

# Old Tobelhof, Zürich

2016

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It is an institution in Zurich: The "Alte Tobelhof", where a restaurant has been serving guests from all over the region for over fifty years. Because the business no longer met today's requirements, the city of Zurich as owner had the listed courtyard extensively renovated.

## The project

In the more than 500 years of its existence, the Alte Tobelhof has grown into a real hamlet. The location not far from the Zurich Zoo, the magnificent view over the Glatt Valley and the culinary quality of the cuisine make the country inn a popular destination. It is thus one of the most successful establishments in the restaurant portfolio of the city of Zurich. However, the years have not passed without leaving their mark on the buildings. The infrastructure no longer met the requirements of a modern restaurant. The kitchen was cramped and winding. In order to serve the guests, the service staff sometimes had to walk long distances with the food. In addition, the building services were in need of renovation and the fire protection measures no longer complied with current regulations. In 2014, the city therefore approved 13.5 million Swiss francs for renovation and a new building for staff rooms. Timbatec accompanied the work from the beginning as civil and timber engineer as well as fire protection planner.

## The construction method

In place of the old supporting structure, a new wooden element building was erected that meets today's requirements in terms of statics and building physics. The requirements for fire protection, for which Timbatec was responsible for the planning, were particularly high: Since the main building is just over 11 meters high, a fire resistance of 60 instead of only 30 minutes must be guaranteed.

## The challenge

There was a great need for action, especially in the construction in the area of the kitchen and storage rooms. The entire interior supporting structure had to be replaced and was therefore demolished; the exterior walls and roof could remain in place. To secure the listed Tobelhof roof during the work, tree trunks were used as temporary supports.



Right picture: The new wooden building planned by Timbatec.



New fire protection cladding was inserted between the existing beams



Lounge for employees in the new building



View into the buffet area in the old building (Photos Roger Frei)

### Construction Data

- BSH structural timber 70 m<sup>3</sup>
- Floor slabs (concrete) 250 m<sup>2</sup>
- Wood-based panels 1750 m<sup>2</sup>

### Services of Timbatec

- SIA phase 31 preliminary project
- Cost estimate
- SIA Phase 32 Construction project
- Fire protection planning
- Statics and construction
- Site supervision and site inspections
- SIA Phase 41 Tendering and comparison of offers
- SIA Phase 51 Implementation project
- As-built survey incl. construction documentation
- Renovation proposals
- Formwork and reinforcement plans

### Architecture

Phalt Architekten AG  
8045 Zurich

### Construction management

Jäger Baumanagement AG  
8006 Zurich

### Client

Office for Structural Engineering of the City of Zurich  
8021 Zurich

### Timber construction

Strabag AG  
8315 Lindau

### Master builder

BWT Bau AG  
8051 Zurich