

Case Study

Leven Road, Poplar, London

Client: O'Connell Building Contractors Ltd.

Architect: Concrete Structures Group

Main Contractor: GLC Construction Ltd.

Project completion date: October 2022

Project value: £124,000

Project type: Surveying and Structural Steel supply

Details of the Design:

The Elite Metal Group won the contract to work with the various Teams transforming a historic building in the heart of Poplar. The building had been unused and had fallen into a state of disrepair before planning consent was given to regenerate the building on the condition that the historic façade was retained and integrated within the design of the new build.

Poplar Riverside, formerly known as the Leven Road Gasworks development, will provide up to 2,800 new homes, commercial space, a riverside park, a riverside walk with access to the River Lea and land for a new secondary school.



Who is the user?

This is a substantial development scheme for the local area that will include a combination of residential and commercial outlets. There will be luxurious high-rise living and more affordable shared ownership housing options available to make the scheme as inclusive as possible.

The scheme focuses on wellbeing and includes over 1-hectare of park land, green space along the river and a number of children's play areas including a range of spaces for recreation and relaxation.

With decades of experience in supplying structural steel, we are well positioned when it comes to accuracy which was the most significant challenge of this project. For this reason, the Elite Surveying Team deployed their Trimble SX12 GPS surveying system at the very start of the project to undertake an in-depth survey on this historic building.



Constraints / challenges?

The greatest challenge for the project was ensuring that the beautiful and historic façade of the old gasworks weren't harmed or damaged in the construction process. For this reason, Elite provided a number of heavy duty temporary proppings to support all the external walls that were being retained.

Fabrication detail:

6 Structural towers.
Bespoke whalers.
Structural columns in excess of 10m.

Installation detail:

Managed delivery of structures and installation over a 2-week period.

Why was the Elite Metal Group chosen for this project?

The Elite Metal Group was chosen specifically because we have worked with O'Connell Building Contractors Ltd. for a number of years. We're also a full service provider who has the ability to design, manufacture and install with our own in-house Teams.

Once we were instructed about the project we sent our Surveying Team to the site to review the old gas works location and fully understand which historical walls were going to be retained. Our industry leading robotic Total Station 3D Laser Trimble SX12 scanner was able to capture details perfectly and quickly supply temporary heavy weight proppings for the scheme. These proppings ensured that the historic walls weren't compromised with the new building works.



The finished project:

This breath-taking development was a dream job for the Elite Team. The project blends the new and old perfectly and the space feels modern with a historic blend.