

Appendix 12.1: Faulhaber Design Limited – Methodology for photomontage views

The software and hardware used to produce the photomontage views is set out in below

Photomontage views - software and hardware used:

Hardware	Software
Apple Macintosh computers	VectorWorks (12.5)
Canon EOS 30D	Artlantis Studio (1.2.6)
	Adobe Photoshop CS3 (10.0.1)

The photographic views were taken on site a high-resolution digital camera using the equivalent coverage of a 50mm focal length lens on a standard 35mm SLR camera, this corresponds closely to the human eye. All photographs were taken on 7 Sep 2008 between 8.00 and 13.00; the weather was dry with quite heavy cloud cover. The viewpoints locations were chosen by Savills. No survey information for the viewpoints was provided but Ordnance Survey information and aerial photographs were used to interpolate the height and location of each view point with 1.75m added for the height of the camera/observer.

The individual photographic images were joined together using Adobe Photoshop to produce a panoramas, each image had a minimum 50% overlap with adjacent images to reduce distortion. Electronic drawings were provided by PRC Architects. These drawings were used to produce a 3D CAD model of the proposals and selected existing reference structures. The CAD model was then exported to a rendering application and rendered images were produced from similar viewpoints to those the original photographs were taken and where necessary the computer 'camera' was rotated about the viewpoint in a similar fashion to the photographic panorama with 50% minimum overlap.

As a check to accuracy, the existing photographs were imported into the rendering application to confirm existing features on the photograph were aligned as closely as possible with their corresponding survey information before rendering the images. The rendered computer images were then placed into the photographs and scaled/positioned so that the reference features in the image matched those in the photographs. Once a close fit was made, it was deemed that the development proposals were correctly scaled and positioned in the photograph.

The original images and the rendered views were combined in Adobe Photoshop and adjusted to give the appearance of structures in the photograph by the inclusion of existing features in the foreground, additional texturing and other visual enhancements. The accuracy of the photomontages could possibly be improved by precise surveying of the viewpoints to reduce the effects of parallax and minor position inaccuracies, although due the resolution of the photographs, the distance some photographs were taken from the proposed development and the digital matching techniques used, very little or no visual variation would be discernable.