

Kendall
Kingscott

Design, Access & Heritage Statement

**Brunel University
London – Central
Lecture Block**

Client

Brunel University London

Project Number

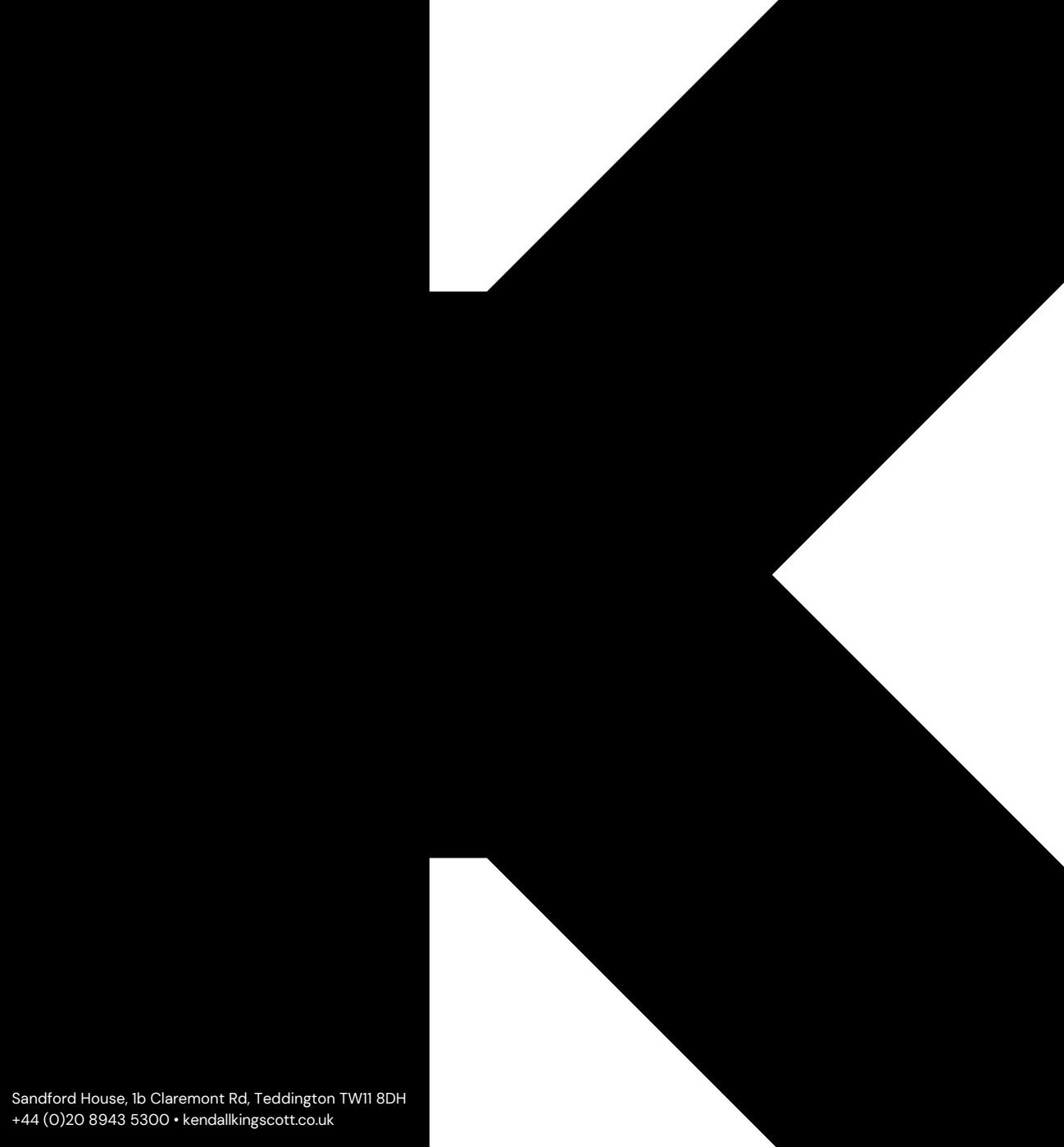
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04.09.2023



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Document Control Record

Version	Date	Prepared by	Checked by
V1	04.09.2023	Angus Collins	Chris English

1.0 Introduction

This Design Access and Planning Statement has been prepared in support of a planning application submitted by Kendall Kingscott Limited on behalf of Brunel University London in respect of works to the Central Lecture Block (CLB) within their Uxbridge Campus.

Brunel University London
Kingston Lane Uxbridge UB8 3PH

This statement relates specifically to the refurbishment of Lecture Theatres A, B & C.

The statement comprises of the following sections-

1. Introduction
2. Site Description
3. The Building Heritage / Listing
4. Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 5
5. Proposed Works
6. Supporting Documents
7. Summary & Conclusions

Appendix A – Historic England List Entry

2.0 Site Description

The Central Lecture Block is located within the heart of Brunel University London's Uxbridge Campus and contains offices, meeting rooms, classrooms, lecture theatres and flexible study spaces.

