

The Paddock

Willow

History of the Paddock

Until the mid 19th Century the Paddock formed the northern half of the Mill Mead water meadow, part of common land that supplied grain to the neighbouring Tottenham Mill. After World War I the area was used as a sports ground, owned by the nearby Harris Lebus furniture factory. After the factory closed the land became largely derelict but was occasionally used to graze horses hence the 'Paddock' name. The site was opened to the public as a Community Nature Park in 2000.

Aerial photo of site of Lebus furniture manufacturers (between The railway and River Lea) looking South. C1970



Yellow area – where Paddock is today
Green area – Markfield Park
Red line – Tottenham High Road
Blue area – Tottenham Hale Station

Nature Conservation Interest

Surrounded on two sides by water, the Paddock provides an important refuge for water birds and other aquatic animals and plants. Kingfishers are frequently seen as are bats which feed on the abundance of insect life.

Kingfisher



The "wilderness" area in the centre of the Paddock has grown up naturally to form young woodland and scrub dominated by elder, willow and blackberry. This provides a valuable nesting site for birds such as song thrush, blackbird and various warblers. Weasels and hedgehogs have also been seen here.

The Paddock Community Nature Park is owned and managed by Haringey Council in partnership with the Friends of the Paddock for the benefit of local people and the wildlife it supports.

This is one of 60 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in the London Borough of Haringey. These sites provide a valuable habitat for wildlife and the opportunity for people to experience, learn about and enjoy the natural environment.

Pipistrelle bat



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Blackberry



Song Thrush

