



Delivering sensitive structural conservation to stabilise a nationally significant medieval landmark through decades of phased repair and minimal intervention

**Location:** Salisbury, Wiltshire

**Client:** Dean & Chapter



Heritage / Conservation / Landmark / Repair

### Project Overview

Salisbury Cathedral is one of the UK's most iconic Gothic structures, constructed in the 13<sup>th</sup> century and famed for its 123m tall spire. Built on shallow foundations over marshy ground, the cathedral has required careful structural stewardship throughout its life. Our involvement has spanned more than 30 years, contributing to a long-term Major Repair Programme that systematically addressed deterioration across the building fabric, including stonework, roofing and structural elements, through a series of carefully coordinated phases.

### Engineering Challenges

The cathedral presents complex engineering challenges due to its age, scale and ground conditions. The additional weight of the spire has historically caused movement and stress within the structure, requiring ongoing monitoring and targeted intervention. Our approach prioritised minimal intervention, retaining as much original fabric as possible while ensuring safety and longevity. We delivered over 20 major repair schemes to key areas such as the tower and west front, working closely with specialist craftspeople and using traditional materials including local stone and oak.

### Delivery & Legacy

The repair programme evolved into a continuous cycle of conservation works, culminating in recent phases at the east end involving extensive stone replacement and façade repairs. Our role extended beyond design to collaboration, mentoring and knowledge-sharing, helping to support future generations of skilled workers at the culturally significant landmark.