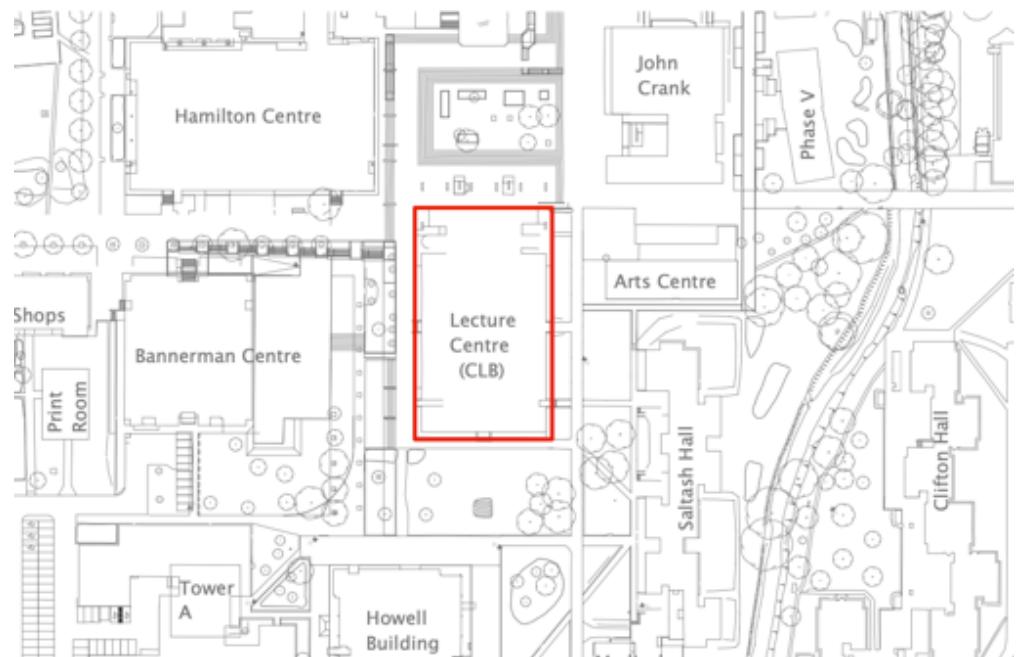


Fig.1 Central Lecture Block Location

Brunel University is located approximately one mile to the south of the centre of Uxbridge. It occupies a site between Kingston Lane to the east and Cowley Road to the west. The CLB is located in the centre of the

University campus, within the North Loop Road and South Loop Road and immediately south of The Quad, a sunken, outdoor recreation area.

3.0 The Building Heritage / Listing

3.1 Function / Significance

The Lecture Centre was listed at Grade II in June 2011, in recognition of its special architectural and historic importance as a post-war Brutalist university building. The Lecture Block was built in 1965-7 as the centre piece of the new Brunel University Uxbridge Campus. It was designed by prominent architects Robson and Partners, with the compact internal layout housing all lecture theatres in one place being inspired by the University of Manchester Science and Technology lecture block.

‘...Brunel was one of the fastest growing and most prestigious technical colleges of the post-war period and a flagship of the newly created Robbins universities; its early date, new location and generous funding allowed for an ambitious initial scheme; the lecture theatre block achieved early notoriety as a location in the film A Clockwork Orange...’

Excerpt from Historic England List Entry

There are no other listed buildings within the immediate vicinity of the Lecture Centre but the Library and Laboratory buildings are locally listed. The building does not stand within a conservation area, or within an archaeological priority area.

Note. The full Historic England List Entry can be found within Appendix A

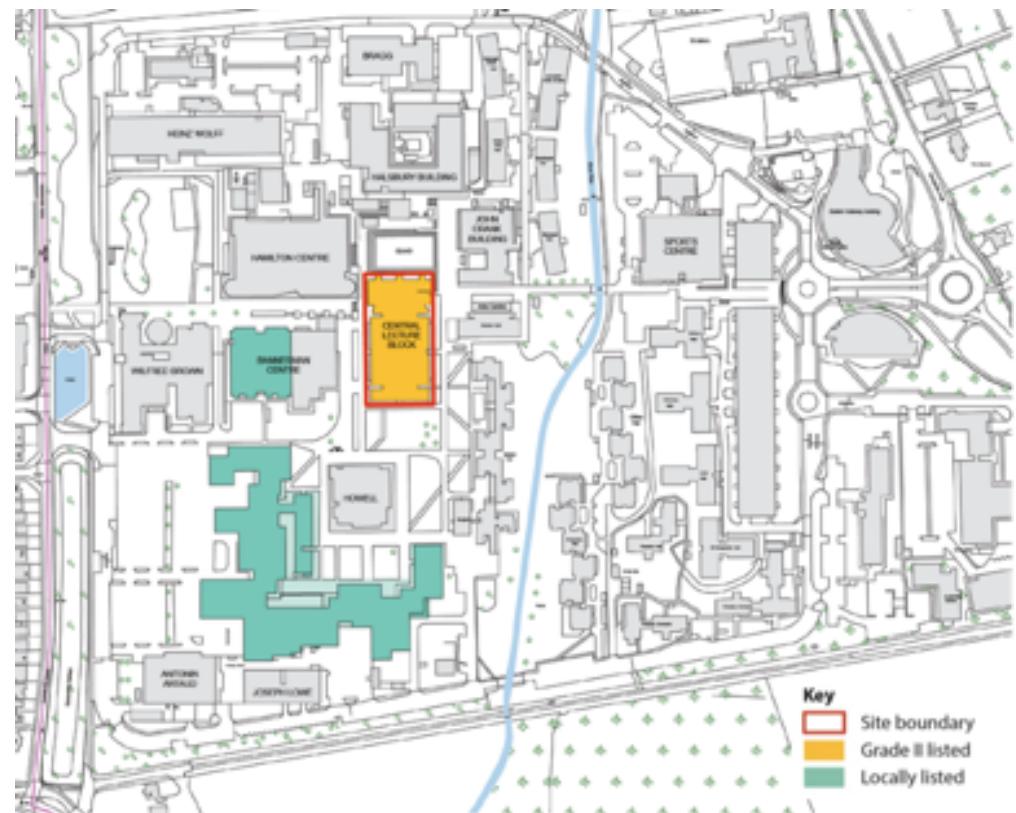


Fig.2 Surrounding Designations Plan

Building Description

The CLB is a four storey structure primarily comprised of an exposed reinforced concrete frame infilled with pre-cast concrete panels with large sections of metal framed glazing to the side (East and West) elevations.

