

Jackson Square Bishops Stortford, UK

Extension and refurbishment of an existing shopping centre and car park as part of a town centre redevelopment



Client: Wilson Bowden
Developments Ltd
Location: Bishops Stortford,
Hertfordshire, UK
Size: 11,200m²
Skills: Architecture
Status: Completed 2007
Reference: 22431

Project description

Jackson Square shopping centre is located in the heart of Bishops Stortford and forms part of the conservation area. The original shopping centre was built in the 1970's with an adjoining multi storey car park and entrance onto the main high street.

Broadway Malyan was commissioned to extend the shopping centre by 11,200m² foot, including a new Sainsbury's food store as an anchor. The scheme also involved demolition of the old car park and provision of over 700 car spaces

beneath the new stores and mall. The first phase also provided 95 affordable, intermediate and private apartments as well as restaurant units around a new public square and river inlet. Our brief also extended to refurbishment of the existing mall including an improved frontage and entrance on to the main high street.



The development was supported by East Herts District Council who see Bishops Stortford as a growth area serving the ever expanding nearby Stansted Airport.

Broadway Malyan was involved in extensive collaboration and discussions with the key local stakeholders, the environment agency, British Waterways Board and the Conservation Officers. The design of the buildings were heavily scrutinised and Broadway Malyan attended a series of workshops with the local authority to agree the form of the buildings and materials pallet. By wrapping the residential blocks around the bulk of the retail space we avoided the large windowless elevations that are often attributed to retail malls. A three storey glazed entrance was created on the western side of the view development to draw people through from the high street and regenerate the immediate surrounds. Close collaboration with the contractors and centre management ensured that the existing mall remained fully open throughout the project.



Other work undertaken during the project included culverting part of the River Stort, building a new bridge and realigning the road around the new development. Works were also undertaken to strengthen the river banks and provide mooring for a new trip-boat. Phase 2 of the town centre re-development is due for completion at the end of 2009 and includes a further 105 private residential apartments along the river and two restaurants overlooking the new public square and river inlet.