

Biscuit Tunnel

The underpass that runs from Napier Road to Kenavon Drive was formerly a biscuit tunnel which carried shuttle engines full of biscuits from Huntley and Palmers factory to a siding at Reading Station.

This underpass was previously closed after the biscuit factory shut down, it only re opened in 2015. The route provides direct access for people living on Napier Road and Luscinia View to Reading town centre via cycling and walking.

Proposals seek to tap into this existing infrastructure to create exciting links to potential adjacent properties when proposals do come forward.



Biscuit Tunnel from Napier Rd to Kenavon Drive



Huntley and Palmers Train used to Transport Biscuits



Location of Factory and Tunnel

2.4 Historical Development of Site

2.4.2 Reading Materiality Analysis

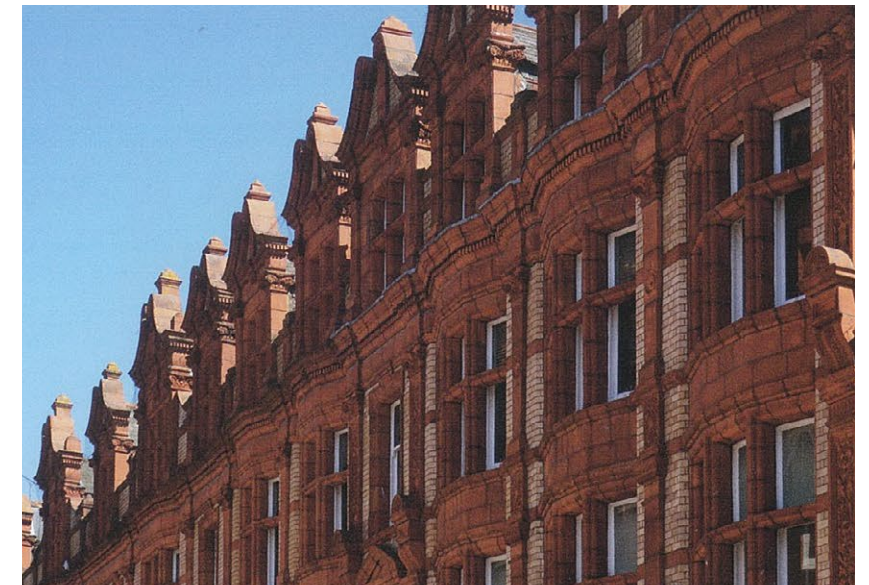
Materiality in Reading

Many bricks were made in Reading and up until recently the town was built entirely from them. The only local building stone was lint, which can be seen in the oldest buildings located in Reading, including the Abbey Ruins. Bath stone was also popular and would be transported via the canal and later the Great western Railway. Brick then came back into fashion during the Victorian times.

The clay beds around Reading are of a high quality and the strong red colour of the bricks is owing to the high iron content in the local clay. There were a series of brick works and kilns operating in the Reading area and many more in the wider area of Berkshire.



Red and grey brick pattern in Reading



Reading Bricks Praised for their Strong Red Colour



The Silver Grey Bricks were more Expensive

Abbey Ruins

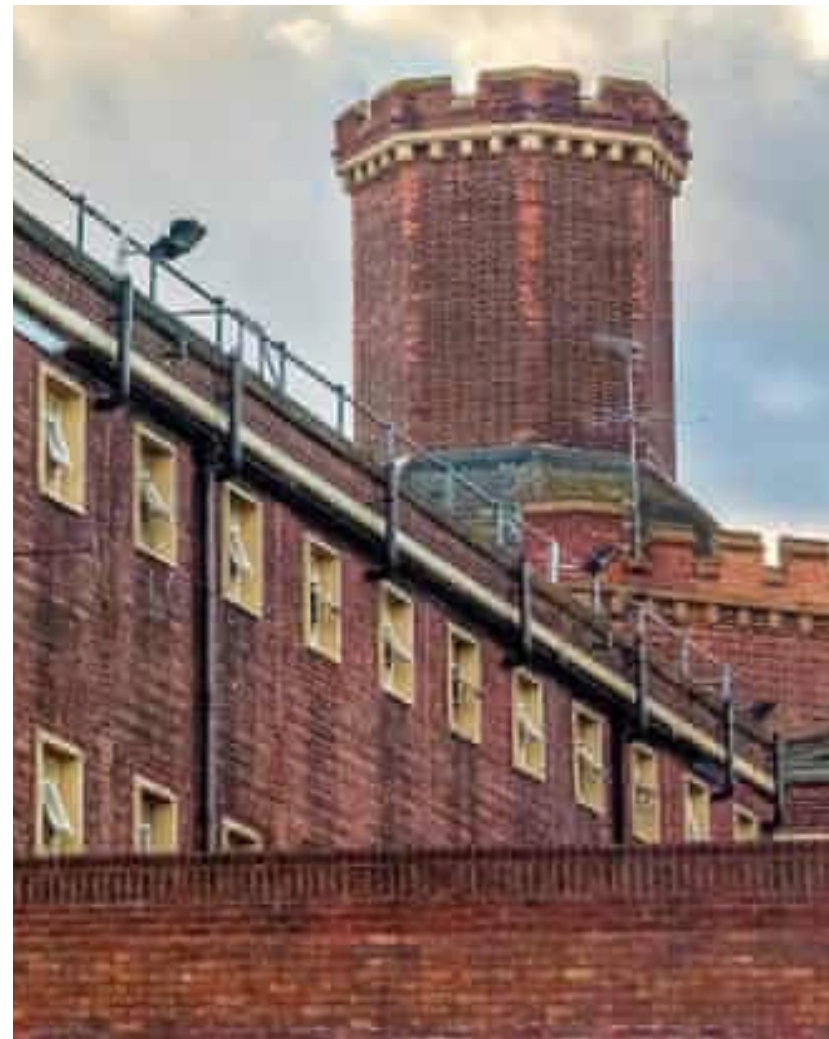


Photograph of Reading Abbey Ruins

Materials:

- Flint and soft chalk
- Originally encased in honey coloured limestone from Taynton, Burford Oxfordshire.

