

waterway
recovery
group

Gough's Orchard Lock Project



The restoration of Gough's Orchard Lock is being undertaken by the Waterway Recovery Group and the Cotswold Canals Trust with funding from the Inland Waterways Association as part of their contribution towards the Cotswold Canals Partnership project to restore the canal between Brimscombe and Stonehouse over the next three years. The restoration is being carried out by volunteers on selected weekends and supplemented by a few week long camps.



Following wildlife surveys and the clearance of trees and overgrowth in 2007, work started in earnest in July 2008 with the excavation of the top end of the lock chamber by specialist contractors.

This was followed by a week long WRG camp which started the restoration of the top wing walls of the lock chamber.



Repairs to the top end of the lock will be followed by the excavation of the main chamber and its restoration together with work to the bridge and the channel walls underneath.

The re-gating of the lock will take place once the huge amount of dumped infill has been removed upstream of the lock and the section downstream has also been restored.

If you want to get involved, please email office@cotswoldcanals.com or call 01285 643440.



History

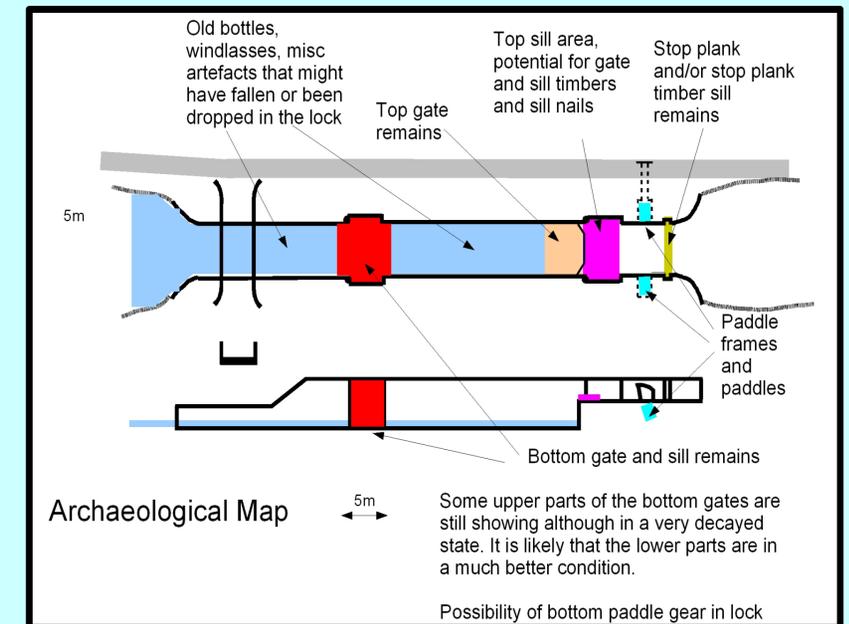
Gough's Orchard Lock is on the Thames & Severn Canal which, together with the Stroudwater Navigation, formed England's first inland waterway link between London, Gloucester and the Midlands.

The T&S Canal opened in 1789 and included Sapperton Tunnel, the longest in the world at that time. These canals closed in stages in 1927, 1933 (including this section) and 1954.

They remain the great missing link in Britain's waterway network and their restoration is a national priority.



Gough's Orchard Lock after closure in 1933 but before the 1960/70s infilling (Gardener Collection)



Archaeology



One of the many bottles found so far



Remains of a top gate and sill