

Joiners Workshop exhibition

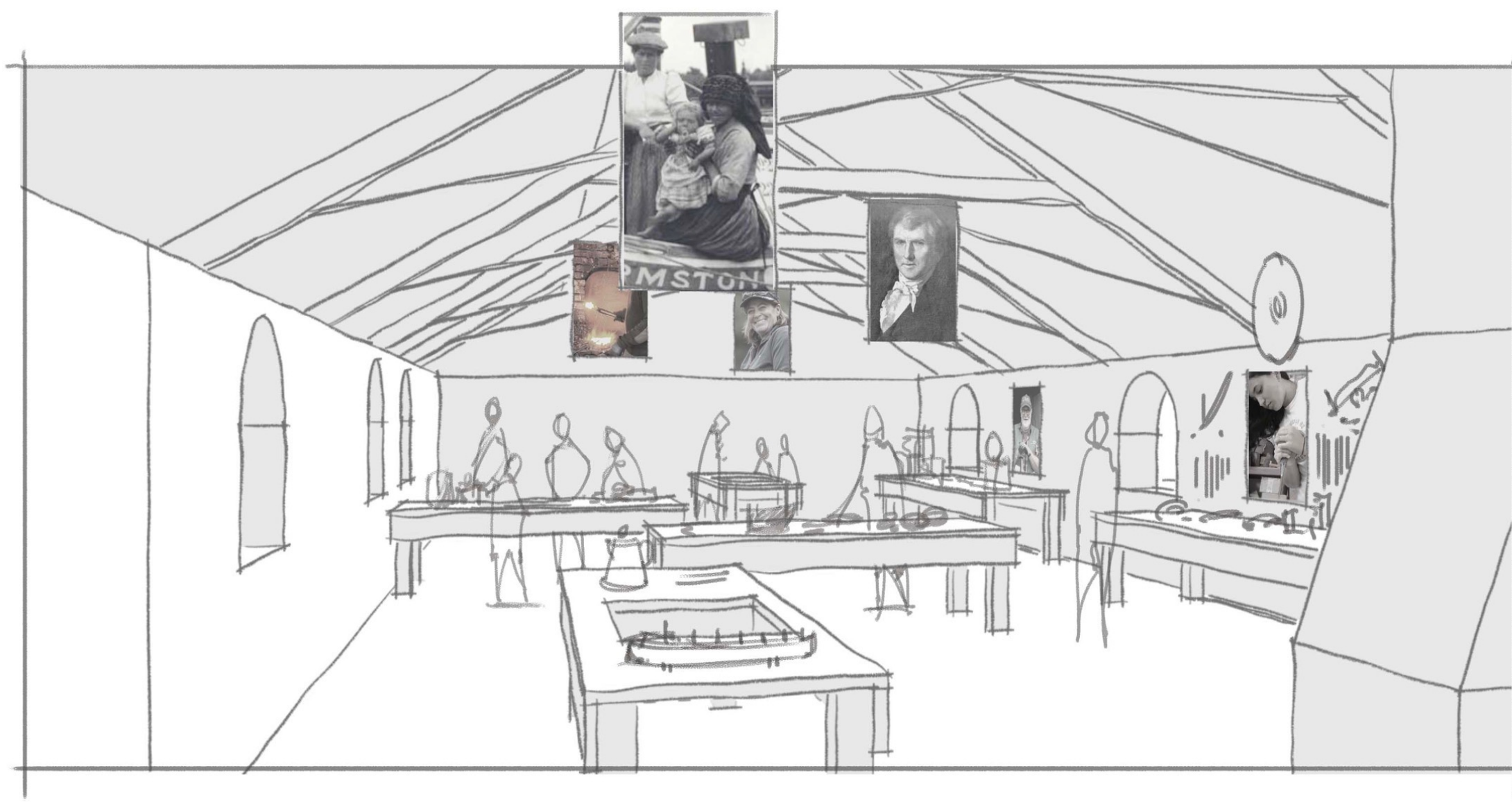
The Joiner's Workshop is a great space for an interactive exhibition telling the story of this amazing place.

The displays will be family friendly, with lots to touch, pick up, play with, listen to, dress up and take selfies of.

A large graphic will welcome visitors, with an introductory film including drone video and interviews with our blacksmith and other craftspeople.

Inspired by the BBC's Repair Shop, a set of workshop benches will explore the Yard's fascinating stories and traditional skills, including how the canal was built, what its buildings are used for, and how we are helping nature and wildlife too.

The Foreman's window and balcony also give a great view over the Yard, the Dry Dock and the canal – with Ellesmere just behind.



Pattern Shop display

The Pattern Shop is an amazing room little changed in 200 years.

The shelves are stacked with unique wooden 'Patterns' that were used to cast iron machinery and fittings to maintain the canal.

