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Case Study

# Ashley Gardens, Westminster

## Requirement

Decking on exclusive penthouse  
and surrounding terraces

## Project location

London, UK

## Contractor

All On Deck



# Adding an up-market roof terrace to exclusive London apartments

Ashley Gardens is a block of mansion flats in the heart of Westminster, built towards the end of the nineteenth century. It lies within a conservation area centred on Westminster Cathedral and its residents include leading figures from the worlds of politics, the arts, science and the military.

Architects Atelier West were commissioned to design a roof terrace for one of the penthouse apartments, along with the communal areas immediately surrounding it. In such a historically sensitive environment, the materials used had to deliver the right aesthetic qualities, while at the same time withstanding the effects of the weather and providing a safe surface for residents to enjoy.

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## Millboard products used

93m<sup>2</sup> Enhanced Grain  
Limed Oak

92m<sup>2</sup> Enhanced Grain  
Charred Oak

62m<sup>2</sup> Weathered Oak Vintage

48m<sup>2</sup> Enhanced Grain  
Smoked Oak

Plas-Pro with cradles



Enhanced Grain finished in  
Limed Oak & Smoked Oak

With apartments retailing for several million pounds each, the new roof terrace required a suitably up-market spec.



## Meeting the requirements

### Beautiful, durable, safe

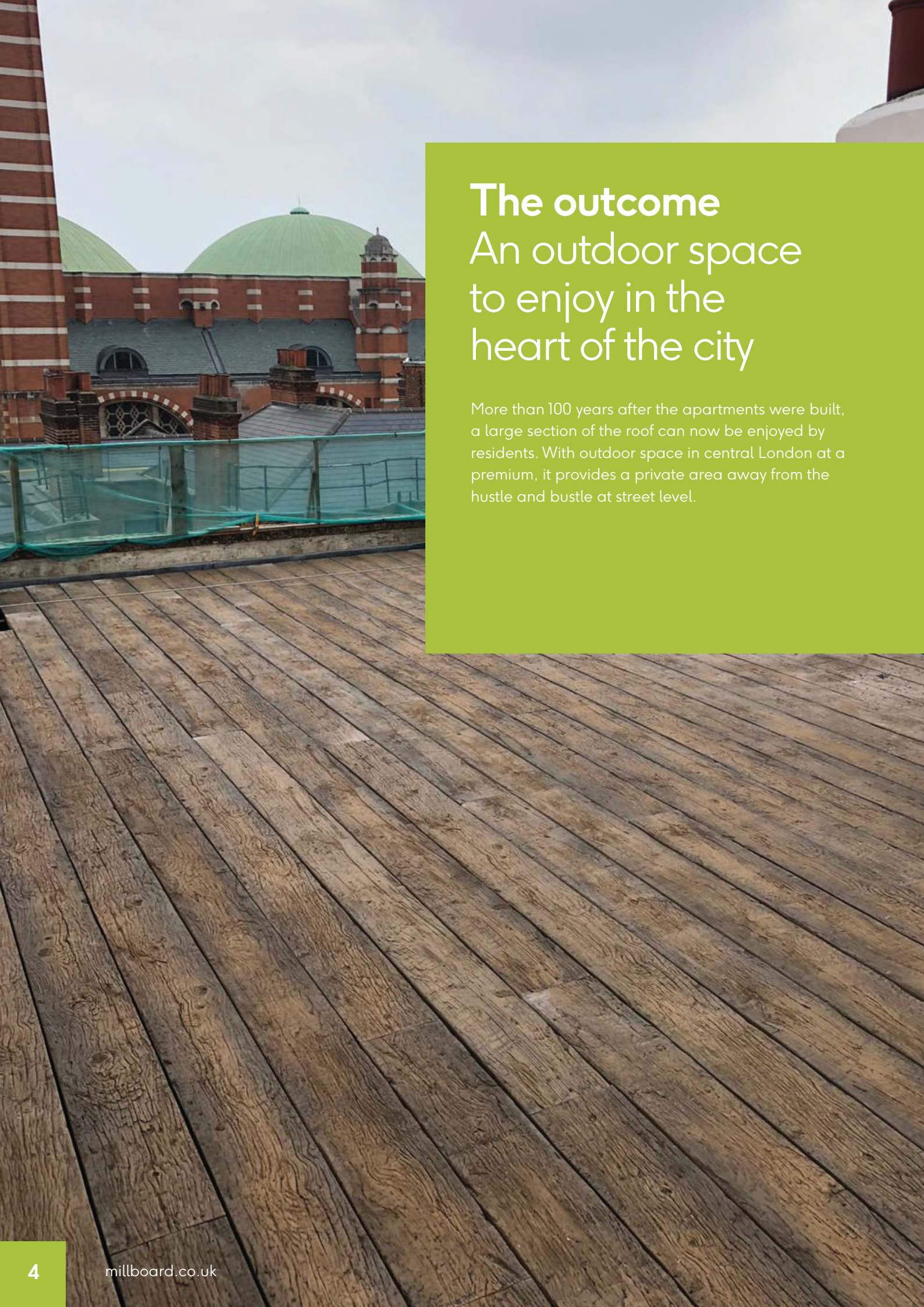
Decking was provided in several shades and styles, using architect's drawings supplied to calculate the required quantities.

A key factor in the architect's choice of Millboard decking was that it has no wood content and so, unlike timber decking, does not need space beneath it to allow for airflow. At Ashley Gardens there was insufficient height between the roof surface and the door sills to accommodate both a wooden deck and the depth of sub-frame it would have needed to provide this airflow. Using a combination of Millboard's decking, Plas-Pro sub-frame – made from 100% recycled plastic – and cradles, the terrace was easily accommodated without any modification being necessary to the underlying roof structure.

The limited height available to accommodate the terrace and sub-frame was not a problem for Millboard's wood-free decking and Plas-Pro system.







## The outcome

### An outdoor space to enjoy in the heart of the city

More than 100 years after the apartments were built, a large section of the roof can now be enjoyed by residents. With outdoor space in central London at a premium, it provides a private area away from the hustle and bustle at street level.



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Using Millboard decking in this rooftop location made so much sense. One crucial advantage it has over wood is that it does not need airflow beneath it. This made it possible to fit it into the shallow working height available, where wooden boards just wouldn't have been feasible.

All On Deck

# Benefits of the new Millboard decking at Ashley Gardens:



## Smart looks

The decking provides an authentic wood look that is in keeping with the building's age.



## Low maintenance

Millboard decking will not rot, warp or split, and needs no extensive treatments to keep it in good order.



## Safe to use

Millboard decking's resistance to algal growth and excellent slip resistance mean residents can safely use the new rooftop terrace, even in the wet.



## Low profile

With no requirement for airflow beneath it, the deck could be installed in the limited height available between the roof surface and door sills

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