

## Manchester lamp posts

The Grade I Listed Old Town Hall building in Manchester was constructed in 1877 and was originally externally lit by a number of cast iron lamp posts with gas-lit lanterns. Over time the majority of these lamps had become damaged and had been replaced with more modern electrical fittings. As part of the works to the Town Hall Extension the last remaining seven lamp posts, of which two had recently become damaged due to collisions with motor vehicles, required full refurbishment.



Heritage Project Contracts undertook an initial survey on the cast iron posts and the modern lighting heads and developed a programme of work for the refurbishment works. This included a Listed Building Consent application for approval of the new replica lighting heads with the Planning Authority and English Heritage.

Following approvals the posts were removed and taken to HPC's specialist workshops in Shropshire for assessment and repair. Paint analysis that was carried out revealed that the columns had been re-painted a total of 22 times in varying colours and only recently in their current black colour. The original paint system was a burnt red colour and this was chosen as the proposed colour for re-instatement.



Existing paint coatings were removed by careful abrasive cleaning to identify the extent of damage, fractures and missing elements, which required repair and replication. For the posts that were severely damaged, and in a number of components, an internal armature was fitted to provide additional support to the overall structure.

Based on archive photographs, the original gas lit heads were replicated in copper, fitted with modern LED lighting and patinated to a deep bronze colour.



The completed installation was undertaken in conjunction with the contract works to re-pave the area.

Works completed - October 2013  
Main contractor - Laing O'Rourke

GATES

RAILINGS

WINDOWS

GLAZING

LIGHTING

MACHINERY

SCULPTURE

JOINERY

CERAMICS

TILING

STORAGE

RE-LOCATION

PROJECT  
MANAGEMENT