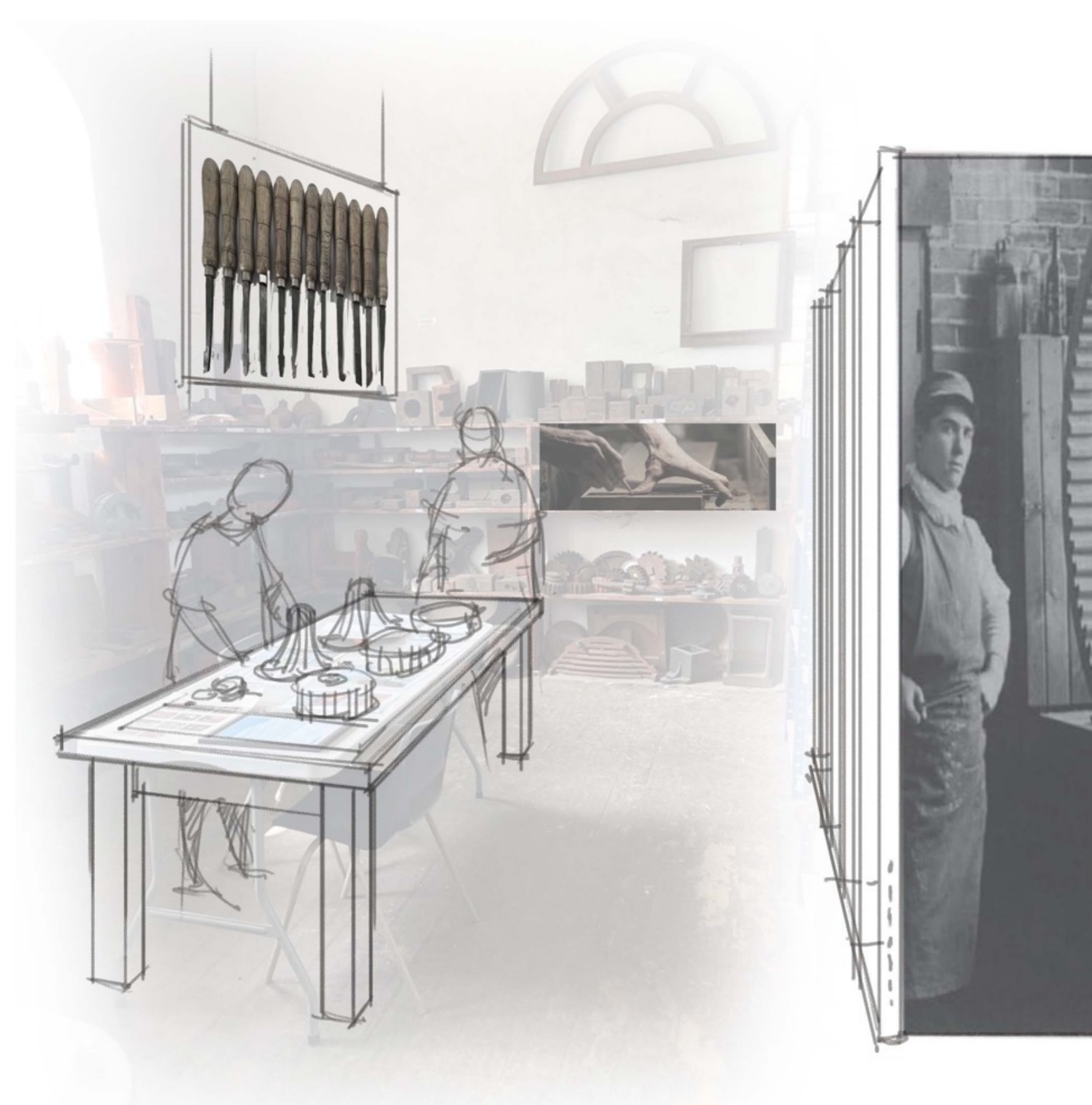
A great deal of skill went into making the Patterns, and some are still used to repair the canal today.

Graphic panels on the shelves showcase archive imagery and bring people into the story.

A handling table allows visitors to investigate and play with some of the patterns, and perhaps to make a simple gearing puzzle.

An audio soundscape brings the room to life with the sounds of craftsmen making and using patterns.

A volunteer guide would also tell stories and answer questions about the Patterns and how Ellesmere Yard still maintains the canal, 200 years after it was built.



Wildlife and Nature

The field next to the Yard will be open to the public and a lovely place to enjoy a picnic and being beside the canal.

