



Draught beer department, Bury St Edmunds

For Greene King & Sons Ltd.



Greene King & Sons Limited as part of the expansion of their draught beer department required a building for the storage of unfinned draught beer piped from the brewhouse; reception of returned empty casks for washing and racking with beer; storage of palletized fined beer in controlled temperature conditions and the reception and storage of keg beers and draught beers for distribution to the public houses.

The site is a water meadow adjacent to the River Linnet, originally part of the old Abbey and previously used for grazing dray horses. It is within the flood plain of the river and liable to frequent flooding up to 900mm deep.

The steel structure consists of 1.4m deep warren lattice trusses supported on 355mm CHS steel columns on 12m x 18m grid. The roof is a profiled steel insulated roof deck spanning 6m. The cladding is two skins of silver PVF₂ finished profiled steel cladding mounted horizontally in 6m lengths containing fibreglass insulation. The floor finish is special terrazzo finish in wet areas, rubber stable matting in the cask handling areas, granolithic screed elsewhere. Total floor area is 2800m².

The building was completed in September 1979, 14 months after receipt of planning consent, employing a Management Contract with Bovis Construction Limited.

The main floor slab is raised above flood level with a void below to minimize interruption due to flood water. The raised level corresponds to the ideal dock loading height for dray vehicles. The building is constructed from standard industrial building components, carefully assembled to give maximum efficiency, economy and visual pleasure.

Architects:
Michael Hopkins Architects

Structural Engineers:
Anthony Hunt Associates

Steelwork Contractor:
Tubeworkers Ltd

Judges comments

This building, designed specifically to house a relatively heavy production process, is an excellent example of the art of combining good clean structural design and careful planning with attractive architecture. The use of structural steel is obvious and is enhanced by the use of white finishes and glazed loading dock doors at each end. These factors, together with the effective use of steel cladding, well insulated, create an excellent working environment.