

***VICTORY ROAD,
DERBY***

***HISTORIC BUILDING
RECORDING***

Rev	Date	Details	Prepared by	Checked by	Approved by
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INTRODUCTION

01

INTRODUCTION

Aims and objectives

This historic building recording has been undertaken on behalf of Rolls-Royce as part of works to realign Victory Road. The works will require the demolition of the Sports Pavilion and HSBC Bank which lie within Rolls-Royce's Moor Lane site. As part of the planning permission for the realignment, Derby City Council have placed an archaeological condition on the site. Condition 4 states that '*Prior to the commencement of any development, including demolition a photographic recording of the buildings to be demolished and the area subject to this proposal shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority*'.

In response to this condition, AECOM has undertaken a Level II building record in accordance with Historic England (formerly English Heritage) standards as set out in *Understanding Historic Building: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (2006).

Recording Procedure

A photographic survey was undertaken using a digital SLR camera. This involved external photography with general views of the structures within their wider context together with detailed photographs of the exterior and interior, where possible. The following was recorded as a minimum:

- The structures' external appearance;
- The overall appearance of the principal elements;
- Any evidence of fixtures and fittings, blockings or jointing relevant to phasing the structure, where visible or safely accessible;
- Any evidence of structural elements to provide evidence for the construction.

A photographic location plan has also been prepared and is included in Appendix B.

Written notes were made on site to inform the descriptive and interpretative record of the structures. This has been combined with documentary and cartographic research to place the structures within their historic context.

Due to security concerns, limited internal photography was possible of the HSBC Bank; however, the interior was inspected by a Heritage Specialist and any features of historic and/or architectural interest noted for inclusion within this report.

This report will be made publically accessible through deposition with the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record. A digital copy will also be uploaded to the Archaeology Data Service through OASIS.

***GENERAL
BACKGROUND***

General Background

Site Location

The site is located within the Sinfin campus of Rolls-Royce, to the south of Derby city centre. The Sports Pavilion lies to the east of the Moor Lane office complex, while the HSBC Bank is located on the corner of Moor Lane and Victory Road. The structures are surrounded by office and industrial buildings, with residential areas on the periphery of the site. Both buildings are still in active use.

Historical Background

Rolls-Royce moved to Derby in the early 20th century, as its production of the motor car increased. The Derby Borough Development Committee made the move attractive with land made available at Nightingale Road, to the north of the present site. This move coincided with the outbreak of World War I and the change in the company's focus away from the motor car to the production and testing of military aircraft.

Following the World War II there was an enormous expansion of development facilities for turbine engines. It was at the start of this period of expansion in 1945 that the Sinfin A, B and latterly C were established to the south of the Nightingale Works. These were to become the focus of research and testing facilities for the aerospace division of the company from the 1960s onwards (Plate 1). The focussing of the company on the development and growth of the aero engine market also required the relocation of the headquarters from Nightingale Main Works to a new purpose built office and computer facility at the junction of Moor Lane and Victory Road (Plate 2).



Plate 1: 1972 Ordnance Survey map showing the development at Moor Lane



Plate 2: Moor Lane offices nearing completion The HSBC Bank is visible in the top left corner

What became known as the Moor Lane office was designed by Fry, Drew and Partners and opened in 1968. Maxwell Fry began work in the 1920s and at that time his output was predominately traditional neo-classical style. Gradually, however, his style developed with a greater focus on modernism, as a result of his association with the Garden City movement and the Modern Architectural Research Group. Maxwell's second marriage to Jane Drew in 1942 led to a highly productive partnership. Between 1942 and 1970 they worked on a number of important commissions in West Africa, India and the UK. Later in their careers they worked on a number of commercial facilities and headquarters. Despite the importance of Fry and Drew's work within the modern movement it is likely that by the time of the Rolls-Royce commission they were nearing retirement meaning that the majority of the work would have been undertaken by their practice rather than by them personally.

The Sports Pavilion is contemporary with the Moor Lane offices, being completed in 1966. It is not possible to confirm whether the pavilion formed part of Fry and Drew's scheme; however, the building lacks features which were often employed in their designs and which are found on the adjacent computer server centre. The proportions and general composition is also considered atypical of their work; however, the building remains an interesting example of 1960s architecture.