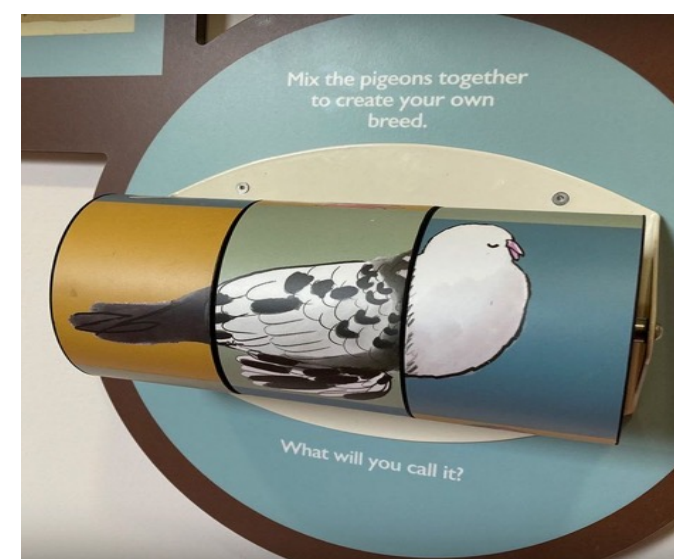
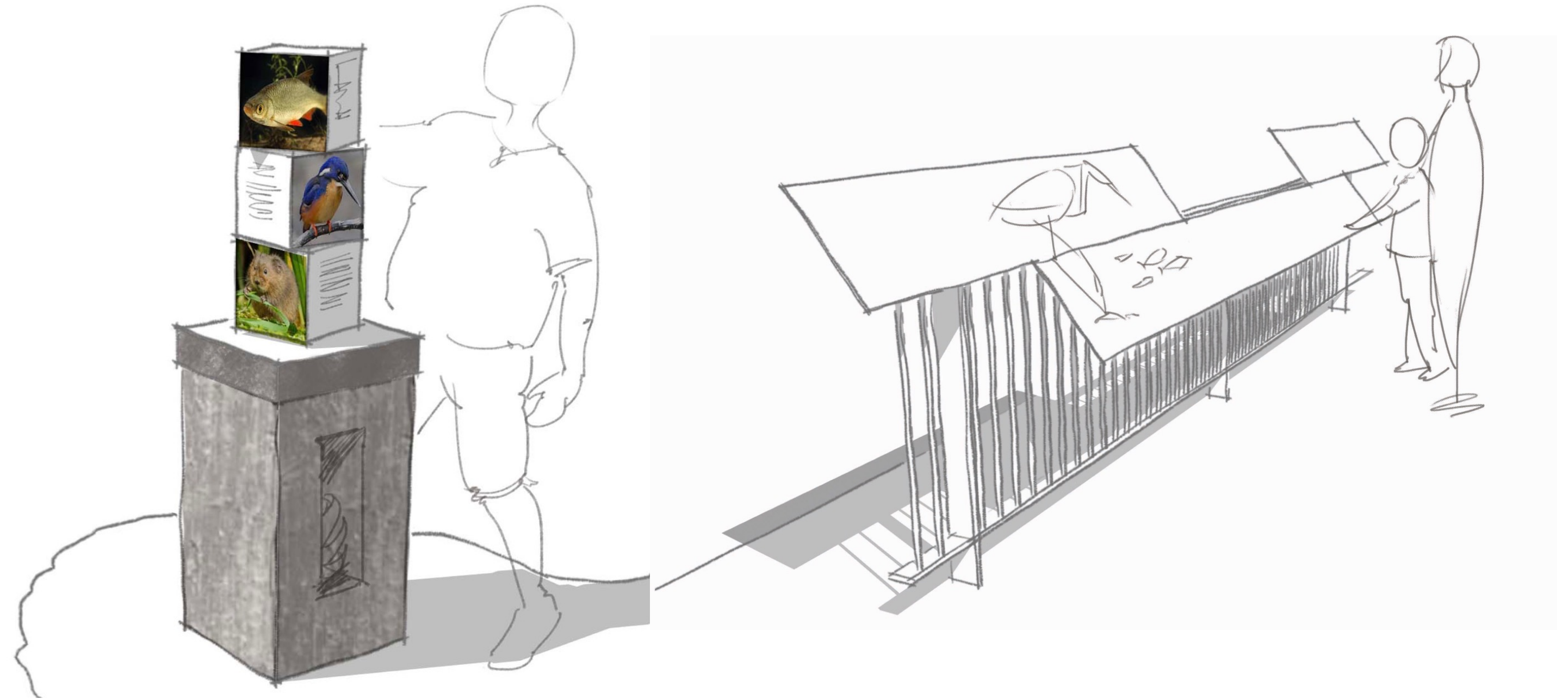
We propose a few outdoor installations to help people learn about nature and wildlife living in and around the canal.

We have bats and swifts in our old buildings, and wildflowers, moths, butterflies in our fields. The canal is also home to a wide range of wildlife including birds and fish.

The installations will tell stories of conservation and biodiversity, the nature we have, and what we want to bring back.

They will include graphics, audio and interactive elements to engage people.

There will also be opportunities to help survey our wildlife, and take to part in conservation activities to make Ellesmere Yard as rich in wildlife as possible.



Online / digital interpretation

Ellesmere Yard is a working yard and home to several tenants and craftspeople. This means it can't be open to visitors every day.

It is also one of the most historic canal yards in the country, so many people with an interest won't get a chance to visit.

We therefore want to help people explore the Yard and its stories online

Opportunities to visit and engage remotely will include a new website, social media, blogs, virtual tours and digitised collection information.

Online resources could include films and audio, a virtual tour and digital 3D scans of historic objects and features.

Please tell us if there's anything else you'd like to help explore the Yard digitally and online.

