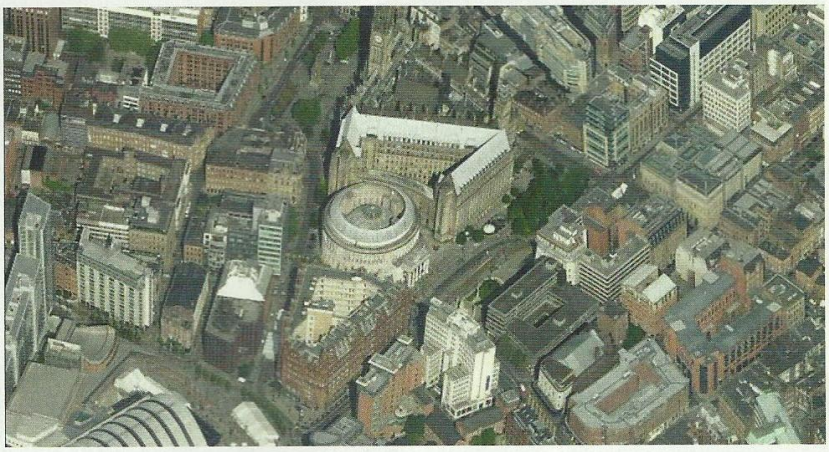
URBAN DEMOLITION AWARD continued

Expanded Demolition ▶

Expanded Demolition has been shortlisted for the work it carried out during the Manchester Town Hall Complex Transformation Project. This was an environmentally and logistically challenging project due to its central position within the City of Manchester, the close proximity to the fully operational Town Hall, prestigious hotels and the proximity of several listed buildings. The scheme involved the redevelopment of two Grade II Listed buildings; working within the confines of these impressive buildings providing demolition services around retained heritage items was a complex and demanding project.

The development entailed works within the Central Library and the adjacent Manchester Town Hall Extension including works both on and within the adjoining basement of Library Walk. The objective was to open up significant historic spaces such as the Rates Hall and create open plan office space without compromising the sense of place or the heritage value of this very important building. Within this prestigious building, the works entailed: complete soft strip to all areas, ceiling removal throughout, floor covering and parquet flooring removal, internal non load-bearing wall removal, service removal throughout basement, and confined spaces within the loft, internal walls & suspended concrete slabs in the basement, forming access into the basement and roof of central light-well area.



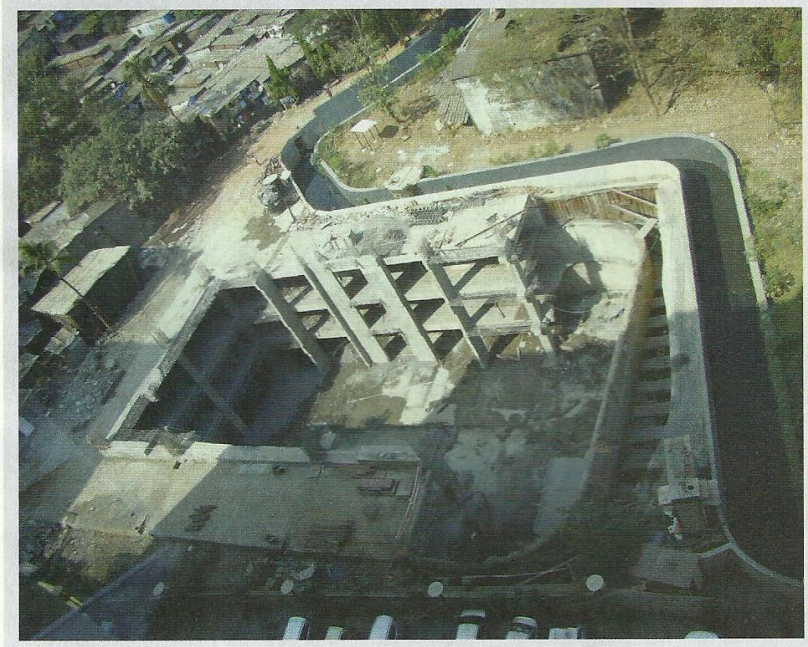
Genesis Engineering

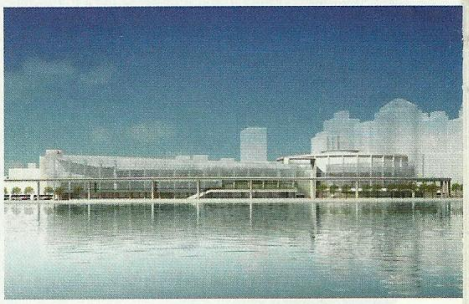
The first Indian demolition contractor to feature in the Awards, Genesis Engineering has been shortlisted for the work it carried out during the Atrium II project that required the removal of a ground floor slab with three further basement levels in Mumbai, but leaving the periphery of the structure intact.

Surrounded to two sides by other buildings, with a drainage canal bounding the other two sides of the structure, the site was backed by one of the city's slum areas.

Because of the close proximity of the other buildings, demolition had to be carried out with the minimum of noise and vibration, hence the use of hydraulic breakers was not possible. Diamond saw cutting was initially considered but eventually ruled out as being impractical due to time and cost considerations.

The ground level slab was first cut and removed with appropriate propping installed below. With appropriate piling installed throughout the project, the demolition of the structure was then carried out by a 20 tonne excavator fitted with a 2.2 tonne pulveriser. At the end of the project the machine was lifted out from the inside of the retained structure by a mobile crane.





Homrich ▲

Homrich has been shortlisted for the 2012 Urban/Confined Space Award for the work it undertook for client Detroit Regional Convention Facility Authority during the remodelling of the COBO Center in Detroit.

Work began in November 2011 and was completed in July 2012.

Located in downtown Detroit, MI, the center has provided the backdrop for many rock and roll legends, was home to professional basketball for nearly two decades and has been visited by every single United States President since it was constructed in 1960. The 220,000 m^2 center was also the home to the North American International Auto Show, one of the largest automotive shows in the world.

It is comprised of exhibition, banquet and meeting space, in addition to a 12,000 seat arena. The last major renovation for the facility was in 1989. Due to the surge of development downtown, COBO officials made the decision to undergo a US$300 million revitalisation project in order to be ready for the future.

A major component of the renovation project includes COBO Arena, which lies within the center of the complex, precariously surrounded on all sides. The renovation called for selective demolition of the arena's interior and exterior in order to make room for the planned new use as a premiere, two-story banquet and event center. Homrich, Inc. was awarded the contract and methodically took on this challenge in order to make way for future development, while at the same time preserving the structural integrity upon which the future will be built.

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