The three larger lecture theatres, formed of box construction with board marked frames and set between giant concrete piers, over-sail the Northern entry elevation.



Fig.3 CLB Northern (Main Entry) Elevation



Fig.4 CLB Rear (Southern) Elevation



Fig.5 CLB Partial Western (Side) Elevation



Fig.6 CLB Partial Eastern (Side) Elevation

4.0 Planning Policy Statement

Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 5: Planning for the Historic Environment was published in March 2010 by the Department for Communities and Local Government. The document sets out the Government's overarching objective that "the historic environment and its heritage assets should be conserved and enjoyed for the quality of the life they bring to this and future generations" (DCLG, 2010).

The document further encourages delivery of '..sustainable development by ensuring that policies and decisions concerning the historic environment recognise that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term..'.

As part of formulating this Heritage statement guidance has been obtained from PPS 5 and Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide as produced by English Heritage et al.

The advice contained within these key documents has also been taken into consideration in the development of a design solution for this project which seeks to upgrade existing conditions within the building whilst retaining, preserving, and restoring features considered to be architecturally significant and historically important.

5.0 Proposed Works

The proposals for the CLB, the only listed building within the campus, relate to an ongoing programme of repairs and maintenance that Brunel University has been carrying out to continue to provide twenty-first century education and research facilities, prevent deterioration of existing building elements which have been identified as at risk, upgrade existing electrical systems, and ensure compliance and suitability of passive fire protection systems.

The roof lights have been identified as a cause of water ingress to the building below causing damage to recently refurbished lecture theatres D, E & F corridor located directly below on the mezzanine level see Fig. 7-8. Highlighting the need for replacement roof lights to prevent further damage.

The existing roof lights are formed from metal frames with glazed Georgian wired panels, lead ridge and masonry walls. It is suspected the existing gaskets contain asbestos.

The roof lights are not visible from ground level as shown in Fig. 2-6 elevations above due to the central location on the roof. The proposed roof light set will aim to be a like for like replacement as shown in Appendix B architectural drawings and will not exceed the height of existing.



Fig.7 fine crack to concrete starting in corner directly below rooflight.

6.0 Supporting Documents

Architectural drawings including existing and proposed plans for the rooflights along with site location plans for the proposed works can be found attached in Appendix B.

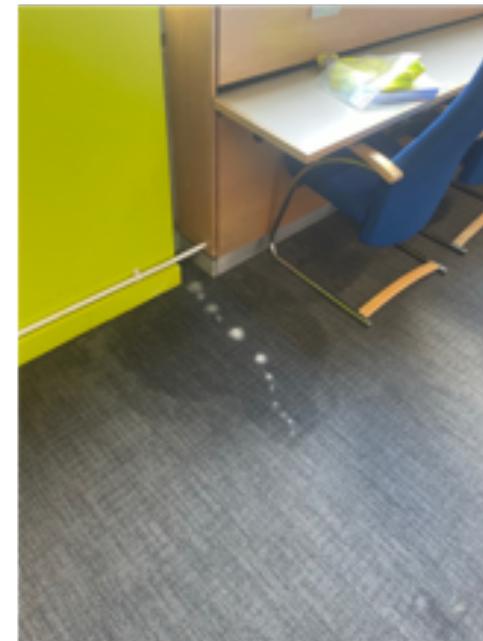


Fig. 8 puddle forming below from water ingress causing damage to carpet tiles

7.0 Summary & Conclusions

The proposed replacement roof lights are an essential component to the ongoing roof works to the building and crucial to enable the newly installed roofing system to function as expected.

Throughout the design process every effort has been made to reach proposals which not only meet the client's usage requirements but also respect the original features of the CLB.

It is hoped this design approach, the information contained within this statement coupled with the supporting documentation will serve to uphold the validity of our application for Listed Building consent.

Appendix A



Lecture Theatre Block, Brunel University

Overview

Heritage Category:

Listed Building

Grade:

II

List Entry Number:

1400162

Date first listed:

23-Jun-2011

Location Description:

Lecture Theatre Block, Brunel University, Cleveland Rd, Uxbridge

Statutory Address:

Lecture Theatre Block, Brunel University, CLEVELAND ROAD

Map



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The above map is for quick reference purposes only and may not be to scale. For a copy of the full scale map, please see the attached PDF - **1400162.pdf**

The PDF will be generated from our live systems and may take a few minutes to download depending on how busy our servers are. We apologise for this delay.

This copy shows the entry on 06-Jan-2020 at 14:46:21.

Location

Statutory Address:

Lecture Theatre Block, Brunel University, CLEVELAND ROAD

The building or site itself may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

Location Description:

Lecture Theatre Block, Brunel University, Cleveland Rd, Uxbridge

County:

Greater London Authority

District:

Hillingdon (London Borough)

Parish:

Non Civil Parish

National Grid Reference:

TQ0602382688

Summary

The lecture theatre block, 1965-6 by Richard Sheppard, Robson and Partners. John Heywood as project architect and Clarke Nicholls and Marcel as structural engineers. Built as part of the first phase of the new campus for Brunel University.

