



HANBURY HALL ROOF RENOVATION IMMEDIATE – 11/07/08

HAKITEC 750 HELPS HOUSE HANBURY HALL

● When the National Trust had to replace the entire roof at Hanbury Hall, choosing the right temporary roof solution to protect the irreplaceable contents of the Grade I listed building was top of the priority list - and the HAKITEC 750 roof system was the obvious choice. The market leading product not only provided the best weather protection, but its revolutionary design also enabled the unique challenges provided by heritage projects such as Hanbury Hall to be overcome quickly and efficiently.

When water leakages began to pose a serious threat to the contents of Hanbury Hall and the famous painted staircase by Sir James Thornhill (who also painted the dome at St Paul's Cathedral), the project team had no choice but to replace the entire roof - and that meant removing and replacing 19,750 tiles and 33 tonnes of lead. It was a project that would take months and which would inevitably involve working through the worst of winter weather as well as requiring minimal disruption to visitor traffic to the popular William and Mary style house.

The market leading HAKITEC 750 Roof System was the obvious choice, not least because it is arguably the most weatherproof system available: HAKITEC'S offset beam and track joints ensure a robust and watertight seal, holding the lightweight but ultra-durable PVC coated polyester fabric firmly in place. The HAKITEC 750 had the additional advantage that its sturdy yet remarkably open superstructure would even enable viewing platforms to be erected so the public could see the work in progress, thereby helping the National Trust to turn a possible visitor deterrent into a positive sales advantage.

While weatherproofing may have been the overriding requirement, the HAKITEC 750 Roof System provided numerous other benefits during the erection process. As James Attridge of scaffold contractors JFE Attridge explains: "It was not only the HAKITEC product but also HAKI's commitment to customer support which meant that the solutions to the unique problems posed by the Hanbury Hall project were both effective and trouble-free.



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- 2 ● We first began using HAKI products over fifteen years ago and we were initially attracted by the reputation of the HAKI system as being the best on the market. However, our experience shows that the quality of the product is more than matched by HAKI's commitment to customer service and providing technical support."

"The HAKI Centre of Excellence in Tamworth provides an unsurpassed facility for staff training and it's one that we utilise to the full. We send each of our scaffolders there to become totally familiar with the product. We also send them there for refresher courses to keep them updated with the latest product developments and with new techniques. As a result we have a team who are ideally positioned to take full advantage of all of the product benefits offered by the HAKITEC 750 Roof System. In terms of Hanbury Hall, the combination of product and product knowledge helped us to erect the roof in less than ten working days. It was a remarkable achievement when you consider that the roof had to be built in situ, since the historic gardens at Hanbury meant that no cranes could be taken on site to undertake the normal procedure of pre-assembling the roof and then lifting it into position.

JFE Attridge has developed a close working relationship with HAKI and with projects such as Hanbury Hall, they undertake joint site visits and work together to develop the most effective and pragmatic solution for each project. In the case of Hanbury Hall, the flat roof was topped by a centrally positioned cupola, requiring the infrastructure of the temporary roof to pass either side of this key feature. Again, the HAKITEC 750 provided the ideal solution. Not only does the roof's "3 metre centres" reduce the amount of materials required and ultimately a reduction in labour time required to erect.

The fact that Hanbury is a Grade I listed building also meant that the scaffold could not be "tied-in" to the property, so the temporary roof was designed as a freestanding erection, weighted at the bottom - providing an impressive demonstration of the strength, light weight and rigidity of the HAKITEC 750.

The final challenge was fixing the sheeting into place. The normal process of providing a roll on roof was again not an option - but the unique counter-tensioned seals on the HAKITEC 750 enabled the fabric to be butted up and in-fitted, producing a truly weathertight seal.

The primary objective of the temporary roof at Hanbury Hall has been achieved, enabling work to continue uninterrupted through the worst of the British weather conditions. However, it is not just the main contractors who have benefited from the lean efficiency of the HAKITEC 750 system. Unencumbered by the confusion of beams, which are a feature of many temporary roofs, the National Trust worked with main contractors Sandy & Co Ltd to install a viewing platform beneath the HAKITEC 750 and above the renovation work. Reached by a 60 step HAKI Stair Tower, the viewing platform provides an uninterrupted view of the renovation work and is proving a huge success with visitors to Hanbury Hall - to the point where the renovation is actually featured on the home page of Hanbury's website and is turning what may erstwhile have been regarded as a deterrent to visitors, into a real visitor attraction.

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