While the HSBC Bank (originally built as the Midland Bank) continues the modernist architecture of the main works and appears contemporary with it, it was designed by Haseldine and Eales, Architects rather than Fry, Drew and Partners. Little is known of the architects, but they were a local, Nottingham based firm who were responsible for a number of Midland bank buildings. An original sketch of the building survives within the archives of the bank showing that the final execution followed the design with little subsequent alteration (plate 3).



Plate 3: Architects sketch of the HSBC Bank

FIELDWORK RESULTS

03

Fieldwork Results

Sports Pavilion

The Sports Pavilion represents an unusual structure, predominantly round in plan with a rectangular entrance portico and storage area (plate 4). The entrance is to the south, opening onto the sports field, with double doors flanked by glazing. The portico creates a viewing area supported on brick piers with storage areas behind. A hole has been cut through the underside of the portico revealing a framework of steel joists.



Plate 4: General view of Sports Pavilion

The Pavilion is constructed from blue brick (whitewashed within the entrance portico) with a felt roof and raised gables. Added interest is created by the addition of pre-cast, pebbledash concrete panels. These form a frieze above the entrance, while the curved exterior elevation is divided into bays by the placement of upright panels. Between each panel is a single high level window with added horizontal security bars (plate 5). Additional security measures have been put in place with the addition of barbed wire surmounting the elevation.



Plate 5: Vertical panel and window arrangement

The roof is formed from an unusual arrangement of gables arranged around a central skylight. The arrangement is reflected internally, with the gables visible externally, set back from the elevation. Internally it is evident that each gable relates to a separate area, creating 10 distinct spaces (Plate 6).

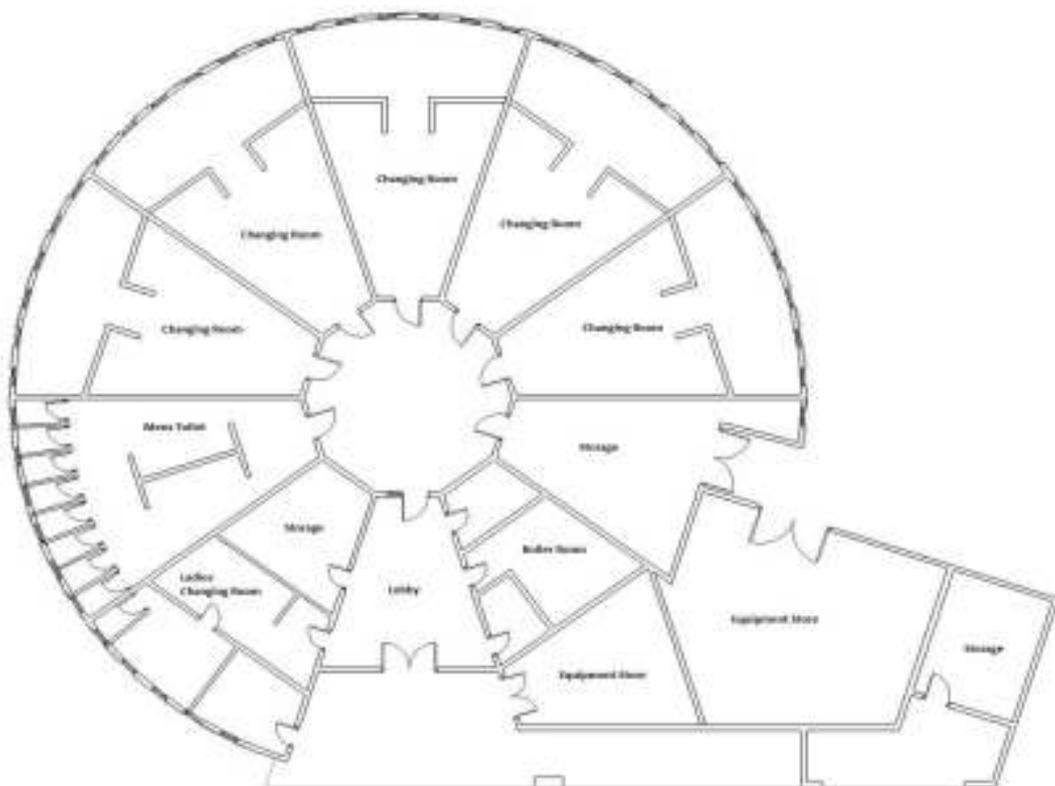


Plate 6: Internal plan form

The plan is split into 10 almost identical spaces. Variation exists in the southeast quadrant where the entrance range has created an irregular arrangement of storerooms with both internal and external access. It is also in this area that the boiler room and electricity cupboard are housed. The southern bay is occupied by the main entrance with a recessed doorway accessing the lobby (Plate 7 and 8). From this area the central circulation space is accessed through a wooden door (Plate 9).