Reasons for Designation

The lecture theatre block at Brunel University, Hillingdon, 1965-6 by Richard Sheppard, Robson and Partners is designated at Grade II for the following principal reasons: * Architectural interest: lecture theatre block, the concept inspired by the lecture block at UMIST, designed and built to a high standard in a distinctive, expressive manner by an architectural practice with an established pedigree of university buildings * Plan: stacks of lecture theatres and classrooms, some internal, set round an internal corridor; north entrance and foyers beneath strongly expressed projecting lecture theatres flanked by spiral stair wells * Material quality and effectiveness of expression: sculptural, board-marked concrete box construction between piers, contrasts with a lighter weight frame infilled with pre-cast panels and window units * Historic interest: Brunel was one of the fastest growing and most prestigious technical colleges of the colleges of the post-war period and a flagship of the newly created Robbins universities; its early date, new location and generous funding allowed for an ambitious initial scheme; the lecture theatre block achieved early notoriety as a location in the film A Clockwork Orange

History

The lecture theatre block at Brunel University was built in 1965-7 to the designs of John Heywood of Richard Sheppard, Robson and Partners, master planners of the university. The practice was already established in the context of post-war universities for their designs for Churchill College, Cambridge, developed from 1959 (listed Grade II) and to which they later added the chapel in 1967, for halls of residence for Imperial College, S Kensington (1957 onwards, listed Grade II, demolished 2005) and for the School of Navigation and associated buildings at Southampton (1959-61).

Brunel was one of the fastest-growing and most prestigious technical colleges of the post-war period. It began only in 1928, as Acton Technical College, founded to serve the growing industrial areas of Park Royal and the Great West Road. Its original aim was to train teenagers and apprentices, but it shifted its focus with the influx of ex-servicemen into higher education on scholarships after the Second World War. A new building in Acton was opened in 1957 and the college separated its HND and Dip Tech courses from those to A' level and below. It rapidly gained a high reputation for these, and was with Birmingham and Salford Colleges among the first to pioneer sandwich courses, developed with local industries. The college was strong in engineering subjects and sciences, many of them allied with courses in production engineering and management. It was named Brunel College for the proximity of Isambard Kingdom Brunel's Great Western Railway to its four-acre site at Woodlands.

Towards the end of 1960, discussions began between the Ministry of Education and the Middlesex Education Authority about the upgrading of Brunel to a College of Advanced Technology (CAT). The small site at Acton was judged insufficient for a CAT, which was expected to provide residential accommodation to attract students from across the country, as well as modern workshops, laboratories, lecture halls and a library. Middlesex County Council had already offered land for a hall of residence at Uxbridge Common, where it had been acquiring sites for a new college of business studies and a college of art. Instead, in November 1961 it offered the entire holding to Brunel, with 81 acres immediately available. In January 1962 the Minister of Education officially upgraded Brunel to a CAT, the only college to be formally upgraded following the initiation of the system in 1956.

In April 1962 Richard Sheppard, Robson and Partners were commissioned to prepare a development plan for the new campus. In May 1963 these first proposals were revised with the acquisition of a larger site to the west, and with the publication of the Robbins Report which proposed the upgrading of the institution to full university status with a population raised from 2,500 to 5,000 students. It was to be one of the largest engineering teaching complexes in Europe; Stillman & Eastwick-Field were appointed as associates to design the engineering centre and engineering buildings. Designed significantly ahead of the rest, Brunel University was thus a flagship of the new generation of 'Robbins' universities such as the former technical colleges at Bath and Strathclyde. The building gained early notoriety as it featured in the film, *A Clockwork Orange*, so distinctive was it of its time.

The lecture centre formed part of the first phase of the new campus which included the communal refectory, administration and the first of the residential blocks, and the engineering complex, the latter designed by Stillman Eastwick. The masterplan included the library which was phased to follow. The idea of placing all the lecture theatres in a single building was inspired by a lecture theatre building at UMIST (University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology) which is also a compact site, and which members of the Brunel Planning Group had visited in November 1962 (Topping (1981) 250).

Details

MATERIALS: a reinforced concrete frame, the large north-facing lecture theatres of box construction, with board marked finishes, set between giant piers. The rest of the building is an exposed concrete frame infilled with precast concrete panels, and large areas of metal framed glazing with contrasting soffit panels.

PLAN: six large lecture theatres, designed to seat 160-200 students, and mechanically ventilated, are entered off a central first-floor concourse and gallery. Smaller teaching rooms and lecture theatres for 60-80 students are set on three main floors either side of two long corridors, laid out with internal raked lecture theatres in centre, and naturally lit and ventilated classrooms to the outside. These are reached from the concourse and the ground-floor entrance hall below it via centrally placed stairs in the south elevation and east and west elevations and spiral stairs, expressed externally in drum stair wells.

EXTERIOR: the north elevation forms an expressive centrepiece to the campus, the raked underside of the lecture theatres projecting outwards, in the manner made popular with Stirling and Gowan's Engineering Building at Leicester University. The upper flight of lecture theatres projects on giant columns and beams above the lower flight, with projection booths extending beyond. External escape stairs separate the three banks of theatres, with set-back glazed lobbies at their tops. At entrance level, which is raised on a stepped podium, the former open foyer beneath the raking projection has been enclosed behind a glass screen wall and entrance, added in 2005, which wraps round the north end of the building. The rest of the building is a symmetrical rectangular block, with a set back clerestorey to the upper floor, the teaching rooms set forward in blocks between glazed stairwells and entrances on either side. The horizontal treatment of the projecting upper floors contrasts with the verticality of the recessed and centrally-placed stair wells.

