

Project Profile: Heritage



Structural Engineering

Airship Hangar 1, Cardington

The Grade II listed building, Hangar No. 1, underwent major refurbishment, with SWH working as technical advisors.

Client
Bedford Borough Council

A major programme of refurbishment took 3 years to return the hangar, a Grade II listed building to its former glory.

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

Our engineers carried out regular inspections over 3 years, firstly to review the condition of the existing structure and then also throughout the phased refurbishment. The buildings 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 whole of the roof was replaced during the first phase, followed by the hangar doors. The side cladding was the resheeted in two stages to allow the buildings occupier to continue to operate.

