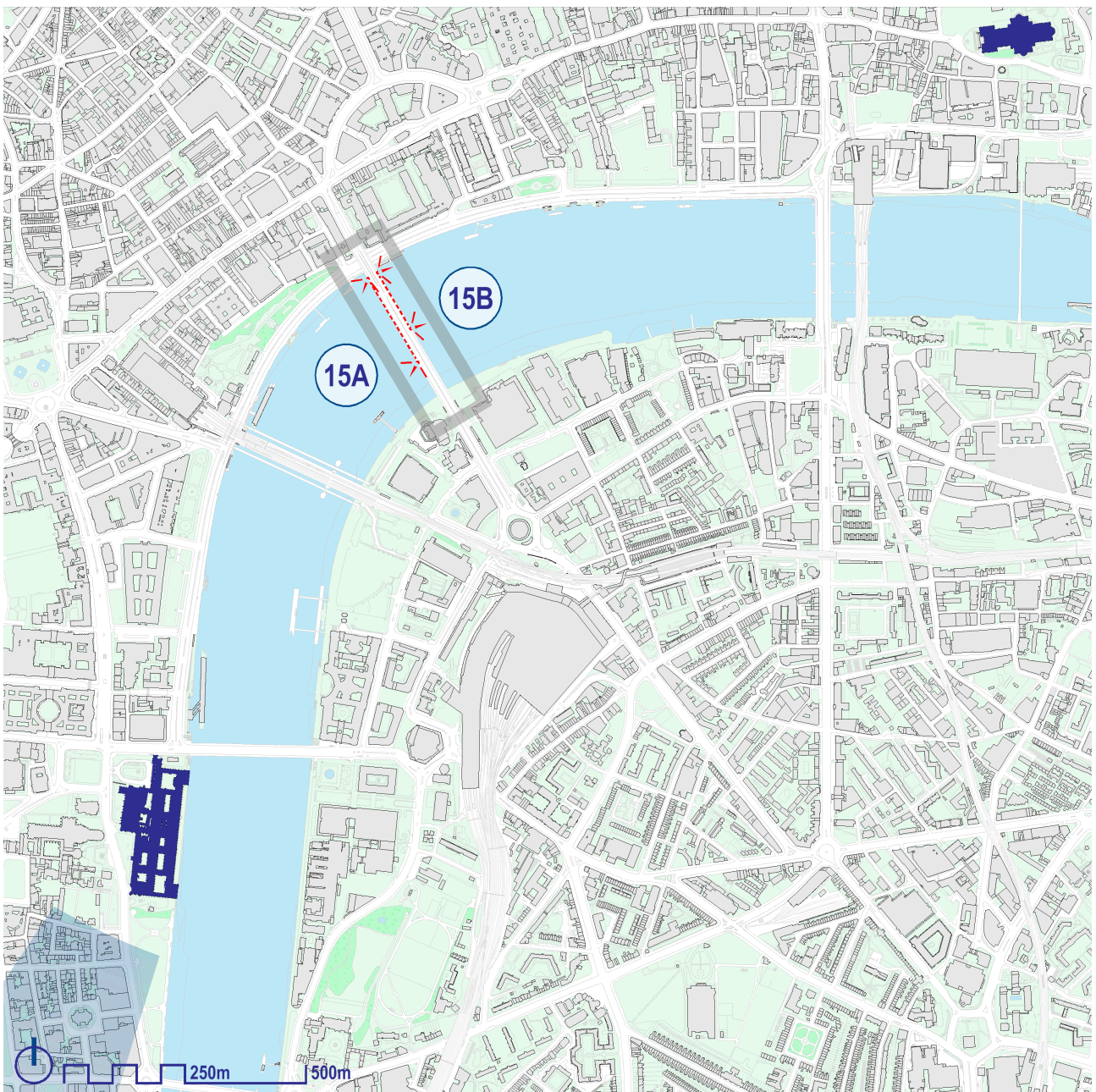


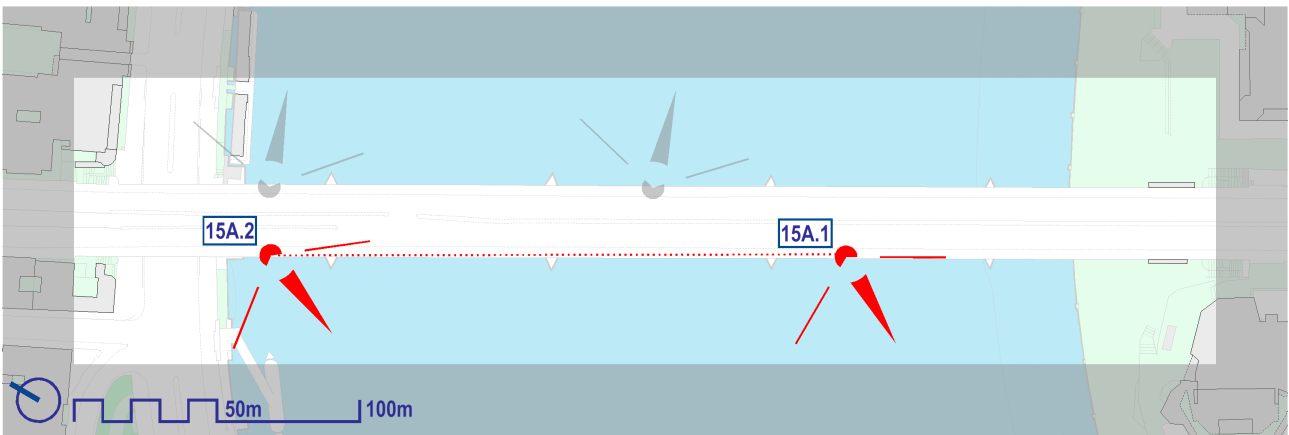
15 River Prospect: Waterloo Bridge

246 Waterloo Bridge marks the apex of the principal bend in the Thames through central London and provides extensive views to the west as far as Vauxhall, and to the east as far as Canary Wharf. The bridge is Grade II* Listed and was designed by Rendel, Palmer & Tritton with Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and was opened in 1945.



