

Project Profile :: Heritage

Airship Hangar 1, Cardington

Client: Bedford Borough Council

Scott White and Hookins' Role:

 Structural Engineering

A major programme of refurbishment of Hangar No. 1 at Cardington has been underway for the past 3 years to return the Grade II listed building to its former glory.

Scott White and Hookins have been employed by the local authority planning department to act as technical advisors for this project. The practice has collated knowledge of the two large airship hangars at Cardington over the past 40 years through inspections and surveys. English Heritage therefore recommended to the Council that our practice fulfil the advisory role because of our unique expertise on these buildings.

Our engineers have carried out regular inspections over the past 3 years, firstly to review the condition of the existing structure, and then during the phased refurbishment. The building's listed status has meant that much of the cladding and structure has had to be replaced on a like-for-like basis to restore the building back to its original appearance.

The refurbishment contract has run over three years. The whole of the roof was replaced during the first phase, followed by the hangar doors. The side cladding is being resheeted in two stages to allow the buildings occupier to continue to operate.

Work is due for completion early in 2015.