Reading Gaol

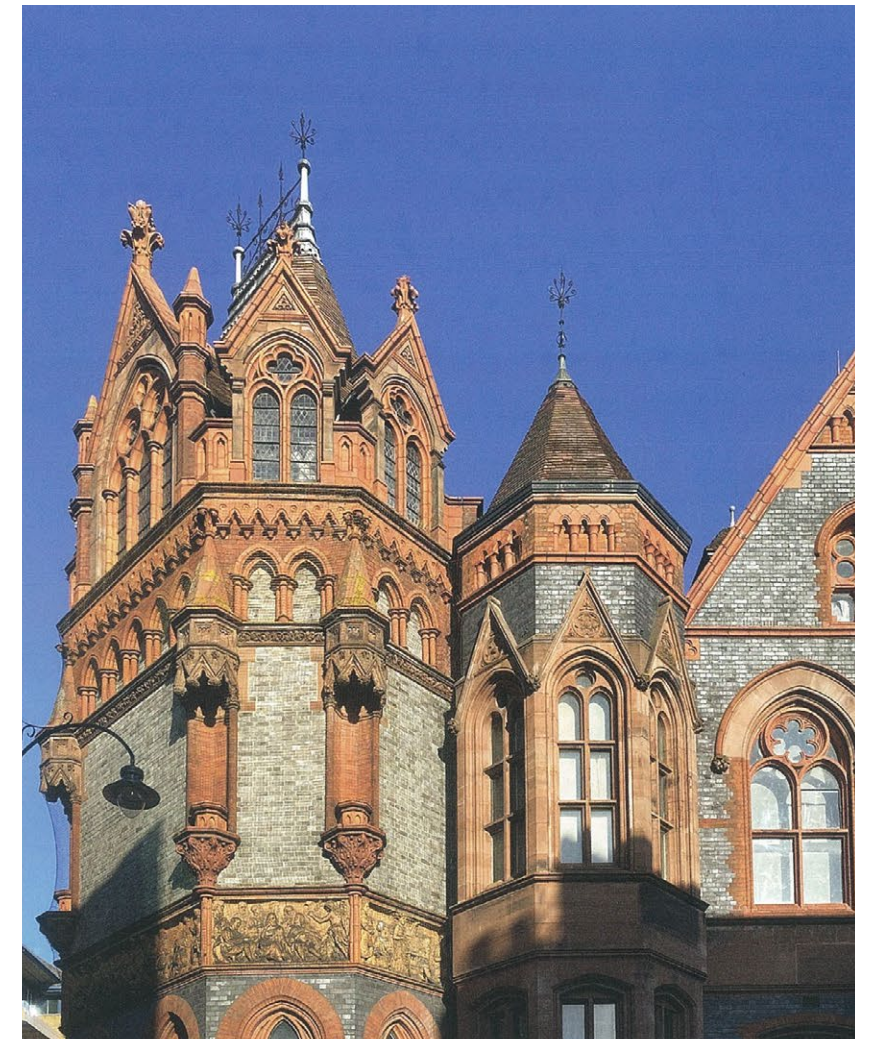


Photograph of Reading Gaol

Materials:

- Brick
- Came back into fashion during Victorian times.

Town Hall



Photograph of Reading Town Hall

Materials:

- Brick
- A number of great buildings were built in brick. Brick makers in Reading went for the gothic decorative details, patterns and polychromy.

2.4.2 Reading Materiality Analysis - Continued

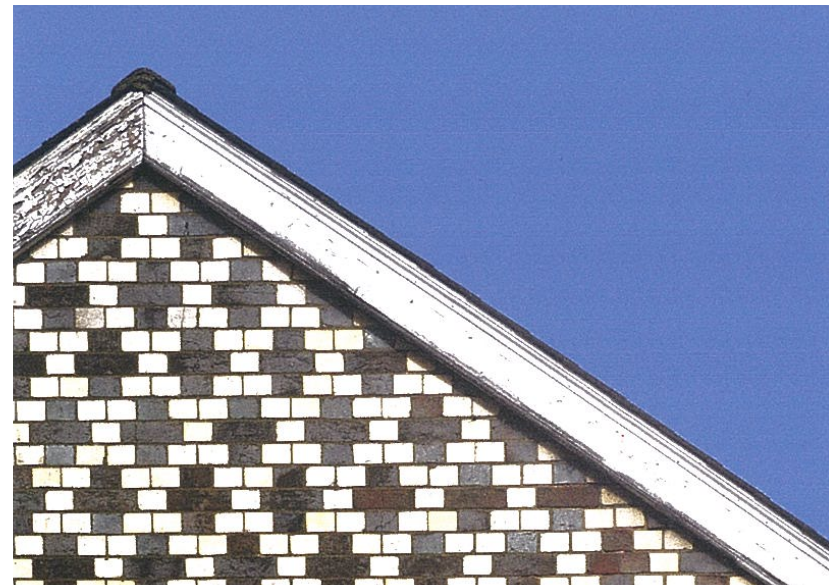
Brick Textures Near Site



Reading Brick Patterns



Decorative Brickwork on Christchurch Road



Decorative Brickwork pattern



Yellow Grey Bricks in Diamond Pattern



Decorated Gables at Reading School