Plate 7: Entrance lobby (south)



Plate 8: Entrance lobby (north)



Plate 9: Main circulation space

The lobby also provides access to the boiler room and storage to the right and ladies changing room to the left. The remaining rooms are identical in size with a front space lit by the gable. This is created by a sloping timber roof which angles up towards the gable. Extending down from the gable is a party wall with a central door. Behind this is an elongated space which follows the curve of the external elevation. Within the changing rooms this creates a convenient division between the showers which follow the curve and the changing area, complete with benches, towards the front (Plate 10 and 11). Slight variation is found to the east where the men's toilets utilise the curve for the cubicles, with urinals centrally placed under the gable (Plate 12).



Plate 10: Internal party wall in changing rooms



Plate 11: Showers in curved elevation

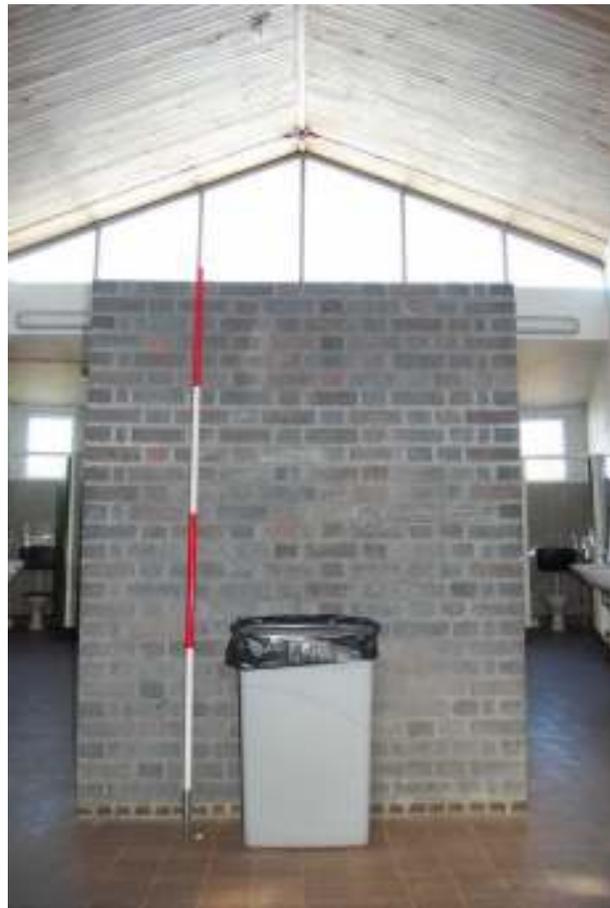


Plate 12: Men's toilet showing wall of urinals and cubicles beyond

The internal fittings and fixtures appear to be largely original to the building, including the timber ceilings and tiled floors. However, there has been wholesale replacement of doors and a significant number of windows have been replaced.

HSBC Bank

The HSBC Bank represents a simple rectangular building occupying a corner plot on Moor Lane and Victory Road. The bank is constructed from grey brick to ground floor, with stone facing at first-floor. Further architectural emphasis is given to the first floor through the addition of a jetty, supported on stone faced pillars. The south façade is further embellished with a central canopy which extends into the carpark (plate 13). A second, short, canopy is located to the north (rear) of the building, providing a covered external space for staff. Below the jetty, the elevation is largely of brick panels, with the exception of two glazed panels flanking the main entrance. The entrance doors themselves have been replaced with automatic ones. Large window panels are also present in the east and west elevations. A single window opening is located at first floor level to the east. A single storey extension has been added to the rear of the building. This houses the bank safes.



