

Toureen Group 

PROJECT PROFILE

# THE V&A MUSEUM

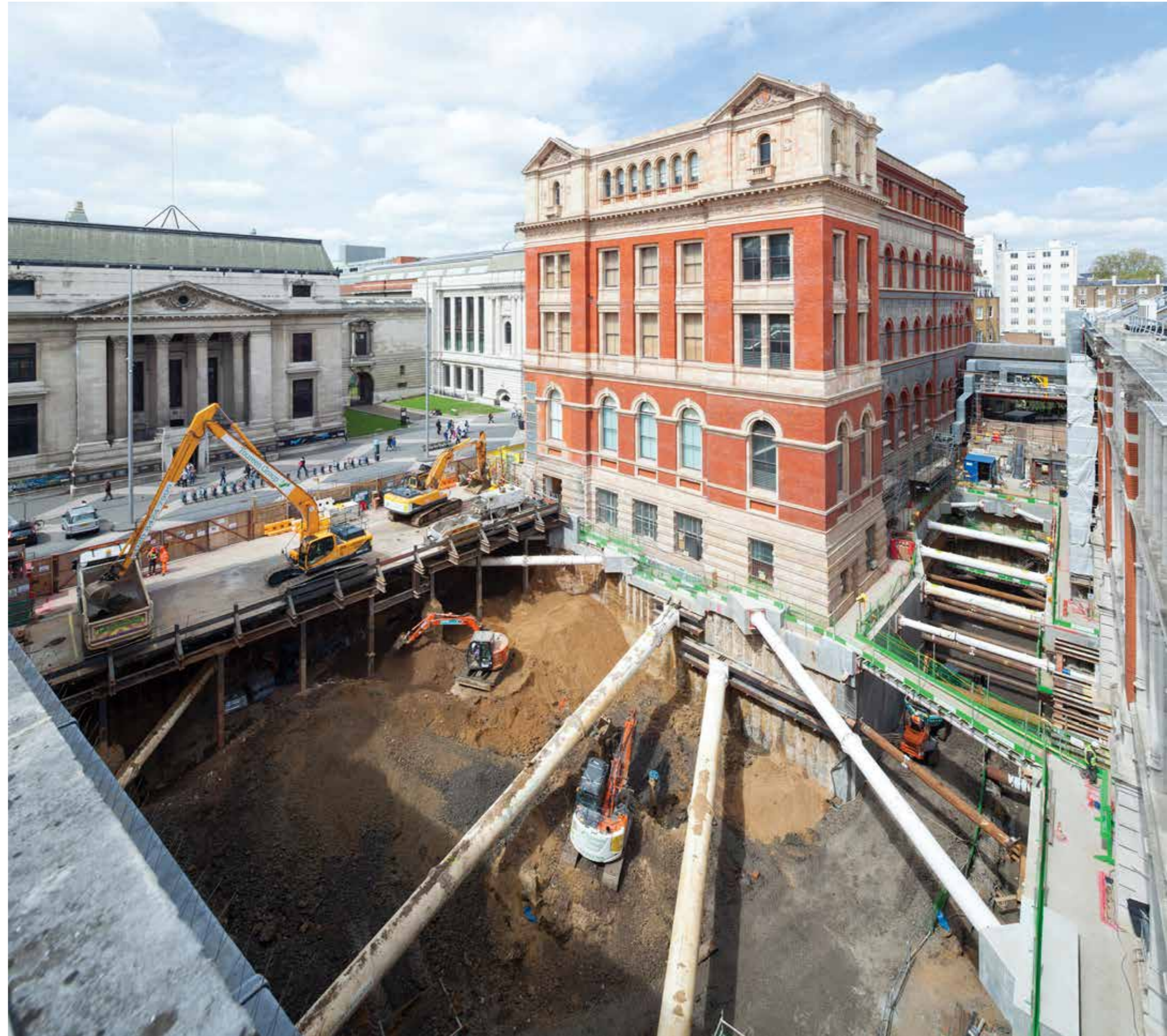


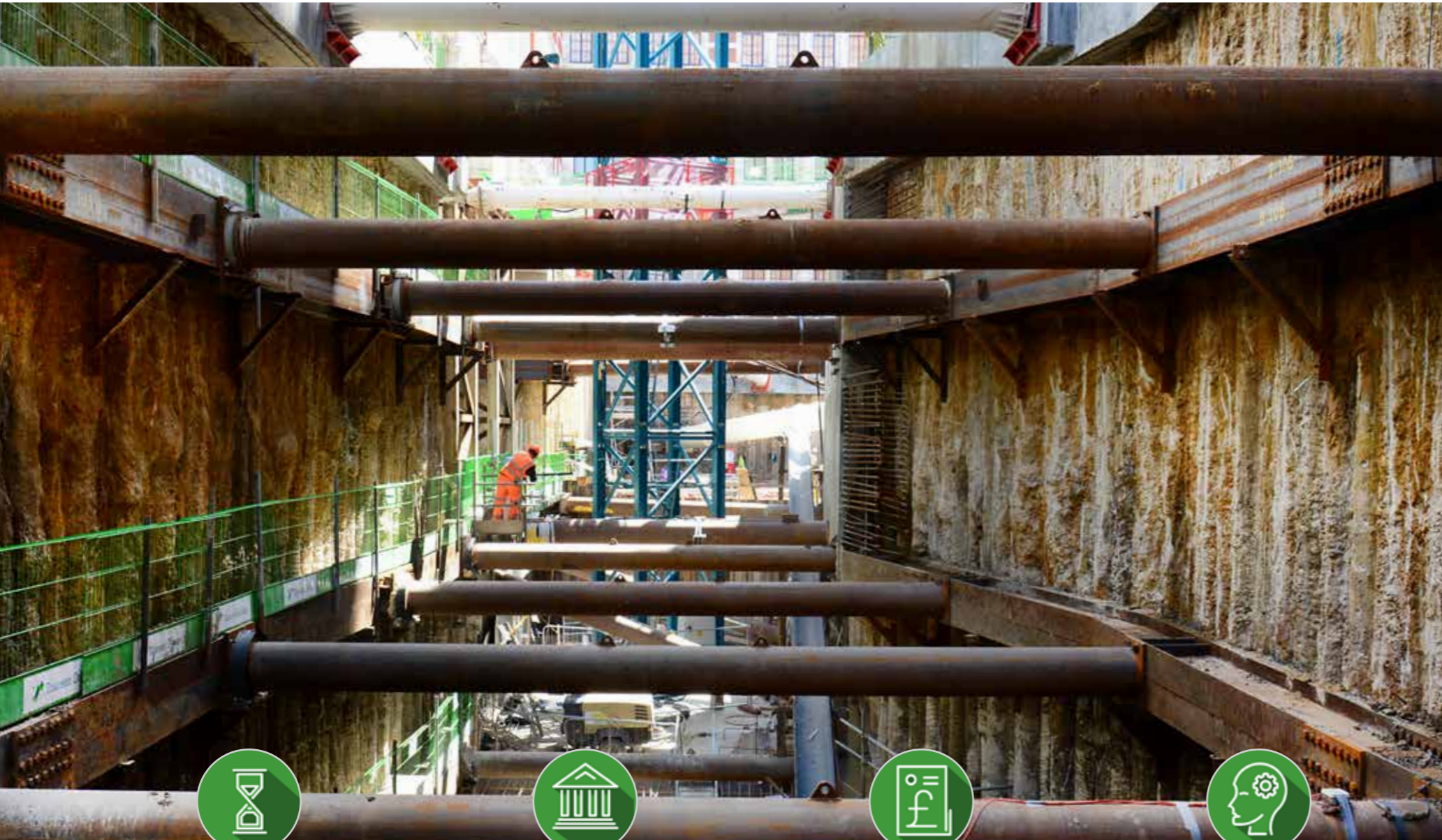
## THE V&A MUSEUM SOUTH KENSINGTON

Toureen Contractors was appointed by Wates in 2014 to fulfil an award winning design by Amanda Levete Architects to create a new courtyard, entrance and exhibition gallery for the iconic Victoria & Albert Museum.

Being a Grade I listed building posed a few challenges particularly in relation to the basement work which required bulk excavation and disposal of 30,000m<sup>3</sup> arisings through preformed mole holes. Facilitating the excavation required the design, installation, and subsequent removal of temporary piles, needles and props of up to 35m in length and weighing up to 20 tonnes. The excavation of these arisings, together with the safe removal of the existing mass concrete foundations required careful planning and systematic triple handling of materials due to the restrictions imposed by the temporary propping and the heavily restricted access to the site.

A programme of services diversions together with a meticulous plan for vehicle movements from site





were put in place to minimise inconvenience to pedestrians and traffic outside the site.

A new courtyard was created in the void of the Boilerhouse Yard which was sandwiched on all sides between occupied buildings that were open to the public throughout the construction.

Engineers provided excellent technical and detailed solutions to the challenging construction of the column free, multi-storey basement gallery, together with all the associated public and back-of-house service spaces below the courtyard. This new subterranean Sainsbury gallery is to be used for temporary exhibitions.

The completed basement now holds up four additional floor levels which are topped by a complex steel frame, forming a ceiling to the exhibition gallery with the deck on the new ground level linking to the existing museum, bookshop, toilets and courtyard café. The continuous perimeter of secant piles, to a depth of between 25 and 35m, required some to be drilled less than a metre from the occupied Grade 1 listed existing museum buildings.

Toureen Contractors, together with main contractor, Wates, achieved all this with no more than 10mm cumulative movement across the entire installation, pre-loading and removal of the entire temporary works scheme.

Her Royal Highness, the Duchess of Cambridge, opened the new exhibition gallery, courtyard and entrance hall on 29 June 2017.



**PROJECT DURATION**  
**98 WEEKS**



**DATE OF COMPLETION**  
**MAY 2017**



**CONTRACT VALUE**  
**£7.8 MILLION**



**CLIENT**  
**WATES**





# Toureen Group

Solving complex challenges since 1992



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