Hardinge Barracks, Hounslow, London.

Products used:

- 208 overlay acoustic flooring – 270m²
- C40 cradle & batten adjustable acoustic flooring – 542m²

Owners: Ministry of Defence
Architects: HLM Architects
Main contractor: Lend Lease
Flooring contractor: Veitchi Flooring

The Grade II listed Hardinge Barracks had been standing empty for 15 years prior to its refurbishment to bring it up to current building standards, under the SLAM (Single Living Accommodation Modules) initiative, for the Ministry of Defence.

Built in 1870, the 100m long three storey brick building still had its original joists and floors on the first and second storeys, which were extremely uneven with large variations in floor height. Existing stairs were constructed on concrete landings and consequently were above normal floor levels.

The architects specified acoustic flooring systems from InstaCoustic for a variety of reasons:

- The slim 208 floor system is specifically designed to provide high levels of both airborne and impact acoustic performance in refurbishment and change of use projects.
- The C40 cradle and batten system could be levelled on site and so was ideal for the uneven upper floors and for raising the floor height to match the stair levels.
- Both systems produced very good levels of acoustic performance that exceeded the requirements of Building Regulations, Document E.
- The known performance of the systems, which maintained the integrity of the building and allowed for rapid easy installation.

Being a long, narrow building it was also important that installation of the floors was carefully sequenced so as not to impact upon other trades and to allow rooms to be released as soon as they were completed.