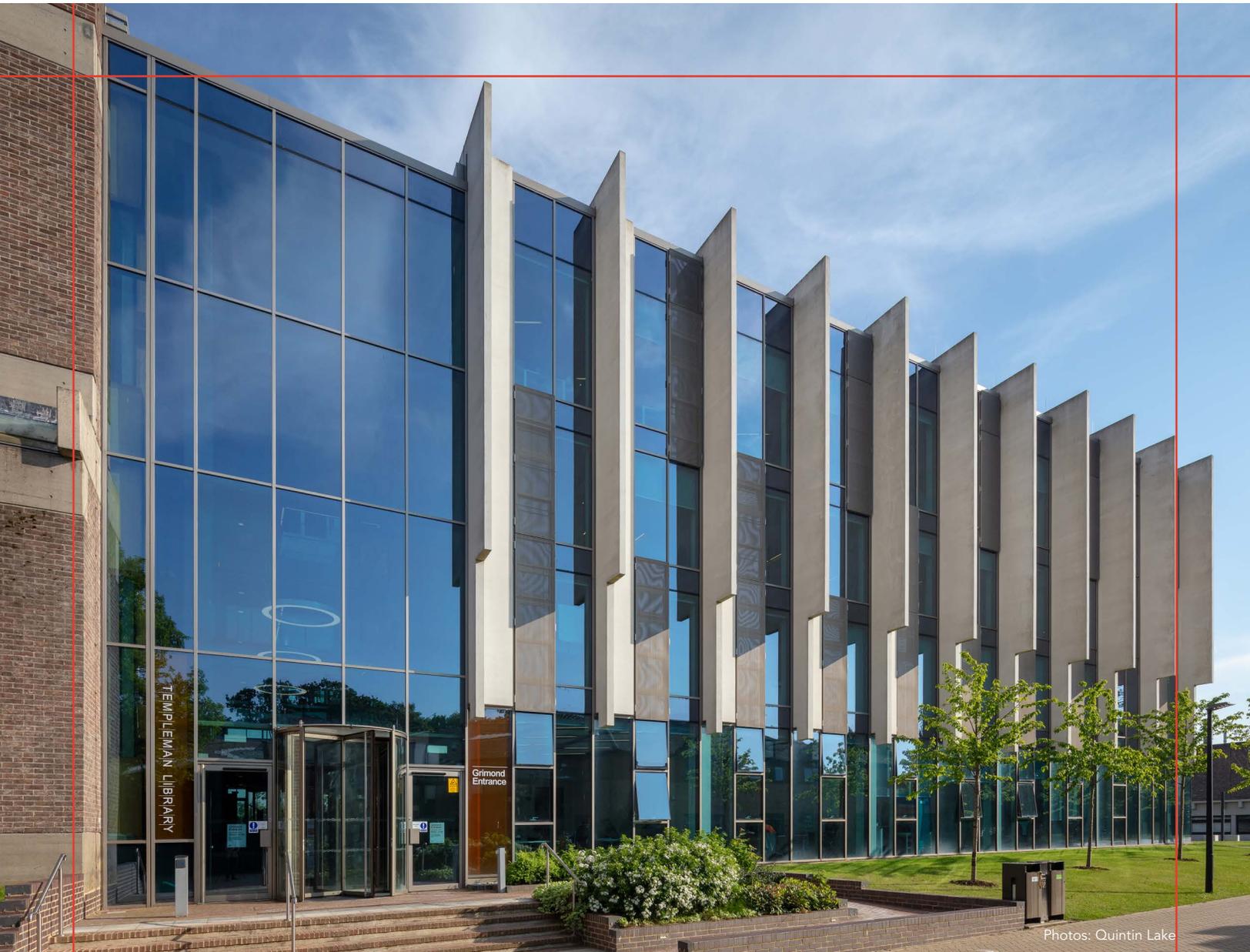


Case Study: The Templeman Library, University of Kent

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Photos: Quintin Lake

The Templeman Library at the University of Kent features multiple Kawneer systems

A multi award-winning redevelopment of a university library has used architectural glazing systems by Kawneer for their ability to combine aesthetics with performance and value for money. AA®100 curtain walling, as zone-drained capped and mullion-drained SSG (Structurally Silicone Glazed) versions, is complemented by AA®100 concealed window vents, AA®541 top-hung casement window vents, AA®3610 vertical sliding windows and AA®3572 lift/slide doors.

