



**PROJECT** REFURBISHMENT OF BUILDING 16 AT CAVALRY BARRACKS  
**CLIENT** MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
**VALUE** £1.2M  
**CONSULTANT** INTERSERVE (DEFENCE) LIMITED



### BARRACKS HISTORY

Cavalry Barracks opened in 1793 and is the oldest barracks still in use on the MOD estate. There are 14 Grade II listed buildings on the site, and the barracks are in a Conservation Zone. It is home to around 600 military personnel in the 2nd Battalion Royal Regiment Fusiliers.

### BUILDING 16

The refurbishment of Building 16 was the culmination of a phase of works that brought a disused listed building back into use, providing accommodation for 24 Senior Non Commissioned Officers. The project was completed in February 2009.

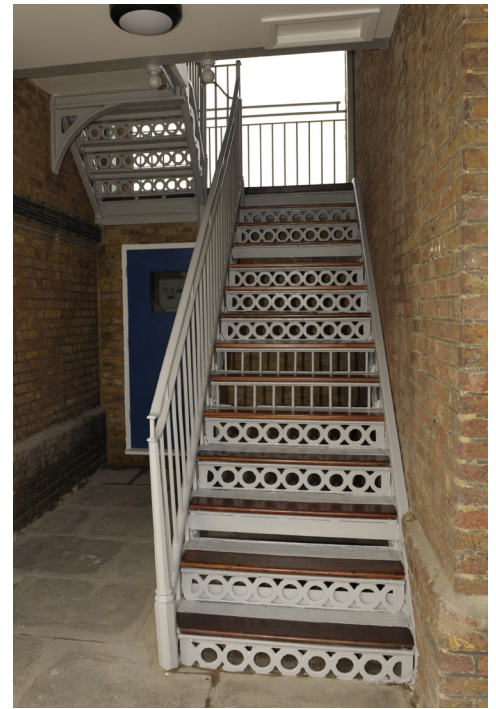
Building 16 was constructed in 1860 and is believed to be the first ever Married Quarters flats in the British Army. Following a fire, the building had not been used as an accommodation block for 20 years.

### WHAT DID THE WORK INVOLVE?

Externally there was a lot of work that needed to be done to make the building fit for purpose:

- Brickwork was completely cleaned down
- Brickwork was re-pointed, correcting defective pointing
- Repairing and replacing defective roof timbers
- Fixing existing slates and adding new slates to totally refurbish the roof
- Extensive repairs to the balconies
- Additional external emergency escape staircases





## MEETING REQUIREMENTS AND SUSTAINABLE MEASURES

All the external walls, roof and floors were insulated to meet the requirements of the Building Regulations. For the Listed Building Consent, the windows in the building have been extensively repaired and provided with secondary double glazing to meet the requirements of the Defence Glazing Standards.

A completely new electrical system, including new incoming mains supply, has been provided. The new gas fired heating and hot water system uses high efficiency condensing boilers.

## CHALLENGING CONDITIONS

During the strip out phase of the works, Horsehair Plaster was discovered in the building. Due to the risk of anthrax spores the plaster was analysed at the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory in Porton Down, causing a three week delay whilst the analysis was carried out. Thankfully no anthrax was identified and work was able to proceed.

## WHAT DOES THE BUILDING LOOK LIKE NOW?

The new and improved building comprises 24 en-suite bed spaces, 5 bathrooms, 16 common stores/baggage rooms, 5 kitchenettes, 6 laundry rooms, 1 utility room, 1 boiler/plant room, and 1 electrical intake room.

## GRAND OPENING

On 16 February 2009 Lakehouse's south east regional office proudly celebrated the opening of Building 16 at Cavalry Barracks.

The new, improved building was opened by Vice Admiral Tim Laurence, Chief Executive of Defence Estates, who said later: *"This has been an excellent project and I commend your team along with everyone else involved. Overall Hounslow is half way from being one of the MOD's embarrassments to one of our success stories and all concerned deserve much credit."*

***"We're really pleased with the new building; it is by far the best accommodation available on site. This will mean that soldiers currently housed in below scale accommodation will be able to move into more spatial and better equipped facilities."***

**Major Mick McCarthy, Quartermaster on site**