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Site Photographs

01. View of West Yard from the south side of Camden Lock, with the Roving Bridge elevated approach across the water.
02. View of West Yard from the raised circulation area highlighting the visible roofscape

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03. Public circulation and seating focussed around the canal edge, with the backdrop of the Grade II Listed 'Interchange Building' Popular during lunchtimes, the West Yard has a close-knit, ad-hoc market atmosphere.
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2.5 Existing Layout & Use

The West Yard is well-served by ground level access points from Camden Lock Place to the North, Regents Canal Towpath to the South West, Camden Lock to the South East and Middle Yard to the East. Main pedestrian footfall from the Camden High Street enters from Camden Lock and Camden Lock Place.

The current layout of A5 units in the West Yard are clustered into three zones; 14 units to the West, 10 to the North East corner, and 10 to the South East. Pedestrian circulation is around the perimeter, with smaller throughway connections in-between the stalls. A larger breakout space is focussed around the tree planters by Camden Lock Place entrance, with views towards the canal. A temporary non-alcoholic bar is also located in this area, with some covered seating.



Existing 1:100 Site Model



Camden West Yard
 Existing Plan NTS

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
|  | West Yard Zone |  | Planning boundary |
|  | Existing KERB Bar |  | Public Circulation & Key Access |
|  | Existing KERB Food Stalls | | |

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2.6 Constraints and Opportunities

01. Existing signage is varied and unregulated. Tenants exploit every inch of space for display, resulting in a messy, ad-hoc style.
02. Lighting is currently ad-hoc and unregulated. Tenants add their own products, often varying in design and specification. New stalls provide an opportunity to integrate correct and adequate lighting for tenants.
03. The current stalls are poorly constructed from temporary materials, that will not stand to last any significant length of time.
04. Internal layouts of stalls are cramped and unplanned, without sufficient allocated areas for storage and appliances.
05. 'back of house' areas for storage, gas supply and services are highly visible, unplanned & potentially dangerous

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2.8 Design Brief & Objectives

The design should provide adequate space for traders to offer a quality product and have an architectural sensitivity that respects the historic setting whilst providing a high quality canvas for the activity of the market.

Structures should seek to dramatically improve the existing build quality, thereby in turn elevating both the visitor and tenant experience for one of Camden Market's main public realm spaces.

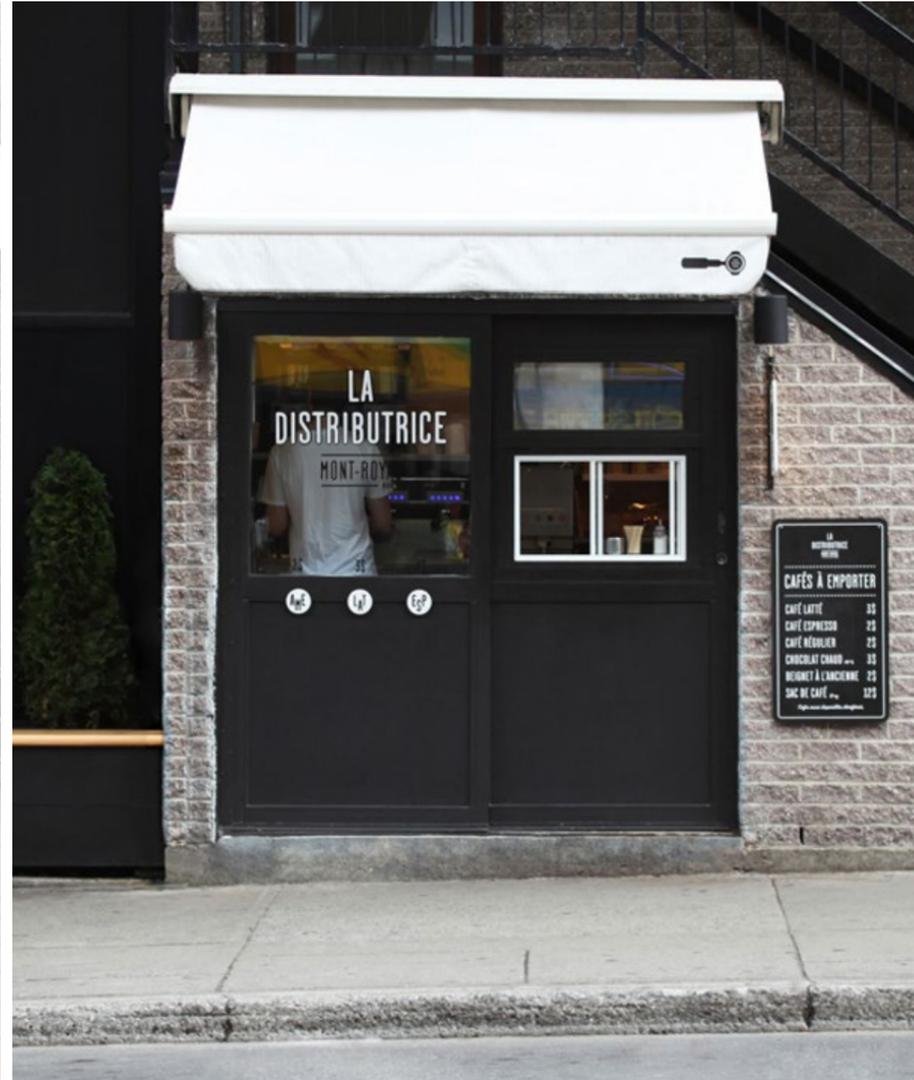
The brief sets out that the units are to have minimal impact on the historic fabric of the market including the granite setts of the ground plane public realm.