INTERIOR: the ground-floor north entrance hall has a coffered panelled precast concrete ceiling, the original quarry tiled floors are replaced; although the foyer is now extended to include part of the former external entrance, the original distinction is clearly defined. The upper concourse and gallery is similarly treated although also refurbished in 2005. Centrally-placed stairs on the south elevation, and long side elevations and in projecting drum stair wells have integral moulded steps and skirtings; the spiral stairs are, in places,

free-standing and detached from the stair well; steel balustrades, some have heavy timber handrails, some are now supplemented by additional safety rails. The foyers and most lecture theatres have been refurbished. Some of the outward facing rooms retain coffered precast concrete ceilings; some have original door frames with a vertical glazed side panel, flush panel doors and door furniture.

Sources

Other

Architect and Building News (3 March 1965), 400-1,
Architectural Review (January 1965), 24,
James Topping, The Beginnings of Brunel University, Oxford University Press (1981),
Michael Brawne ed, University Planning and Design (1967), 80-5,

Legal

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

End of official listing

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Appendix B



SITE LOCATION PLAN



Scale 1:1250 @ A1



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Chartered Building Surveyors
Interior Designers
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P1 20/01/23 AC GC Issued to Tender
Rev Date By Ap Note

Drawing Title
Site Location Plan

Project
Refurbishment of CLB
Lecture Theatres A, B & C
Client
Brunel University London

Project Number Drawing Number Revision

220900-1100

P1

Scale Paper Size Filename Date Drawn Checked Purpose/Status
1:1250 ISO A1 220900 - BUL Lecture Theatres A, B 20/01/2023 AC GC TENDER
& C.vwx

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EXISTING ROOF PLAN
(1:200 @ A1)

0 10 20 30 40 50 M

Scale 1:200 @ A1



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Chartered Building Surveyors
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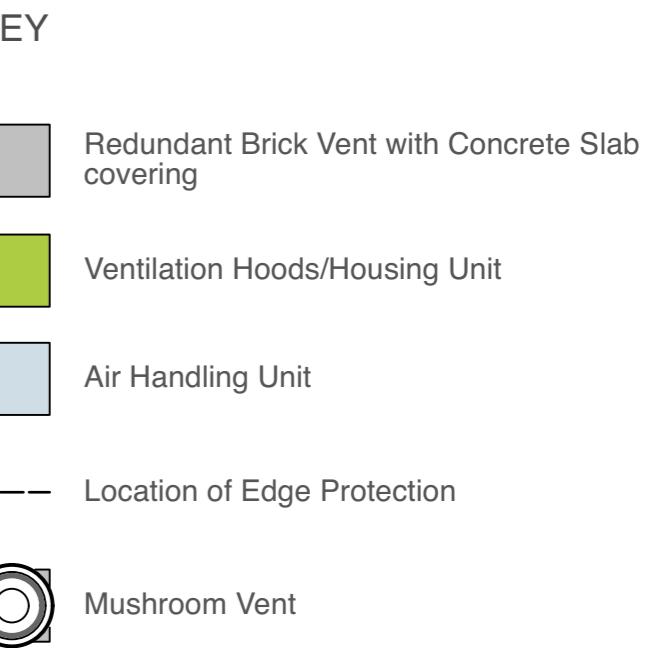
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CLB Phase 2
09. Roof Replacement

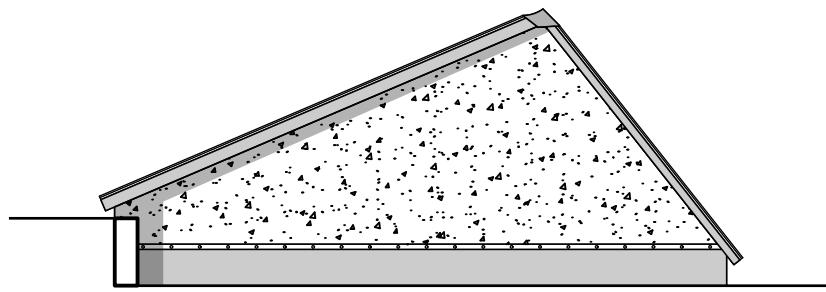
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Brunel University

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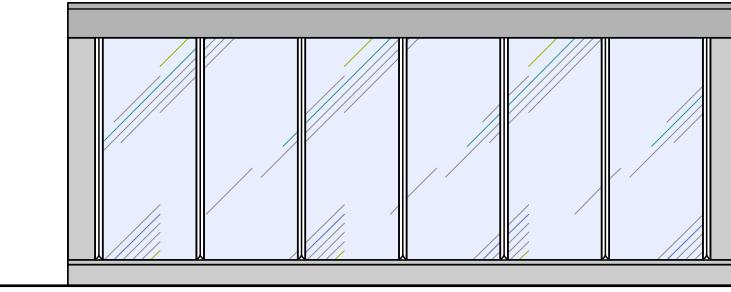
Rev Date By Ap Note
Drawing Title Existing Roof Plan
Project Number 220415-1200
Drawing Number 191223.vwx
Revision
Date 20/11/20 Drawn DG Checked EQ Status PLANNING
Check all dimensions and levels on site

