

Margate Town Centre Regeneration
Scenic Railway Fire Damaged
Condition Survey

Job Number: B0853500B

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1 Introduction

Jacobs have been commissioned to carry out a condition surveys of the Scenic Railway Dreamland Margate, on behalf of the Margate Town Centre Regeneration Company. The structural survey is to determine the stability of the timber structure following a fire which occurred three days previously on Monday 14th April 2008 and provided recommendations on ensuring the stability of the damaged structure.

2 Condition Survey 10/4/08

2.1 Damage

Upon initial inspection a note was taken of the extent of the fire damage. The damage was limited to the following areas. (see sketch appendix A)

Workshop : Destroyed.

Station : 50% Damaged.

Track and Structure Damaged/Destroyed between frames:-

A31 to A52 Lift hills
B65 to A55 track adjacent to station
B84 to B107 run in to station

The track has also been damaged in the station to frame A1 and switch track from the workshop.

2.2 Structure Stability

With the majority of the structure undamaged the overall stability of the structure is satisfactory. The areas of concern are the fire damaged ends of the structure which have several damaged posts, braces and track boards which could easily become detached and fall.

Frames A31 to A52 are adjacent to the workshop area. The inner frame legs also provided support to the workshop wall. With the destruction of the workshop frames A35 to A48 were pulled towards the workshop during the fire. Frames A32 to A34 and A49 to A51 remain standing at each end, but are heavily fire damaged and as a result of the collapse leaning towards the workshop area. Several braces at each end are hanging loose from the frames and some of the posts are in danger of collapsing i.e. post A49R.

Frames B65 to A55 was also adjacent to the workshop, but on the other side of the building to the above. Some of these frames provided support to the workshop wall. As with frames A31 to A52 there was heavy fire damage to the posts. These are still standing but it is considered that they may collapse.

The majority of the run in track, frames B107 to B84 (direction of travel) is heavily fire damaged but mainly still standing.

The station has been damaged by the fire. Approximately half of the roof panels have collapsed with several of the steel posts to the roof deformed. The track through the station has been damaged at one end but, appears to be free of damage from frame A1 and beyond.

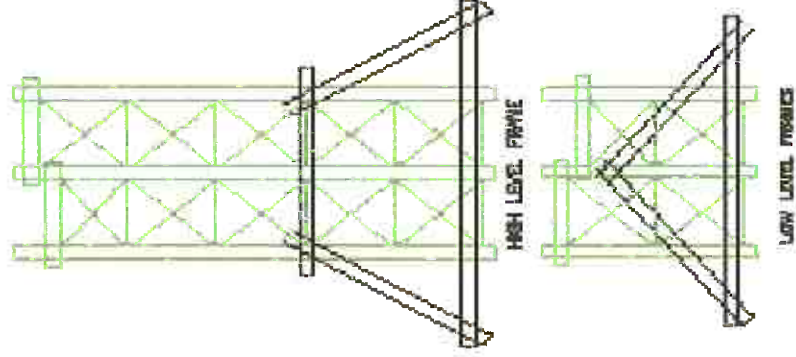
3 Recommendations

The station roof should be completely removed and the damaged steel post scrapped as it would not be possible to determine how the fire has affected the steel post other than visual deformation.

To ensure the stability of the track structure it is recommended to temporarily provide additional braces to undamaged frames adjacent to the fire damaged sections and remove all damaged frames. These braces would provide additional stability to the end of the structure until the damaged sections are rebuilt.

It is recommended that frames A55,A31,A52 and B65 be reinforced and the damaged frames in between be removed.

Frames B107 to B84 (run in track) should be completely removed.



Typical sketches of temporary bracing details

