



SCOPE OF WORKS

- » Installation of acoustic ceiling with incorporated mechanical and electrical services.
- » New lighting throughout.
- » Replacement of hardwood flooring.
- » Refurbishment of glazed showcase displays.
- » Repairs to specialist polished plaster.
- » French polishing.
- » Refurbishment of a traditional Chashitsu tea house structure.

KEY RESULTS

- » Thanks to its rigorous standards, Building Solutions passed all three H&S audits conducted by both its in-house team and the client.
- » The British Museum scored Building Solutions highly across all areas of a customer satisfaction survey, including scoring a full 10/10 in the areas of Professionalism, Attitude, Technical Knowledge and Expertise.
- » Emma Henderson, Client Project Manager at the British Museum, commented: "Building Solutions delivered the works to a high standard, in turn helping to strengthen the offering of our museum and safeguard the future of the artefacts. I was particularly impressed with the team's ability to work efficiently within our busy premises without impacting on our visitors, which was very much appreciated."

British Museum: Japanese Galleries

Spanning 511sq.m, the British Museum's Japanese Galleries house one of the largest collections of Japanese artefacts outside of Japan. With some items being up to 7,000 years old, it's vital that the environmental conditions are efficiently controlled. However, having not been refurbished since its creation in 1990, the exhibition was in need of modernisation in order to safeguard the artefacts and enhance the visitor experience.

The solution

The British Museum invited framework partners to tender for the refurbishment works via mini competition, which resulted in the £558k 20-week contract being awarded to Building Solutions (the specialist building and refurbishment arm of VINCI Facilities). Now complete, the following areas of focus proved vital to the project's success:

Supply chain management

Building Solutions managed a network of eight key contractors, including firms from its own approved contractor list and those specified by the client. Keen to support the local community, Building Solutions prioritised the use of local supply chain partners whenever possible, which resulted in £446k being spent with businesses from the surrounding region.

Background checks were conducted on all parties in order to enable them to work amongst the high value items located within the museum. To maximise standards, each contractor was provided with a specialist induction tailored to the stringent security requirements of the museum, along with asbestos awareness training and access to Building Solutions' comprehensive e-learning platform.

Delivering value

Building Solutions reviewed the brief and introduced value engineering initiatives where possible in order to reduce the cost of the works by 13%, from £640k to £558k. This was achieved by scrutinising the supply chain in order to source more cost-effective materials, and by assessing the quality of existing materials in order to determine whether they could be refurbished instead of replaced.

Additional value was created by Building Solutions going beyond the scope of the contract. This saw it conduct minor refurbishments to the British Museum's Egyptian gallery, including assisting with a specialist clean of Sphinx statues.

Efficient logistics

Ensuring the efficient movement of deliveries and waste was a major challenge due to the galleries being located on the fifth floor and only being accessible via the museum's main walkways and a small lift. This was further complicated by a strict policy of no contractors being visible to guests once the museum opened. Overcoming these challenges required careful planning and coordination to ensure all movements in and out of site were conducted before 10am each morning.



BUILDING SOLUTIONS

The British
Museum

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