

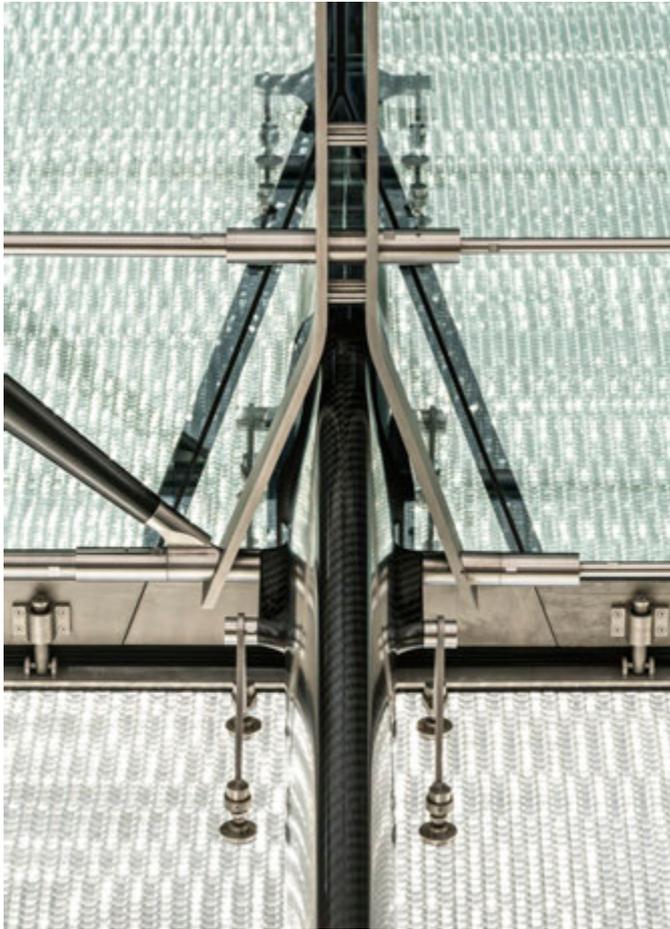


The Berkeley Hotel Entrance

London, UK

The detail is amazing – nothing has been spared

Paddy McKillen, Owner, The Maybourne Group



Location
London, UK

Date
2006-2016

Client
Maybourne Group Plc

Area
543 sqm

Structural Engineer
Expedition Engineering

Services Engineer
Ernest Griffin & Son

Landscape Architects
Gillespies

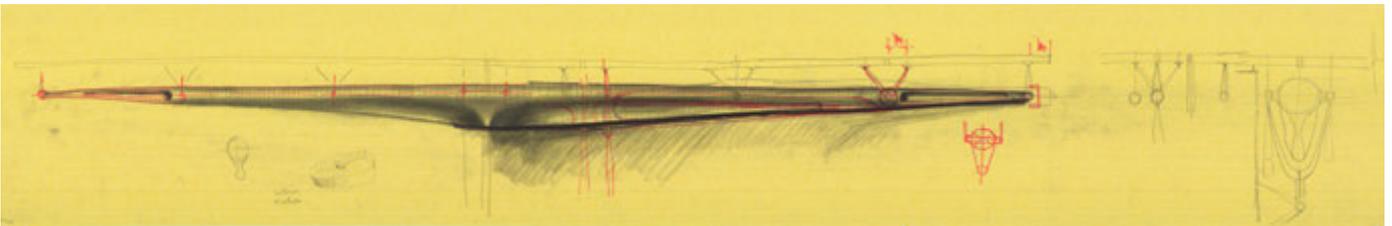
Façade Consultant
Arup Façades

Lighting Consultant
Spiers Major

Access Consultant
Vin Goodwin Associates

Manufacturer
Bellapart

Contractor
Mastercraft



The Berkeley Hotel has the charm and character of an English country residence, well-loved and looked after. As essentially residential in character the Hotel is a sequence of connected spaces and rooms with a comfortable and familiar scale and ambience.

Over the years additions and changes have been made and in 2007 planning permission was granted for RSHP's designs for a new extension along Knightsbridge and number of smaller scale additions throughout the Hotel.

The first of these interventions to be realised is a new entrance canopy with glazed pavilions flanking the entrance doors which will extend the Blue Bar and the Caramel Room. RSHP's work is defined by a clear structural approach which is evident in the composition. The canopy is supported by a series of expressed carbon fibre beams formed to describe their structural diagram. The beams and glazing system is supported by the existing building and a series of stainless steel columns - the composition is set out on a stone base.

The glazing for the canopy and flank walls has a honeycomb insert which reflects light at night and allows for a sense of light, shadow and movement beyond, giving veiled views through the glass.

The stone base integrates steps, a rising platform and series of sculpted timber masts forming a protective screen. This entrance design uses traditional and new materials and their composition is unique to The Berkeley.

The Iconic Blue Bar with its memorable interior is retained and the Caramel Room has been refurbished with a new interior concept by Robert Angell Design International. With the addition of a new glazed pavilion to each space, their frontage is renewed and gives presence to the street. Internally the spaces feel more integrated and have a more settled sense of space.

Throughout the works the hotel remains operational. The various parts of the project weave together into the existing building to make a greater whole, reinvigorating this grand dame of hotels for the future.