

Case Study



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Premier Technical Services Group PLC (PTSG) completed a highly time-sensitive project at the spectacular London home of the Duke of Northumberland, Syon Park.

PTSG was contracted to remove the cleaning gantry from Syon's great conservatory, readying the site for an extremely busy summer season.

The gantry, installed in 1986, has not been used in years and, as a consequence, was not compliant with current legislation. PTSG's specialist engineers removed the gantry in a very limited time period, both making the site safer and creating a clearer view through the glass dome for future visitors.

Topher Martyn, head gardener at Syon Park, said: "Over the winter the dome has undergone decoration with scaffolding encasing the structure. These works finished in March and with the wedding season starting in April PTSG was set the challenge of removing the gantry in a very tight window of opportunity."

Syon Park was built in the sixteenth century on the site of the Medieval Syon Abbey. In the 18th century, the grounds of Syon Park presented the landscape architect Lancelot 'Capability' Brown with one of his first major commissions. During the same time period, Scottish architect Robert Adam was commissioned to create a series of striking classical interiors to the house.

The PTSG team had to minimise damage to the show gardens and position machinery through historic garden arches with just inches to spare.

In only three days, engineers had to mobilise lifting and access machinery and take the gantry apart. A day was spent on site manually moving the gantry around the dome and setting up a powered access platform. On the following day a mobile crane was brought on-site and this was boomed out from the garden centre car park at Syon Park in order to lift and lower the 0.5 tonne cleaning gantry from its fixings. The gantry was then dismantled.

Topher Martyn added: "This was a great project to be involved with and we're delighted that no damage was done to the glass or show gardens."

PTSG's Syon team, part of the company's Specialist Building Access division, has extensive knowledge of working at height, which means that they are capable of accessing virtually any part of any building or structure – either internally or externally.

The company's expertise is a key component of its success in projects like this one, performing highly technical works safely and without causing any damage or disruption.