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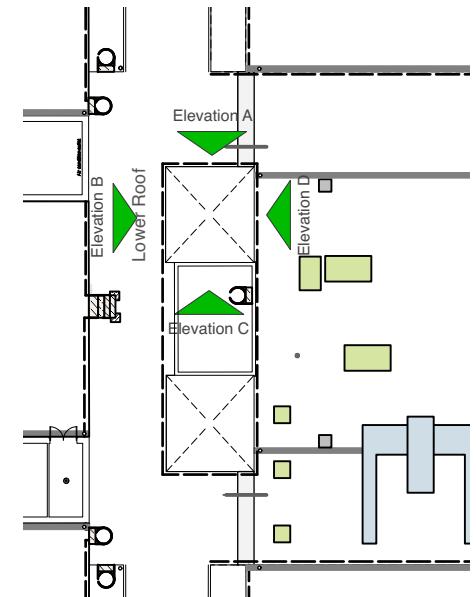




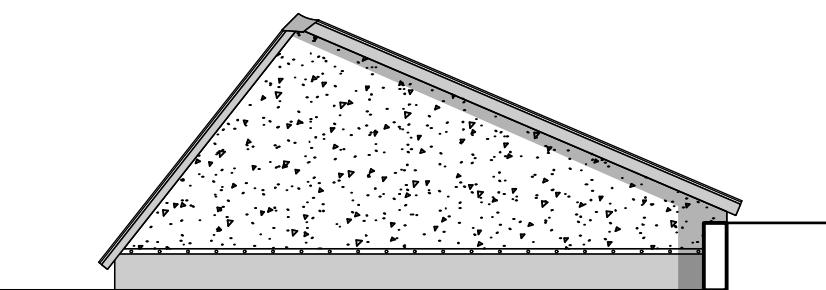
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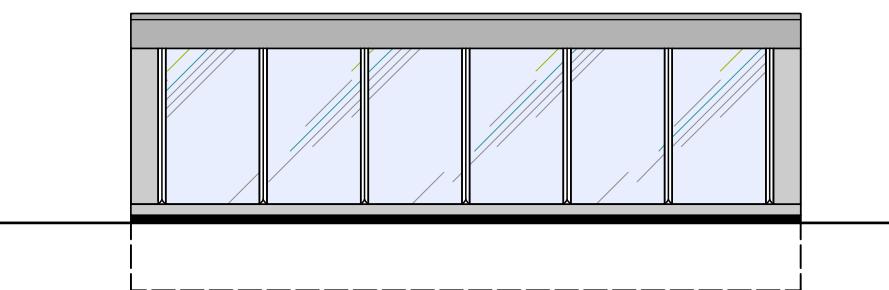
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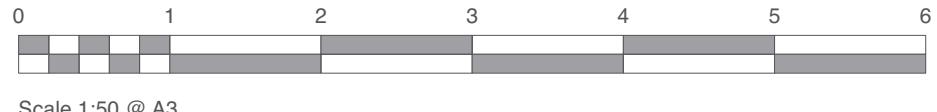
Key Plan



Existing Elevation C
Scale: 1:50



Existing Elevation D
Scale: 1:50



Scale 1:50 @ A3



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P1	30/08/2023	JI	AC	Issued for Planning
Rev	Date	By	Ap	Note
Drawing Title				
Existing Rooflight Elevations				
Project Number	Drawing Number	Revision		
220415-1202		P1		
Client	Project			
Brunell University	CLB Phase 2 09. Roof Replacement			
Scale	Paper Size	Filename		
1:50	ISO A3	220415 - BUL - CLB Roofing works.vwx		
Date	Drawn	Checked	Purpose/Status	
30/08/2023	JI	AC	PLANNING	
Check all dimensions and levels on site				

Notes:
 1. All drawings to be read in conjunction with all drawings relevant to project.