Plate 13: South façade

Internally, the building has been substantially modernised and branded. There has been some alteration of the internal space with a large open plan public area to the front and open plan office to the rear. The first-floor is arranged into large offices and staff areas. These are arranged along the east, south and west, running off a single corridor. The corridor is lit by windows which exit into an open area which occupies much of the first floor. One original element that does survive internally is the main circulation stair located in the northeast corner. This has concrete treads and simple wooden balustrade (Plate 14).



Plate 14: Internal stair

CONCLUSION

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The Moor Lane office complex forms part of the expansion of Rolls-Royce during the 1960s. The works were required due to the increasing focus on research and testing facilities for the aerospace division from the 1960s onwards, moving the company away from the main manufacturing works at Nightingale Road. What became known as the Moor Lane Offices was designed by leading Modernist architect Fry, Drew and Partners and completed in 1968.

Both the Sports Pavilion and the HSBC Bank formed part of this expansion. The offices were well equipped for leisure activities with not only the pavilion, but also extensive sports grounds. While the pavilion itself is of interesting design and construction, it is unlikely that it was part of the partnerships designs, employing different stylistic details. The HSBC Bank, originally opened as a branch of the Midland Bank, was similarly designed by an independent architect, Haseldine and Eales, but continuing the Modernist approach. Very little is known about the firm, but they did work on a number of other Midland Bank branches within the local area.

Despite not being the work of the same notable architects, both the Sports Pavilion and the HSBC Bank exhibit interesting architectural detailing typical of the Modernist style. The pavilion in particular is unusual in its plan form with the curved elevation creating a pleasing shape which blends into the landscape. The addition of the internal framework has been cleverly used to create convenient sub-divisions, whilst enabling light to enter into all internal spaces. The plan form survives largely intact with limited modernisation of internal fittings and fixtures.

The HSBC Bank represents a much simpler structure which reflects its function. However, the limited architectural detailing creates an interesting and imposing building which compliments the industrial setting. Internally, the building has been extensively modernised and little of historic interest survives except the general plan form showing how the function of the bank has changed little over the last 60 years.

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1955 Ordnance Survey Map. Scale 1:10000. Sheet SK33SW