Building: The Templeman Library

Location: University of Kent, Canterbury

Architect: Penoyre & Prasad

Main Contractor: Kier Construction

Installer: Leay

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The Templeman Library, University of Kent

Kawneer glazing helps a university library move from Brutalist to beautiful

The Kawneer systems were specified by regular Kawneer users Penoyre & Prasad architects for the £27 million redevelopment, involving a new extension to and refurbishment of the existing building, of the Templeman Library at the heart of the University of Kent in Canterbury. Designed by Lord Holford and constructed in three phases between 1965 and 1990, the new-look library was also constructed in three phases, with the 5,400m² new-build completed first, and second and third phases of 12,500m² refurbishment following.

Penoyre & Prasad's competition-winning design for the project creates a vibrant contemporary building for study, interaction and exploration, bringing together a variety of study and support spaces, versatile collection and exhibition space, and a teaching suite. Their approach was to reveal the original building's hidden strengths by removing sections of floor structure at each level in the central core of the building to let in daylight and create views across the building, and replacing the glazing with the Kawneer curtain walling to weave the new extension and the existing building into one volume. The treatment of the external facade inverts the balance of the original Brutalist architecture of the building to create a strong and holistic contemporary architectural identity. The new north entrance was formed by glazing in a services/delivery undercroft with Kawneer curtain walling, while remodelling of the existing library included two entrance extensions, improved vertical circulation and re-glazing of the entire façade, again with Kawneer curtain walling.

Penoyre & Prasad partner Suzi Winstanley said: "We specified the Kawneer products for their value for money and ability to combine aesthetics and construction quality at the price band, also their ability to achieve the performance requirements. They are an extensive part of the façade system, helping to keep the building warm in winter and cool in summer, allowing natural ventilation to the library. A key reason for aluminium was value for money for the interior and robustness for the exterior. The Kawneer products helped us achieve U-values for the external envelope, allowing sufficient daylight into the building whilst dealing with glare. They

create a contemporary building of glass and concrete, combining the existing building with a new extension and upgraded façade. The glazed elements allow much more daylight into the existing refurbished building and enable the concrete elements of the façade to hang lightly against the glass façade at the entrance to the existing building, inverting the weight of the brick buttresses of the existing building and creating a clear and welcoming entrance. At the junctions with new concrete, existing concrete and existing brickwork, the glazing is the glue that ties all these elements together."

The redeveloped building has achieved a BREEAM "Excellent" rating, largely through the architect's simple but elegant ventilation treatment, with Kawneer's opening windows shielded by chain-like screens, stack effect in the double-height volume, and cross-ventilation to cool the inner spaces. Both the metal grillage and monumental external fins serve to shade what is otherwise a Kawneer glazed wall. Its complexity lies in the scale of investment and in dealing with an existing building that is pivotal to the university's 15,000 students and needed to remain in use during construction. The Kawneer systems were installed over 15 months by a team of up to six from approved specialist sub-contractor/dealer Leay for main contractor Kier Construction.

Leay's business development manager Mike Watts said: "Hinged mesh panels were hung from the Kawneer curtain wall in front of the opening vents at varying heights to mimic the effect of icicles hanging from the roof level. The original design was to have these fixed but for cleaning strategies these had to be designed hinged to access the screen behind."

The new-look Templeman Library won the 2017 Graphisoft UK BIM's Public Sector Project of the Year award and was highly commended in the 2017 Concrete Society awards. It was also shortlisted for the 2018 AJ Specification Technology award, 2018 AJ Refurbishment over £20 million award, and 2018 AJ Retrofit Higher and Further Education award.



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

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