

STRUCTURES CASE STUDY

Steel Footbridge Refurbishment

MAKERS

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PROJECT

Weston Favell Shopping Centre
Standens Barn Bridge

STRUCTURE

Structural Refurbishment

CLIENT

Weston Favell Shopping Centre

CONTRACT VALUE

£678,000

CONTRACT

Standens Barn Bridge is a multi-section pedestrian footbridge providing local residents with access to the Weston Favell Shopping Centre. The centre comprising of 65 retail units including a Tesco Extra Superstore and other important local amenities has been undergoing a programme of refurbishment by its new owners - Redefine International Plc.

The steel walkway comprises a total of seven sections of varying lengths that are each simply supported by a combination of reinforced concrete and steel piers. The structure is 170 linM long overall, the largest single span section of which is some 20 metres and crosses above the busy A4500 Wellingborough Road dual carriageway.

This steel footbridge structure – built in 1975 - had been neglected for many years along with its concrete and steel supports, and had not received any meaningful maintenance work since its original construction. Its refurbishment was the first major part of a larger scheme of repairs & refurbishment to the overall shopping centre carried out by Makers Construction.



Before



Before

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Accreditations



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Corroded structural members



Defective steelwork replaced



Sections stripped & repainted

Following a full structural appraisal, several bridge sections were structurally deficient requiring a series of repairs to structural members which in some cases were so badly corroded that they required complete renewal.

The original plan was to refurbish the footbridges in-situ, however, given a series of both practical AND safety concerns, Makers proposed to remove the footbridges in their entirety in a series of overnight crane lifts requiring road closures and traffic management to minimise disruption.

Once off site, each of the bridge sections were grit-blasted to remove all existing paintwork back to bare metal, followed by the structural repairs to the required sections. The bridges were then re-blasted to remove flash-rusting and immediately painted with a spray-applied, three-coat protective paint system.

The original steel decks to the walkways were so badly corroded; they were completely removed and replaced with a composite decking material supported on composite beams. In using this approach, the new decking and supports will not corrode providing a life to first maintenance period of 50 years. The original enclosed steel & perspex roof of the footbridge across the dual carriageway was also removed and replaced with a more user-friendly and aesthetically acceptable open steel mesh enclosure with new signage and wayfinding added.



Composite decking installed



Refurbished & returned to site



Re-positioned overnight

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