

The location for the proposed work has been identified through research as part of the Artist Residency (over two years) and is grounded in meaning for the area and the Residency's engagement programme.

The project does not propose to replace 50m of the natural riverbank, indeed quite the opposite and we intend to extend the consultation and provide more details about the context of site, to clarify any confusion. The riverbank where the proposed artwork will be installed has recently undergone work to improve the edge of the bank due to erosion issues. Below is an image of the bank before the work was undertaken. The original bank comprised vertical wooden cladding bolted onto retained sheet piling. You will notice that wooden cladding is higher than the top of the steel piling. It had become dangerous with numerous gaps behind for cattle or members of the public to get their legs trapped. The Council explored the idea of removing or lowering the sheet piling to create a more natural bank. However, the erosive forces from the sluice gates are too high to allow this.



The images below show the work just after the removal of the timber cladding and the regrading of the bank. Some of the soil has now washed away from behind the existing steel piling. Any further bank treatment or the sculpture would raise the bank and regrade the soil back to level to prevent this, which is a positive enhancement to the environment both practically and visually. The proposed artwork will utilise existing metal sheet piling that is installed along the bank as a framework on which the piece will be fixed and formed.



As previously mentioned, the project is at the concept stage and yet to reach the detailed design phase. As an artist, Caroline Wright has used gold leaf in her work in the past, gilding house bricks, and a beach hut interior are two examples. Her intention for Selvedge is that there is a richness to the colour of the work, which will combine a golden cast with a subtle effect that can be described as similar to the range of colours seen in sunlight when oil has been dropped into a puddle. The rippling form of the piece will enable the light to reflect from different parts of the sculpture according to the time of day and light levels, with some parts being lighter and more illuminated than others in a changing visual image. As people walk the path alongside Laundress and Sheep's Green, there might be moments when there

is a golden cast projected from the work and at others a more subtle, darker shifting colour palette. It is not proposed that the work will be shining as metallic gold.

The detailed design stage will include looking at the potential to include wildlife habitat within the work and this will be developed with advice from the Nature Conservation Officer who has suggested the work provides opportunities to enhance wildlife habitats. An Ecology Survey is currently being undertaken to provide detailed information.