2. Do not scale from drawings, any discrepancy should be notified immediately.

3. Glazing:
 Outer - 8mm Satinova Toughened
 Cavity - 16mm Argon
 Inner - 8.8mm Clear Laminated
 'Low E'

4. Aluminium to be P.P.C RAL Colour
 RAL -

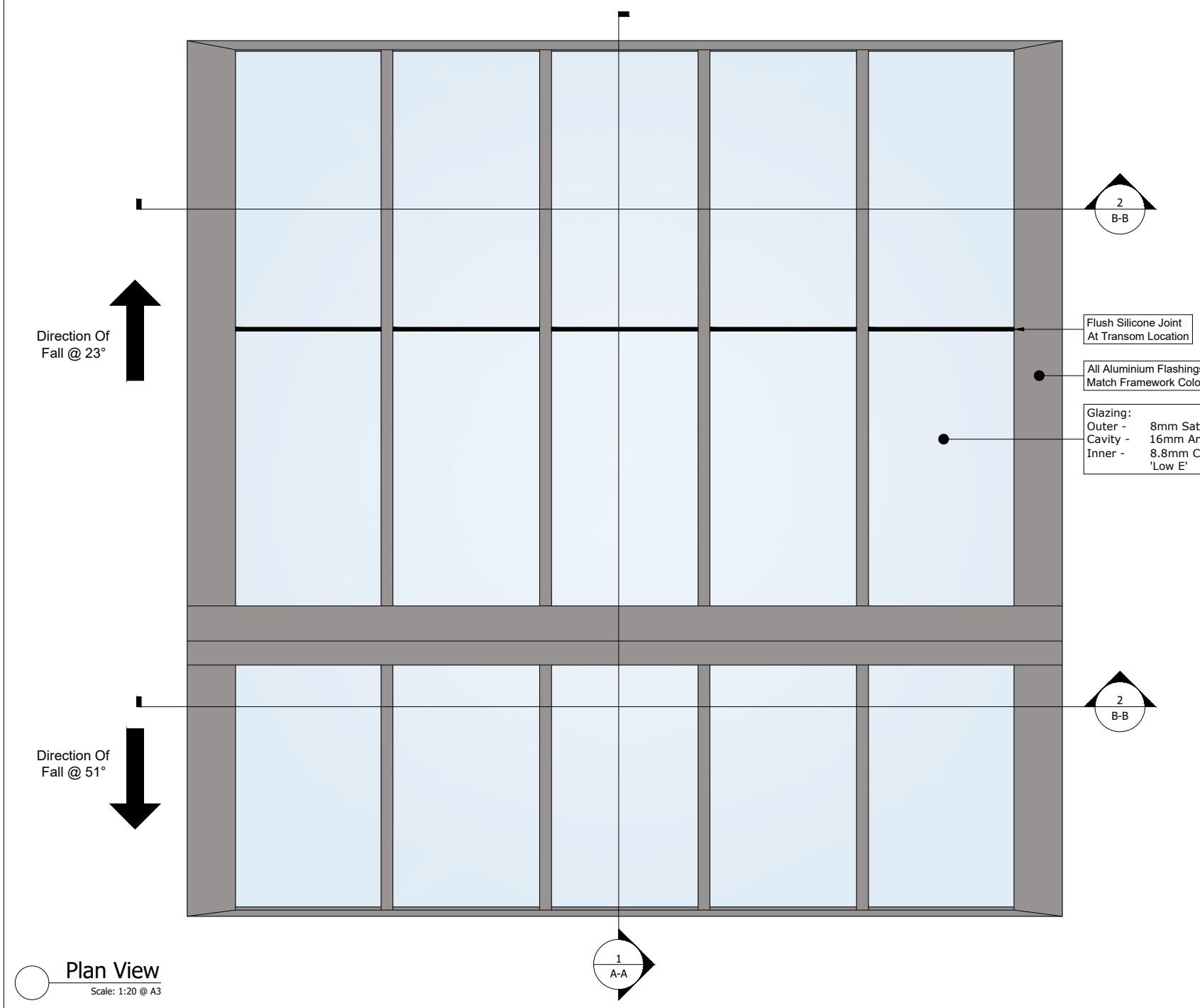
5. All Rafters, Head And Cill Transoms To Be 105mm, Midspan Transoms To Be 100mm

6. All Rooflights Require a minimum 5° slope, if you require anything less please consult our head office.

7. The upstand is to be built and fully weathered by others.
 The upstand **must** be built to the sizes shown in this drawing. Failure to do so could result in improper fitment and incur costs due to additional visits to site.

