

Case Study: Berkeley Square, Plymouth

035/Apr14



Kawneer systems meet the challenges of a conversion from a bank to apartments

Curtain walling, doors and windows by Kawneer have helped the Architects Design Group (ADG) meet a host of challenging criteria for the conversion of a bank in Devon into 27 luxury apartments.

Building: Berkeley Square

Location: Plymouth

Architect: Architects Design Group (ADG)

Main Contractor: Cowlin Construction

Installer: Aluminium Sashes

WWW.KAWNEER.CO.UK

 **KAWNEER**
AN ARCONIC COMPANY

Architects Design Group banks on Kawneer

Kawneer supplied its curtain wall system, AA®605 swing doors for the balconies and AA®601 casement windows for the redevelopment of the former, Grade II listed Barclays bank in the Conservation Area of Berkeley Square near the seafront at Plymouth Hoe.

Cowlin Construction has added two storeys of contemporary glass and aluminium to the original, three-storey York stone building that is located directly opposite the local planning authority offices. It was the first time that Kawneer-approved installer Aluminium Sashes had installed the systems on top of an existing building but once the products had been lifted into position by tower cranes, the rest of the work was relatively straightforward. Architects Design Group's (ADG) plans for client Prestige Developments included a pub and restaurant on the ground and lower-ground floors of the 0.1864-hectare site. The 1950's building was originally designed with five floors by the late Christopher Green, son of William Curtis Green who won the Royal Gold Medal in 1942 and made his name with the Dorchester Hotel and a string of buildings for Barclays.

Barclays in Plymouth was designed as an exercise in "stripped" neo-classicism, with a simple rectangular plan and a central light well taking up one whole city block surrounded by roads on all four sides. The £4million conversion project included coring through the existing 600mm-thick bank vault floors to install the new drainage system, removing the existing sliding sash windows to the first and second floors and lifting the steel work structure on top of the existing roof to form the new floors. The Kawneer systems, which form the perimeter of the fourth and fifth floors and a link bridge between the sides as well as balconies and half-moon column casing between the curtain walling, have helped the glazing elements achieve an overall U-value of 2.2W/m²K. Lionel Peterson, projects director for ADG, said they had a good response from the local planning and building control officers. They helped progress the design through the varying application stages as well as through the varying stages of the contract to help produce an end product that all parties were happy with.

"We specified Kawneer for this project because we required a quality product that met the budget and conformed to the weathering ratings that would be experienced with the site in an extremely exposed situation, located only a short distance from Plymouth Hoe. It plays a major part in the transformation of the existing building, bringing it well into the 21st century. The client is pleased it has turned out to be such a focal point within the city."

He added: "I have gained experience of Kawneer over 40 years of working within the architectural world and they are renowned for their quality so it is quite easy to specify them at the beginning of a project so the quality and performance standards required are set at the beginning."

Please contact our Architectural Services Team if you have a project you would like to discuss: Tel: 01928 502604 / Email: kawneerAST@arconic.com

Kawneer UK Limited, Astmoor Road, Astmoor Industrial Estate, Runcorn, Cheshire WA7 1QQ
Tel: + 44 (0)1928 502500 Fax: + 44 (0)1928 502501

WWW.KAWNEER.CO.UK

