

CLIENT:

The Jewel Tower, London

Introduction

The Jewel Tower dates back almost 650 years and is now a visitor attraction in the heart of Westminster. It was built around 1365 to house Edward III's treasures and was known as the 'King's Privy Wardrobe'.

One of only two buildings from the medieval Palace of Westminster to survive the fire of 1834, the tower has exhibition space over three floors, where visitors can learn of the Towers changing roles, see a model of the 'lost' medieval palace of Westminster, replicas of precious objects and a rare 14th century ribbed vault.

Client brief

Provide temporary access from existing steps leading from Abingdon Street during refurbishment / asbestos removal works being carried out on the adjacent palace yard parliamentary offices.

Identified solutions at survey

1500mm wide with a fully balustraded anti climb handrail system with no passing point larger than 100mm. Logistical considerations to ensure correct equipment delivery.

Projected time on site and the identified challenges for the installation

Due to the central London location there were additional issues with deliveries to the installation site. Liaison with the Metropolitan police was required to organise time slots for deliveries and additional time was necessary to allow work around the Metropolitan police and Vinci Construction's site policies.

Full site inductions were carried out by Vinci Construction upon arrival and the site was fully secured until signed off on the day of completion.

As this is a historic site, fixings could not be made to any of the stonework at ground level. All feet were placed on protective pads and a system of bracing was used rather than direct fixings, providing a strong, stable and secure ramp.

The projected installation time was 4 days, with a strict deadline for completion owing to the logistical challenges of the location.

Project summary

A very successful installation fully completed within its four-day allocation. This ramp remained in place for approximately 5 months and was then removed with no trace or damage to this historic site.

Working in partnership with:



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