

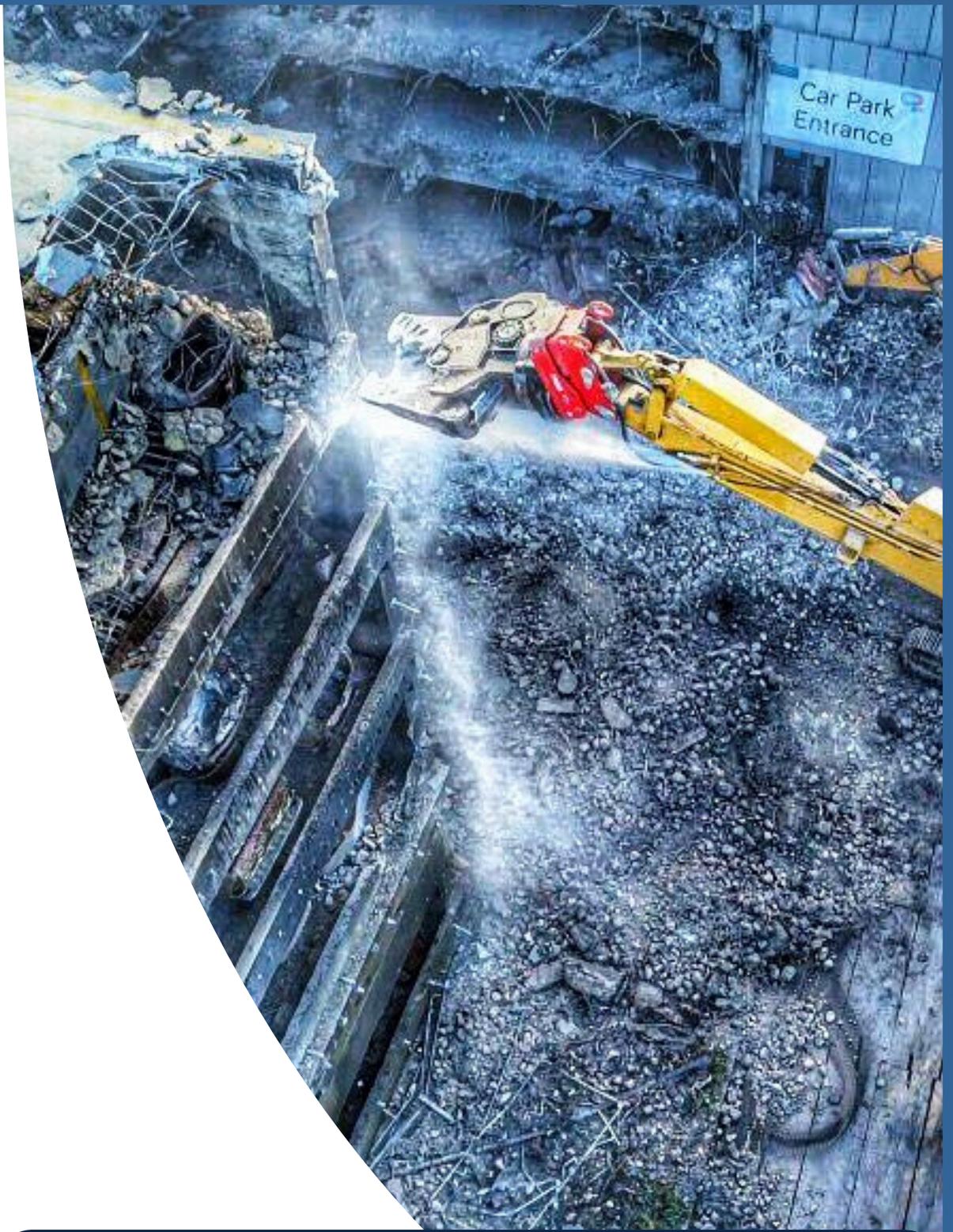


JPS

10 YEARS
10 STORIES

“

My most
memorable
project... ”



Mike Macdonald

Operations Director

Echo Arena car park demolition

Liverpool



Echo Arena car park demolition

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One of the most memorable projects during my time at JPS was the demolition of the fire-damaged Echo Arena car park in Liverpool.

It was a highly significant and challenging project that pushed me technically and professionally. I later used this project as a key example in my ICE Chartership review, so it will always hold a special place in my memory — and, most importantly, through the protection decks I designed and approved, I can say I have personally protected Kylie Minogue!

