ouseburn valley, Dan Archer has been appointed as project artist and is involved in the conceptual design of the barrage structures.

The team is working on an innovative design for the guillotine lock gates, incorporating curved structural members that form a visual link with the with the

curves of the arches of Glasshouse Bridge.

The Barrage

The barrage will consist of a weir with a 20m x 5m navigation lock alongside. The lock will have 'guillotine' type rising gates, allowing the lock to be used for release of flood water and for local management of siltation and water quality, as well as for navigation. It will provide navigation headroom of at least 5m above mean high water of spring tides.

The barrage will retain water at a minimum level of 2.6 metres above Ordnance datum, roughly the level of mean high water of spring tides, thus improving the appearance of the Ouseburn, encouraging redevelopment of derelict riverside sites, and allowing navigation upstream of the barrage at all times. Together

NCC & the Environment Agency will ensure any impact on the Ouseburn is kept to a minimum.

Construction

As with any construction work, building the barrage will inevitably involve some local disturbance and inconvenience, including the temporary closure of part of Maling Street in the area near to the Tyne Pub and the setting up of a laydown site using approx 100m of Spillers Quay at the Regen ctr end.

Disturbance and nuisance will be minimised through compliance with a detailed construction Code of Practice.

Normal working hours will be:

Mon—Fri	08.00 - 18.00
Sat	08.00 - 13.00

Key Dates

• Construction Site Establishment	04/03/08	For further details please contact;
• Ouseburn closed to navigation	10/03/08	
• Test Piling	26/03/08	Alan Spriggs
• Cofferdam 1 Piling start	31/03/08	Project Manager
Note: Piling will be in Six periods of approx.10 days with a few days preparation for each period.		Ouseburn Regeneration Ctr
• Cofferdam 1 Piling complete	15/07/08	Newcastle City Council
• Erection of Arch 2	02/02/09	Spillers Quay
• Construction of the Weir	23/02/09	Newcastle upon Tyne
• System fully operational	29/05/09	NE6 1BU
• Official Opening	10/07/09	Tel: 0191 275 5607

Note: All dates are approximate and subject to refinement as work progresses .

(Further details will be provided in the next issue)



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