



Case Study

Lloyd's No.1 – The Trafalgar Portsmouth, Hampshire, UK

Trendy Bar Creates Unique Restroom with Stainless Steel Washfountain

Challenge

The Trafalgar in historic Portsmouth has a long and varied history from a Christian community centre in the early 1900s to most recently serving as a student residence for Portsmouth University. In 2002, the building was acquired by JD Wetherspoon plc., a company known for converting many types of buildings into unique bars and pubs. Under its new owner, The Trafalgar has been completely renovated and was opened in July 2004 as a Lloyds No.1 bar.

A mural measuring 50 feet, dating from the 1940s, gives the bar "listed building" status, protecting it as an historic site. Although there's little architectural significance to the building, this designation posed a challenge and subjected the renovation project to rigorous planning controls. Meeting the space constraints for a men's restroom in the mezzanine area of the building was another prerequisite. Planners hoped to avoid moving the restrooms to another area of the building or needing to create an additional men's room. This would reduce the valuable bar space available.

Solution

As with other JD Wetherspoon properties, the washrooms at Lloyd's No. 1, The Trafalgar, have been designed to not only fit in with their surroundings but become an attraction of their own. To create an interesting design aesthetic and maximize space, the project's architectural firm, Tuffin Ferraby Taylor, specified a Bradley Circular Classic Washfountain in stainless steel.

Installing a centrally located washfountain, rather than eight wall-mounted basins, allowed the designers to meet building regulations for the number of washbasins relative to toilet cubicles without increasing the size of the men's washroom.

Beyond having an interesting design, washfountains are also easier and less expensive to install. A washfountain has only one connection for hot, cold and waste plumbing. Eight individual basins would require a total of 24 connections. Moreover, each of those wall-hung basins would need to be mounted.

Group Handwashing Conserves Water

Potential water savings were another attractive feature for the old Trafalgar building. A typical single washbasin with individual taps has an average flow rate of about 11 litres (2.75 gallons) per minute. A Classic Washfountain accommodates up to eight users at once. With an average of four users, the washfountain only uses 4.7 litres (1.25 gallons) of water per minute, per person. This is a savings of about 22.7 litres (6 gallons) per minute, based on having fewer basins and a lower flow rate per user. When all eight stations are used simultaneously the savings potential is about 64.3 litres (17 gallons) per minute.

Washfountains are also easier to clean and maintain. Cleaning a single washfountain, rather than eight wash basins obviously reduces cleaning time. Users appreciate the touchless infrared sensors on the washfountain sprayheads, eliminating the need to touch dirty taps. Since infrared sensors automatically shut off the water supply after a user's hands are removed from the bowl, water is never left accidentally running.

"Our customers seem to like the washfountains and think they're more sociable than a line of basins facing the wall," said Gareth Hoole, shift manager for Lloyd's No. 1. "We also appreciate that they're easy for children to use – the restrooms are used by families visiting our pub during the day."

Bradley's sole distributor in the UK, Relcross Ltd. based in Devizes, Wiltshire, provided the washfountains for the Lloyd's project. According to sales director, Stuart McMaster, UK architects are increasingly recognizing the advantages of using washfountains and are specifying them to creating stunning effects in unconventional applications, such as night clubs and pubs.

"We're having a lot of success with Bradley washfountains," added McMaster.



This 50 foot mural dates from the 1940s. It designates the bar as a historic site.

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– Gareth Hoole
Shift manager
Lloyd's No. 1



A Bradley Circular Classic Washfountain in stainless steel serves as the visual centerpiece of the men's washroom at Lloyd's No. 1, The Trafalgar. The washfountain is as economical as it is practical for the washroom's design - the unit accommodates up to eight users at one time.