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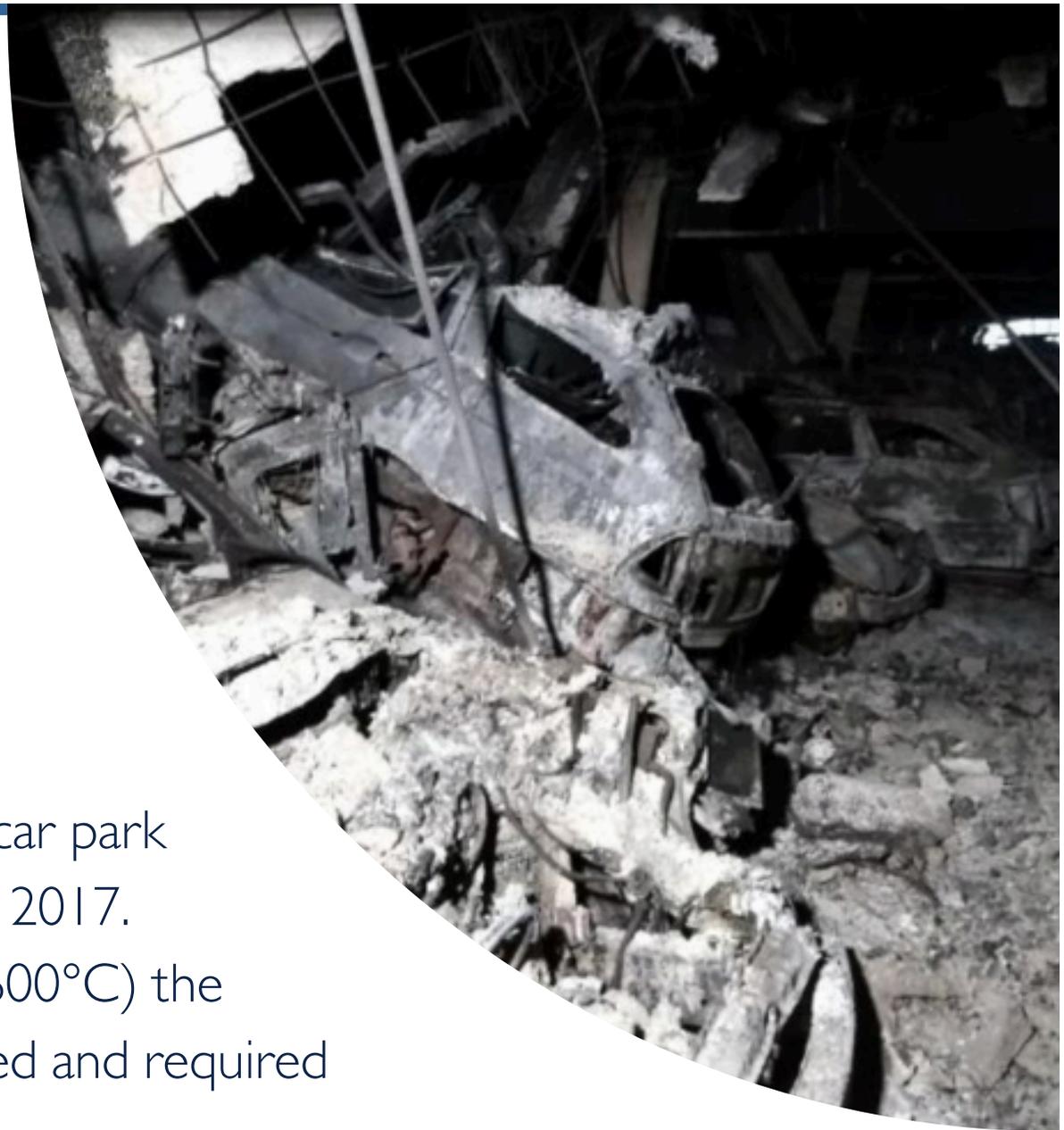
Echo Arena car park demolition

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Completed in 2005, this precast car park suffered a fire on New Years Eve 2017. Due to the intensity of the fire (600°C) the structure was extensively damaged and required demolition.

JPS, together with Willmott Dixon Construction, managed the process ensuring a safe means of demolishing the structure along with the design of protection measures to the adjacent structures.