- 247 There are two Viewing Locations at Waterloo Bridge, 15A and 15B, referring to the upstream and downstream sides of the bridge.

Viewing Location 15A Waterloo Bridge: upstream



N.B for key to symbols refer to image 1



Panorama from Assessment Point 15A.1 Waterloo Bridge: upstream – close to the Lambeth bank



Panorama from Assessment Point 15A.2 Waterloo Bridge: upstream – close to the Westminster bank

Description of the View

- 248 The character of the upstream views is dominated by the considerable length and breadth of the river in the foreground. Two Assessment Points (15A.1 and 15A.2) are located on the upstream side of the bridge where these characteristics are best appreciated in relation to the townscape. A Protected Silhouette of the Palace of Westminster is applied between Assessment Points 15A.1 and 15A.2.
- 249 Buildings on the Embankment in this view are of consistent height, material and mass. They form the middle ground either side of Hungerford Bridge and strengthen the broad outer curve of the river. These buildings – including the Palace of Westminster, Portcullis House, Ministry of Defence, Whitehall Court and Embankment Place, Adelphi, and Shell Mex House, produce a varied skyline that adds visual richness to the view, as do the pylons of the Hungerford Footbridges. Trees on the Embankment soften the relationship between the river and the built fabric.
- 250 The view culminates on the outer curve with the Palace of Westminster, which is prominent on the skyline. The three principal towers of this Strategically Important Landmark stand clear against the sky, as do many of the lesser roof top elements and finials. The towers of Westminster Abbey are visible. As the bridge is crossed from north to south, buildings in Pimlico can be glimpsed in the background of the Palace of Westminster. The ability of the viewer to recognise and appreciate the Strategically Important Landmark must not be undermined. There is a marked difference in the visual experience of the Palace of Westminster at different times of day and in different light conditions. The London Eye forms a visually permeable counterpoint to the Strategically Important Landmark.

Landmarks include:

Palace of Westminster (I) †
 Towers of Westminster Abbey (I)
 Royal Festival Hall (I)
 The London Eye
 Cleopatra's Needle (I)
 Whitehall Court (II*)

Also in the views:

Shell Centre
 County Hall (II*)
 Norman Shaw North (I) & South (II*) (Formerly Old & New Scotland Yard)
 Methodist Central Hall (II*)
 Tower of Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields (I)
 Embankment Place
 Shell Mex House (II)

() Grade of Listed Building

† Strategically Important Landmark

- 251 The convex inner curve of the river, to the left of the view, has a less consistent townscape but includes several listed 20th Century buildings of note, forming the middle ground of this view. Rows of trees along the Embankment are also important elements in the view. The viewer is more aware of the southern bank when on the northern landing of the bridge. Here the depth of the view past Millbank Tower extends to the Vauxhall area.



View from Assessment Point 15A.1 Waterloo Bridge: upstream – close to the Lambeth Bank (Centre of the second span from the Lambeth Bank). 530806.0E 180465.1N. Camera height 16.60m AOD. Aiming at Palace of Westminster (The Central Tower, above the lobby crossing). Bearing 209.2°, distance 1.1km.



Visual Management Guidance

- 252 Development within this River Prospect must contribute to the settings of spaces and buildings immediately fronting the river, including the Strategically Important Landmark of the Palace of Westminster, and the other landmarks.
- 253 Development proposals likely to affect the World Heritage Site should pay regard to the guidance set out in the Westminster World Heritage Site Management Plan. It is recommended that English Heritage is consulted on all relevant proposals at an early stage.

Foreground and Middle Ground

- 254 250 Development in the foreground and middle ground should not compromise the existing riverscape character or obscure significant landmarks.

- 255 Development should not cause adverse impact to the World Heritage Site and should not compromise a viewer's ability to appreciate its Outstanding Universal Value.

Background

- 256 New clusters of tall buildings may emerge within the Waterloo and Vauxhall/Nine Elms Opportunity Areas. Tall buildings are already consented at Vauxhall/Nine Elms and it is important that further proposals are designed to relate to and strengthen the composition of the emerging cluster there. New buildings to the right of Millbank Tower should not detract from the dominance of the Palace of Westminster in the view, should preserve the dominance of the trees in this part of the view, and contribute to the horizontal emphasis of the buildings on Millbank.



View from Assessment Point 15A.2 Waterloo Bridge: upstream – close to the Westminster bank (Entering Bridge from the Westminster bank). 530703.3E 180638.4N. Camera height 16.40m AOD. Aiming at Palace of Westminster (The Central Tower, above the lobby crossing). Bearing 201.1°, distance 1.2km.

- 257 Development should not cause adverse impact to the World Heritage Site and should not compromise a viewer's ability to appreciate its Outstanding Universal Value. The Protected Silhouette should not be altered by development appearing in its background from any position at or between Assessment Points 15A.1 and 15A.2.

Management of the Viewing Location

- 258 Viewing plaques should be updated and repositioned to aid viewers' enjoyment of the views.