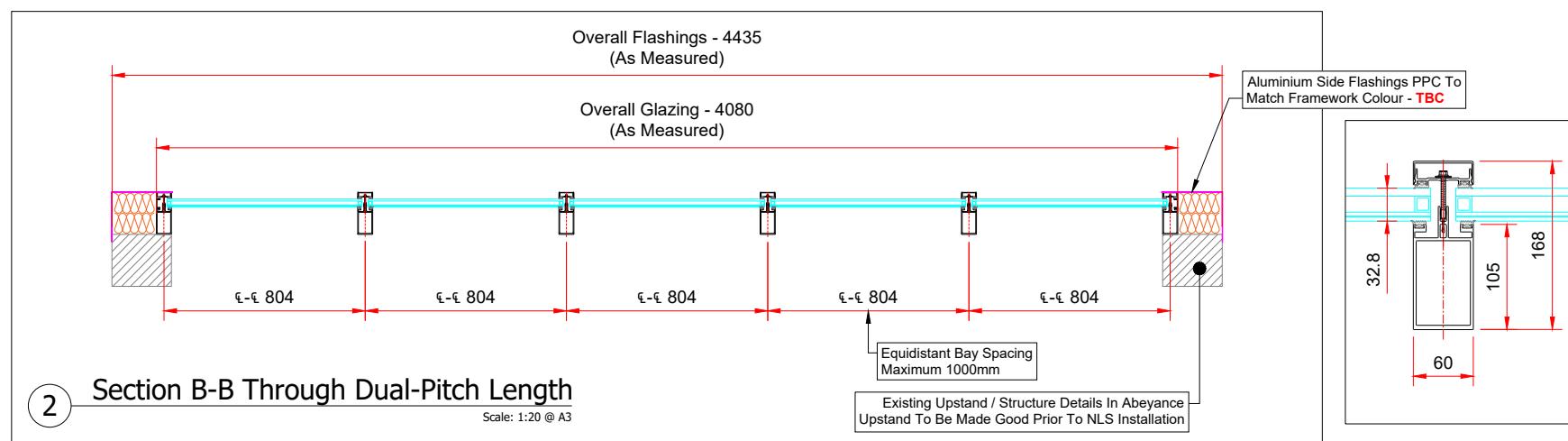
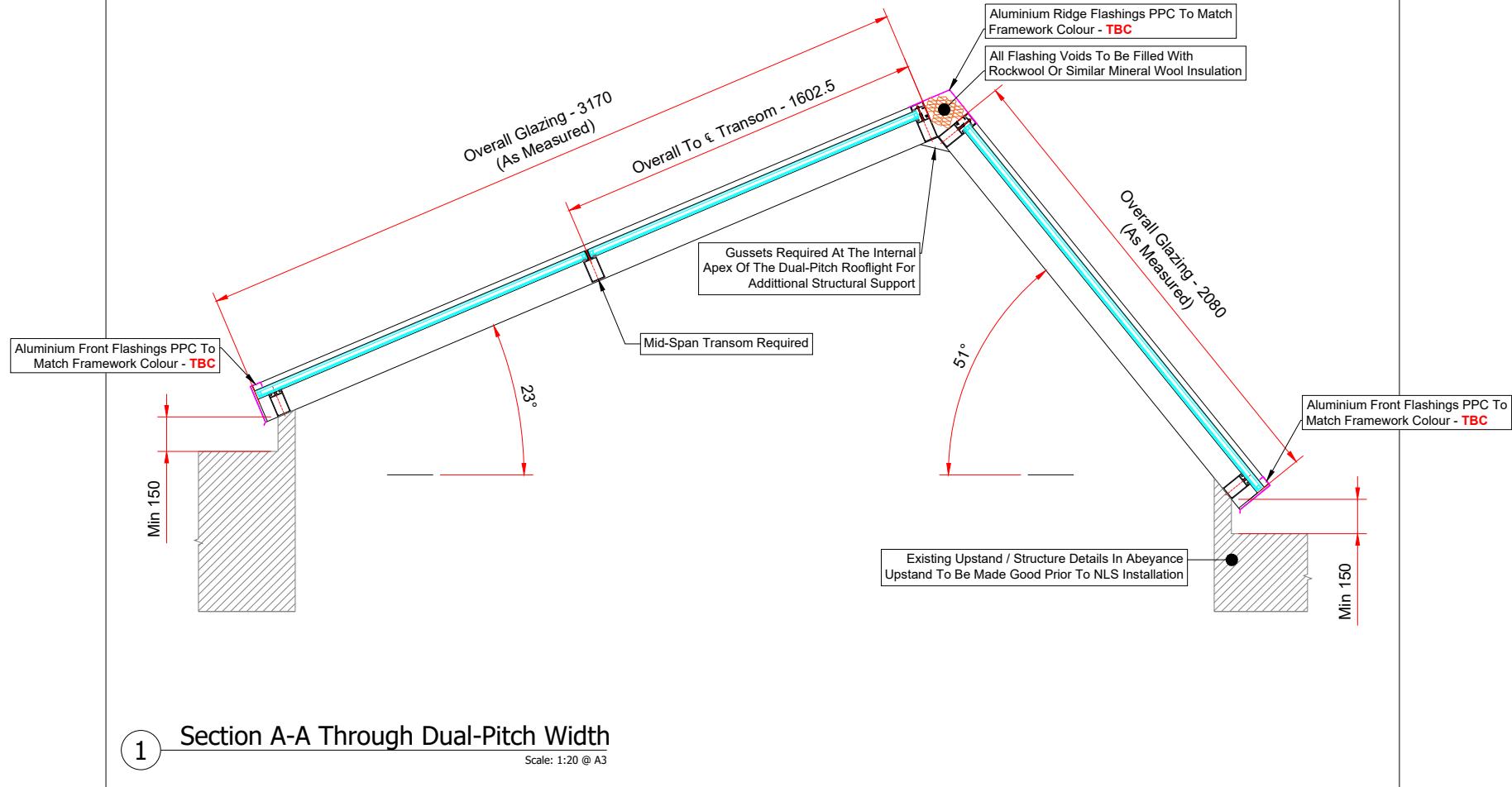
8. Rooflight to Achieve a TN66/67 Non Fragility Rating.

REV No	DESCRIPTION	OWN	CHND	DATE	APR
Naturalight Systems Ltd					
 Naturalight Systems Ltd Accessory House Barrington Industrial Estate Bedlington Northumberland NE22 7DQ Tel: (01670) 530333 Fax: (01670) 824540 info@Naturalight.co.uk www.Naturalight.co.uk					
					
Project: Brunel University					
Description: Dual-Pitch - Plan View					
Drawn By: N.G	Checked By: N/A	Approved By: N/A			
Date Drawn: 11.07.2023	Job Number: 35130	Scale: See DWG			
Drawing No.: NLS-35130-CD-001					



Notes:

1. All drawings to be read in conjunction with all drawings relevant to project.
2. Do not scale from drawings, any discrepancy should be notified immediately.
3. Glazing:
 - Outer - 8mm Satinova Toughened
 - Cavity - 16mm Argon
 - Inner - 8.8mm Clear Laminated 'Low E'
4. Aluminium to be P.P.C RAL Colour RAL -
5. All Rafters, Head And Cill Transoms To Be 105mm, Midspan Transoms To Be 100mm
6. All Rooflights Require a minimum 5° slope, if you require anything less please consult our head office.
7. The upstand is to be built and fully weathered by others. The upstand **must** be built to the sizes shown in this drawing. Failure to do so could result in improper fitment and incur costs due to additional visits to site.
8. Rooflight to Achieve a TN66/67 Non Fragility Rating.



REV No	DESCRIPTION	OWN	CHND	DATE	APR
Naturalight Systems Ltd					
					
Naturalight Systems Ltd Accessory House Barrington Industrial Estate Barrington Northumberland NE22 7DQ					
Tel: (01670) 530333					
Fax: (01670) 824540					
info@Naturalight.co.uk					
www.Naturalight.co.uk					
Project: Brunel University					
Description: Dual-Pitch - Setting Out					
Drawn By: N.G	Checked By: N/A	Approved By: N/A			
Date Drawn: 11.07.2023	Job Number: 35130	Scale: See DWG			
Drawing No.: NLS-35130-CD-002					

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