1972 Ordnance Survey Map. Scale 1:10000. Sheet SK33SW

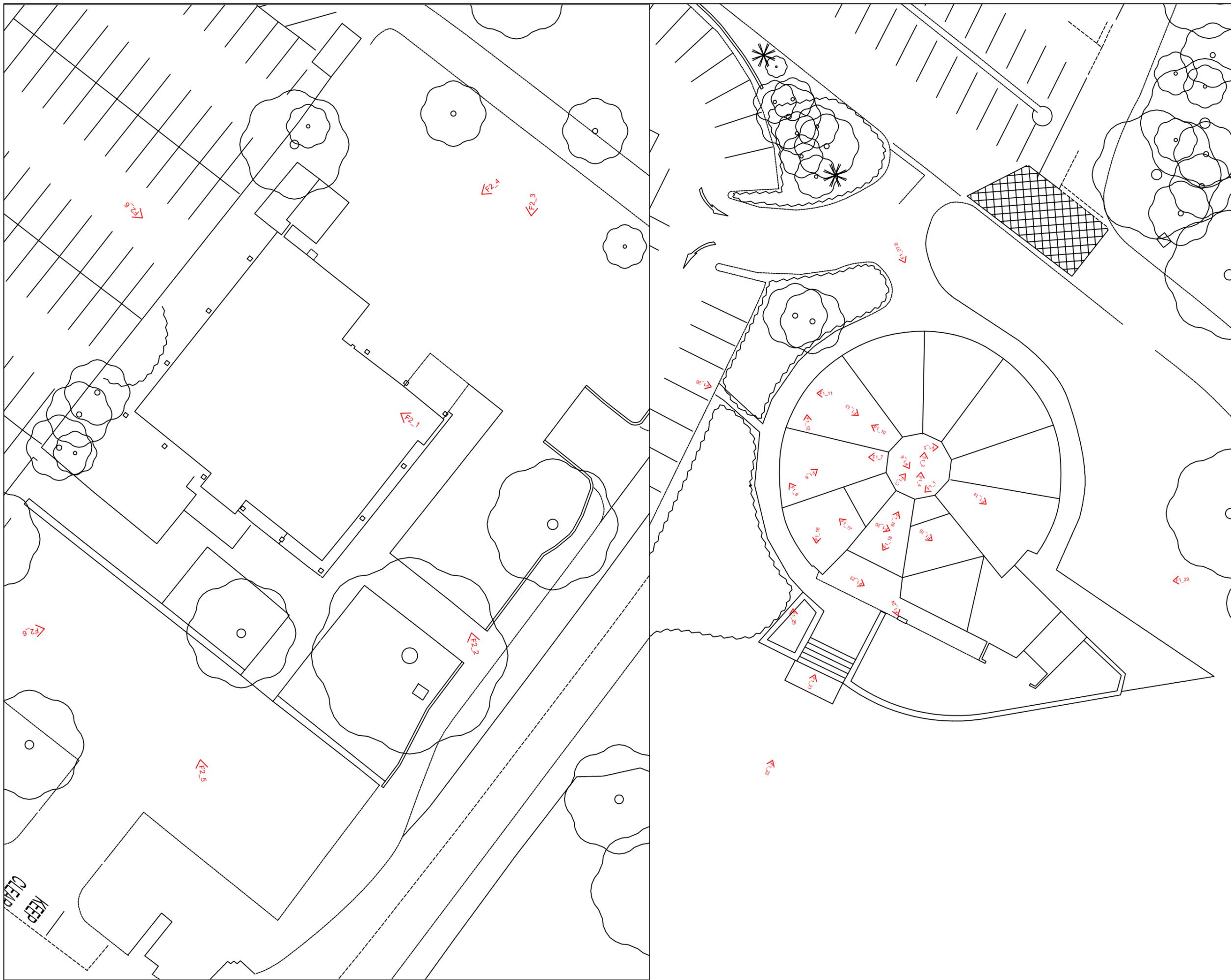
Appendix A - Photographic Registers

PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER					
VICTORY ROAD		NGR: SK365323	NIKON D40	FILM NO 1	
Frame	Building	Description	Direction	Date	Initials
1	Sports Pavilion	Central circulation space (interior)	S	19.04.16	AJ
2	Sports Pavilion	Central circulation space - lantern	-	19.04.16	AJ
3	Sports Pavilion	Central circulation space (interior)	N	19.04.16	AJ
4	Sports Pavilion	Central circulation space (interior)	N	19.04.16	AJ
5	Sports Pavilion	Central circulation space – door to changing room	NE	19.04.16	AJ
6	Sports Pavilion	Central circulation space – door to lobby	S	19.04.16	AJ
7	Sports Pavilion	Men's toilets	W	19.04.16	AJ
8	Sports Pavilion	Men's toilets – urinals	NE	19.04.16	AJ
9	Sports Pavilion	Men's toilets – cubicles	NW	19.04.16	AJ
10	Sports Pavilion	Changing rooms – party wall	N	19.04.16	AJ
11	Sports Pavilion	Changing room – shower detail	N	19.04.16	AJ
12	Sports Pavilion	Changing room – showers	NE	19.04.16	AJ
13	Sports Pavilion	Changing room	S	19.04.16	AJ
14	Sports Pavilion	Equipment store room	E	19.04.16	AJ
15	Sports Pavilion	Boiler room	SE	19.04.16	AJ
16	Sports Pavilion	Women's showers	SW	19.04.16	AJ
17	Sports Pavilion	Women's changing room	W	19.04.16	AJ
18	Sports Pavilion	Entrance lobby	S	19.04.16	AJ
19	Sports Pavilion	Entrance lobby	N	19.04.16	AJ
20	Sports Pavilion	Entrance lobby	E	19.04.16	AJ
21	Sports Pavilion	Main entrance	N	19.04.16	AJ
22	Sports Pavilion	South elevation (external)	N	19.04.16	AJ
23	Sports Pavilion	Portico	E	19.04.16	AJ
24	Sports Pavilion	Construction detail of portico	-	19.04.16	AJ
25	Sports Pavilion	West elevation (external)	E	19.04.16	AJ
26	Sports Pavilion	West elevation (external)	E	19.04.16	AJ
27	Sports Pavilion	North elevation (external)	S	19.04.16	AJ
28	Sports Pavilion	North elevation (external)	S	19.04.16	AJ
29	Sports Pavilion	East elevation (external)	W	19.04.16	AJ