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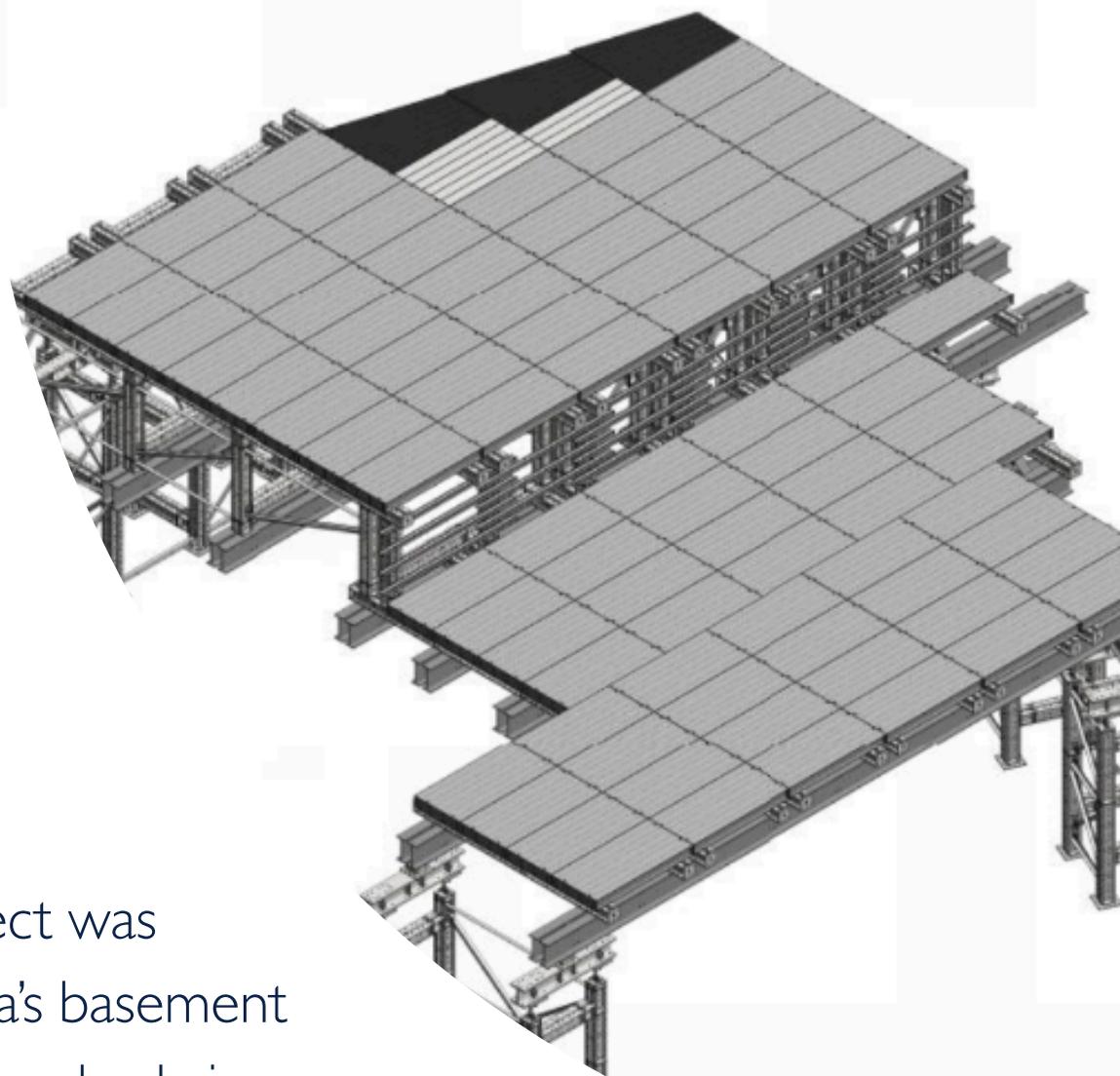


Echo Arena car park demolition



The primary challenge of the project was maintaining safe access to the arena's basement service yard, which could only be reached via a ramp passing beneath the damaged car park.

To manage this risk, JPS developed a robust monitoring regime for the ramp area, carrying out nightly inspections to confirm it was safe for use during evenings and nights outside demolition hours.



Echo Arena car park demolition

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A carefully planned demolition strategy was implemented for the multi-storey precast concrete frame, ensuring the structure could be left stable and “squared off” at the end of each day.

This allowed uninterrupted and safe access to the live arena every night while demolition works progressed.

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Echo Arena car park demolition

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As well as gaining valuable experience in structural monitoring techniques, the project deepened my knowledge of structural stability in the temporary case.

It was a very different project compared to the new-build and refurbishment projects we normally design, but immersing myself in the technical aspects of planning the safe demolition of a large concrete frame provided me with fresh insights into the structural behaviour of a complex building.

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