

Homes and Communities Agency

# **Rear of 92 Duke Street, Liverpool**

Structural Stability Survey

285341-01 (00)



**JANUARY 2013** 



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#### **RSK DOCUMENT CONTROL**

 Title:
 Rear of 92 Duke Street, Liverpool - Structural Stability Survey

Client: Homes and Communities Agency

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> January 2013

Office: Hemel Hempstead

Status: Interim

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18/01/2013

18/01/2013

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Date:

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Date:

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Where field investigations have been carried out, these have been restricted to a level of detail required to achieve the stated objectives of the work.

This work has been undertaken in accordance with the quality management system of RSK Environment Ltd.

Homes and Communities Agency 92 Duke Street, Liverpool 285341-01 (00)



## 1 INTRODUCTION

90-92 Duke Street, Liverpool 1 are currently empty, 3 storey buildings, in a somewhat dilapidated condition. They are owned by the Homes and Communities Agency and are scheduled for redevelopment, most likely in 2014. There is currently concern over the stability of the rear and westernmost flank wall to No. 92, Duke Street.

Some other two storey and single storey buildings are located on the same site, including a former café on the corner of Suffolk Street and Henry Street.

On the instructions of Mr Peter Henebery of TEP acting on behalf of The Homes and Communities Agency (The Client) RSK Environment Ltd has carried out a review of a November 2012 structural report by Messrs. Roger Hetherington & Associates on 90-92 Duke Street, Liverpool and undertaken a site visit to the premises on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2012 to further review the recommendations made in the report.

### 2 PURPOSE OF SURVEY

The purpose of the survey was to witness the site conditions and form an opinion on the most suitable means of temporary propping to the westernmost flank wall and rear wall to No. 92 Duke Street. A review of the condition of the single storey former café building was also required.

#### **3 EXTENT OF INVESTIGATION**

A visual survey from ground level was conducted along with measurement of wall lengths/heights.



### 4 **DISCUSSION**

It is understood that redevelopment of the site, including the likely demolition of part or all of the buildings will commence in 2014. From the present day until demolition occurs there is a real concern that unless certain walls of the buildings are restrained in position there is a risk of partial collapse.

The westernmost flank wall to No. 92, adjacent to the rear car park area, and the rear wall to No. 92 are the main areas of concern. All other defects noted in the report, some of which are referred to in the photographs in Appendix B, do not appear to constitute a risk of building collapse at this time although there is some uncertainty of the condition of the monopitch roof to the single storey former café building at the corner of Suffolk Street and Henry Street. An internal inspection of the café building would be required to determine if this risk is real and although a roof collapse would mainly occur within the confines of the building some debris could fall on the public highway. To make matters worse the roof covering has been supplemented with broken glass (presumably a past crude security measure).

With regard to No. 92, the photographs in Appendix B show vertical separation and bowing at the corner of the rear wall and westernmost flank wall and to a lesser extent at the corner of the rear wall and easternmost flank wall.

It is recommended that a propping scheme using a fixed scaffold approach be adopted to restrain the westernmost flank wall and rear wall. It may be possible to 'novate' the scaffold structure across to the developer to assist with demolition at the appropriate time.

A plan is given in Appendix A which shows a potential propping scheme, the budget cost for which is:

Erect, Hire for 12 months until Jan 2014 then dismantle =  $\pounds$ 35,000.00 (extra weekly hire =  $\pounds$ 340/week). Or purchase scaffold for  $\pounds$ 70,000.00 (including erection) with a  $\pounds$ 20,000 buy back credit up to a 2 year period.

We have sought budget prices from two other scaffold firms and will update our report when these estimates have been received.



