

The White Building, Fish Island, Hackney Wick, East London



David Kohn Architects would strongly recommend BRAC, having worked with them as Principal Contractor on The White Building. This challenging renovation was delivered on time and to budget despite a tight 12 week construction programme. The project has received wide acclaim as a successful model for sustainable redevelopment on the fringes of the Olympic Park.

We found the BRAC team to be hardworking, honest, patient, understanding and well-managed, with a positive attitude and a commitment to "rising to the challenge".

Tom MyGlynn, Associate, David Kohn Architects

The White Building is a 7,000 sq ft former print warehouse situated in a canal-side setting facing the Olympic site across the River Lea. It's proximity to the hub of London 2012 has made this building a prime focus for regeneration as part of the Olympic Fringe Programme, which aims to improve community facilities located around the Olympic Park.

BRAC were selected by the London Legacy Development Company and project sponsor Bloomberg to convert the disused building into a new art and cultural centre for the area. The finished facility offers 5 studio spaces, a large project studio, an event space, a café and a micro-brewery.

The project was comprehensive and demanded exemplary contracting skills, craftsmanship and project management expertise, all within a fast track 11 week turnaround. Key activities included:

- Repairing external brickwork, decoration, guttering, downpipes and windows.
- Complete rewiring of the building.

- Insulation of the roof – making innovative use of sheep's wool for an environmentally protective solution.
- Installing new public and disabled toilets.
- Installing the art galleries and studies.
- Creating the new café and micro-brewery facilities, ensuring appropriate drainage, water supplies and structural steel reinforcement.
- Installing the new heating and hot water system
- Delivering an aesthetically inspiring finish including the use of 4.5 metre high block internal walls with large metal framed windows to maximise daylighting across the space.

The result is a thriving hub of art and culture that will benefit the area for generations to come. Crucially, BRAC worked 7 days a week to the maximum of our efficiency, completing the project in just 11 weeks and delivering sign-off on the exact date we specified in the project schedule.



"The imaginative use of a derelict print works to create something useful and inspiring for local people is exactly the kind of legacy we are hoping to build from the 2012 Games."

Mayor Boris Johnson, February 2012