PHOTOGRAPHIC REGISTER

VICTORY ROAD		NGR: SK361324	NIKON D40	FILM NO 2	
Frame	Building	Description	Direction	Date	Initials
1	HSBC Bank	Main circulation stair (internal)	SW	19.04.16	AJ
2	HSBC Bank	East elevation (external)	W	19.04.16	AJ
3	HSBC Bank	North elevation (external)	S	19.04.16	AJ
4	HSBC Bank	North elevation (external)	SW	19.04.16	AJ
5	HSBC Bank	South elevation (external)	NW	19.04.16	AJ
6	HSBC Bank	South elevation (external)	NE	19.04.16	AJ
7	HSBC Bank	West elevation (external)	E	19.04.16	AJ

Appendix B - Photographic Location Plans

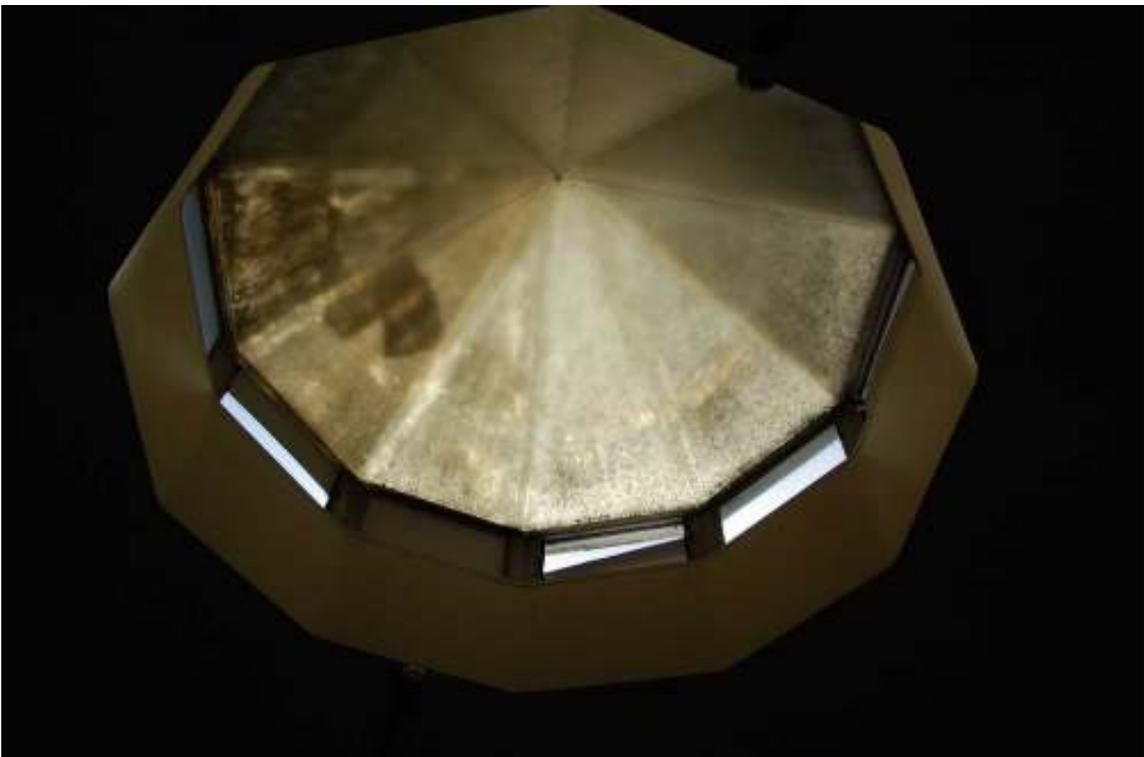


Revision Details				By	Date	Set/By
Purpose of Issue				Check		
FINAL						
Client						
DERBY CITY COUNCIL						
Project Title						
DERBY AEROSPACE CAMPUS VICTORY ROAD REALIGNMENT						
Drawing Title						
FIGURE 1 PHOTOGRAPHIC LOCATION PLAN						
Designed	Drawn	Checked	Approved	Date		
AM	AJ	AH	AR	28.04.16		
AECOM Internal Project No.				Suitability		
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Appendix C – Photographic Archive



F1-1



F1-2



F1-3



F1-4



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F1-29



F2-1



F2-2



F2-3



F2-4



F2-5



F2-6



F2-7

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