

Site: The Lighthouse Building  
 Location: Pentonville Road  
 Architects: Latitude Architects



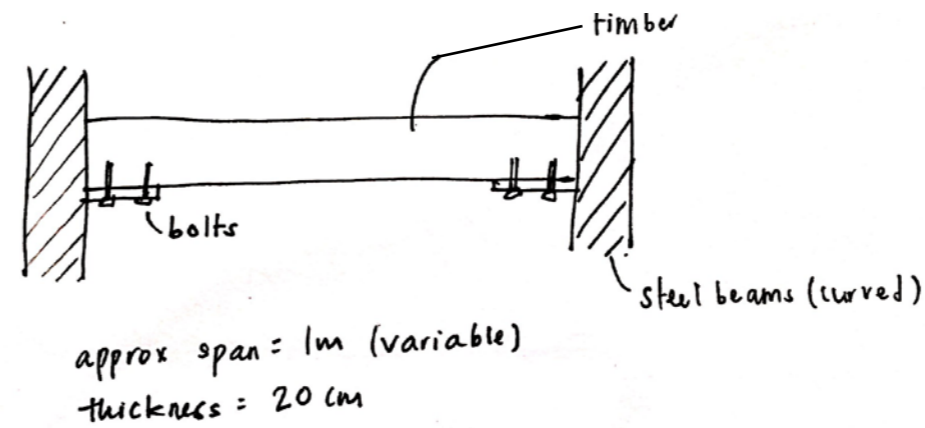
Site Photos



Side Elevation

## Timber Roof Supports

Fang Lee  
 TS Materials



There are various benefits to the use of Timber as a construction material. Firstly, the process of deriving Timber for construction is straightforward and easy as wood is sourced from nature, sawn and treated, then cut to size. The ease of obtaining Timber and the ease of manipulating it allows for the relatively low use of specialized tools and high buildability. Secondly, Timber is a natural resource that can be locally sourced. This makes it a renewable and sustainable material to use as used Timber resources can be easily replaced, as opposed to finite sources like steel. Thirdly, Timber frames offer a lighter form of construction which can allow for lighter foundations and/or be used in poor ground conditions where a deep foundation is not possible. Lastly, Timber as a structural material performs well in the case of fire as it chars at a fixed rate and will not deform suddenly like steel.

Despite its benefits, there are certain disadvantages to using Timber. Firstly, Timber is susceptible to decay when it is exposed to high humidity, thereby reducing its structural integrity. Secondly, Timber is a combustible material and therefore requires a high amount of detailing for its fire protection. Lastly, Timber varies greatly in type and in quality, hence a suitable amount of skill and foresight needs to be employed for the selection of the appropriate type of Timber for use.



Other Famous Projects that uses Timber  
 Pompidou Metz by Shigeru Ban (left), Prostho Museum Research Center by Kengo Kuma (right)

References:  
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<http://www.jamesewingphotography.com/index.php#pt=1&pi=10000&s=3&p=12&a=0&at=0>  
<http://Kingscrossenvironment.com/2009/04/10/kings-cross-lighthouse-building-gets-approval/>  
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