



Natural History Museum

The Natural History Museum's Wildlife Garden is set in the West Lawn and covers one acre. It gives a flavour of British habitats and promises a countryside experience whilst still being in the heart of London.

The Wildlife Garden has several areas of hardwood decking including walkways and bridges. The wooden surfaces, although very aesthetically pleasing, were becoming a trip hazard due to damp weather conditions and algae growth.

The Natural History Museum had attempted to resolve the problem by applying a metal mesh over the wooden decking. Although this initially solved the problem, over time it too deteriorated and again, caused a trip hazard because the mesh began to lift and leaves became trapped under it.

As Richco had already installed grip systems in other areas for The Natural History Museum, we were invited back to resolve the problem.

Our client had reservations about fitting a grip system to the wooden decking, as they considered it might affect the original natural appearance, with which they were very happy with. To help put our client's reservations at bay, we presented them with a choice of natural stone aggregates which would compliment the existing surroundings.

The system Richco applied is a self priming, fast curing resin binding material, which allows the natural stone aggregate to be cast onto the system. It also provides a hardwearing positive grip system, and importantly leaves an aesthetically pleasing finish.

On completion of the work, our client was so impressed, they actually said it has improved the appearance of the wooden decking and has positively enhanced the walkway area.