### APPENDIX A SKETCH

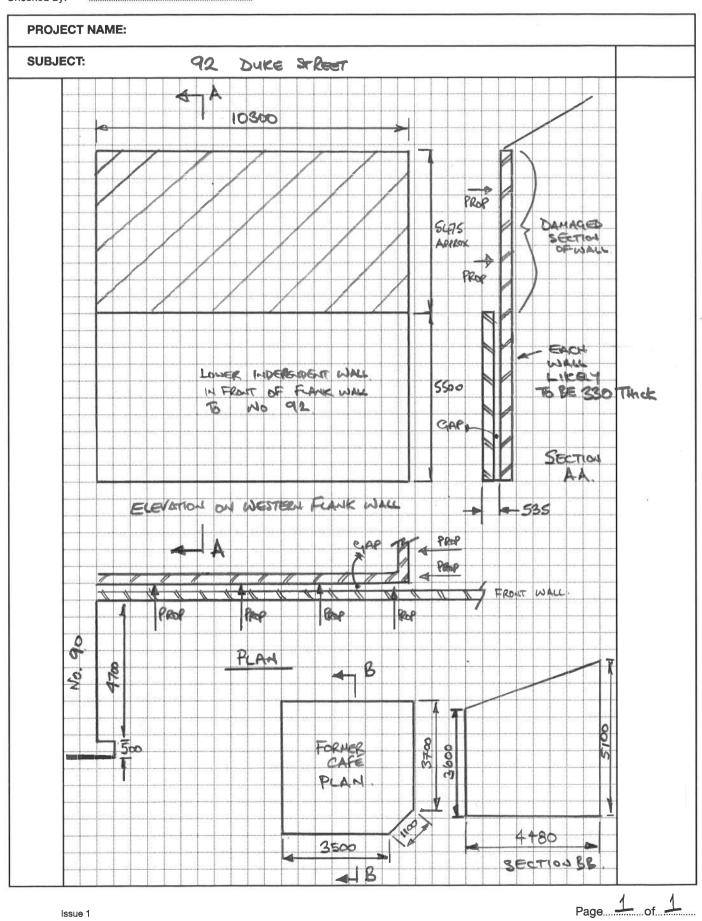
#### Wall Heights and Lengths

#### **Scaffold Propping Scheme**

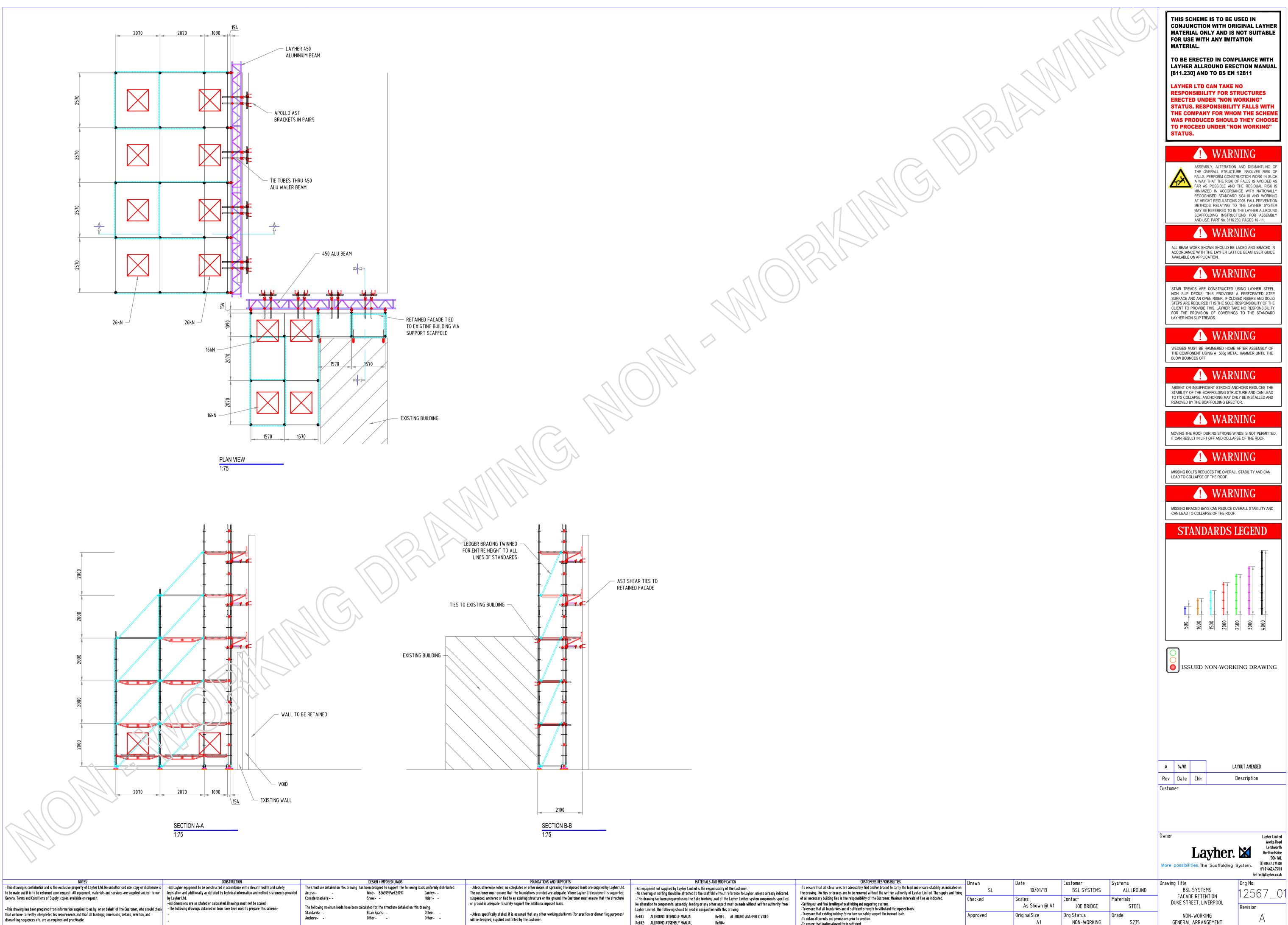
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Issue 1



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### APPENDIX B SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

This appendix contains 9 pages, including this one.





P1090053 Photograph No: 1

Front elevation No 90 Duke Street to the right No 92 Duke Street to the left



P1090013 Photograph No: 2 Rear of No 90 Duke Street





P1090069 Photograph No: 3

Rear car park area from where propping of the wall shown to the right is required (rear of No 90 Duke Street shown straight ahead)



P1090026 Photograph No: 4

Serious vertical crack to rear corner of No 92





P1090071 Photograph No: 5

Close up view of vertical crack to the rear of No 92 Duke Street



P1090027 Photograph No: 6 Side view of crack to the rear of No 92 Duke Street





P1090025 Photograph No: 7

Rear wall bowing outwards at rear corner due to lack of bond



P1090035 Photograph No: 8

Crack to the other rear corner to No 92 Duke Street





P1090037 Photograph No: 9

General view of rear of No 92 showing cracking at corner



P1090036 Photograph No: 10

General view of rear of No 92 showing cracking at corner





P1090030Photograph No: 11General view of 2 storey building (side elevation) at rear of No 92 Duke Street



P1090032 Photograph No: 12 Loose brickwork at top of gable wall





P1090033 Photograph No: 13 Loose brickwork at top of gable wall



P1090044 Photograph No: 14

Damaged brickwork to gable wall to building at rear of No 92 Duke Street



P1090045 Photograph No: 15 General view of single storey café building



P1090046 Photograph No: 16 General view of single storey café building