As this is a temporary application, the units will be constructed from a pre-fabricated modular and lightweight system, without foundations and able to be demounted at short notice.

The units are to be modest in scale and have an architecture that reflects the robust industrial setting.



Temporary Nature



Food Servery

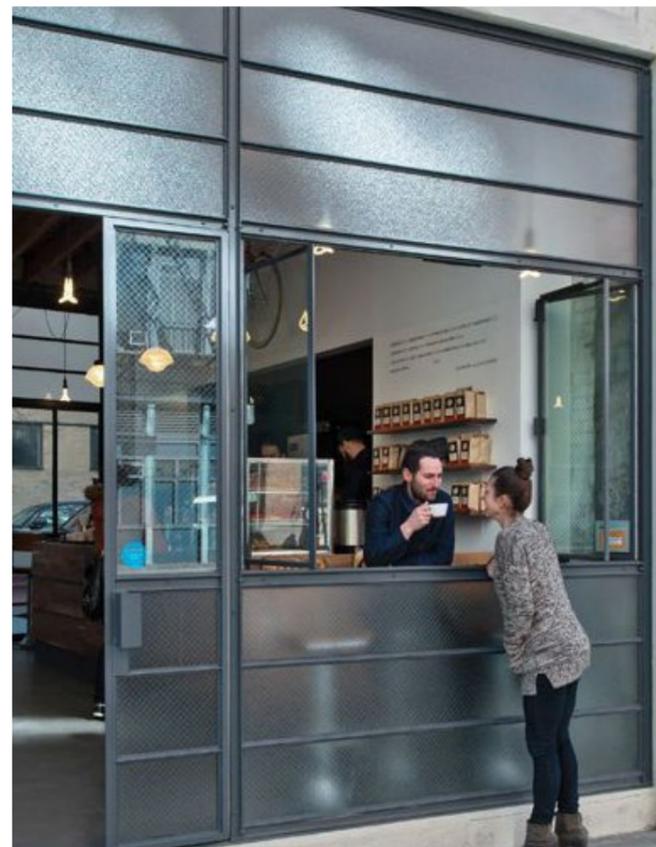


Robust Detail

2.9 Design Approach

The design for the food units is approached from the core principles of providing a robust, simple and ultimately functional module. The architecture should seek inspiration from 'temporary' aesthetic, in relation to establishing a 'light touch' to the historic fabric of the site, with a small palette of materials that compliment and enhance both the visitor and operator's experience.

The images to the left are given as precedent examples of ideas for materiality, form and scale, exploring how materials such as steel can interface with brick and timber.



1. Staggered frontage, Deklab Market, NYC
2. Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec's Temporary Kiosque, Paris.
3. Split-door servery hatch. GAC Cafe, Manifold Architecture Studio
4. Perforated display wall. Kropka Tiny Bar, Poland
5. Pop-up temporary market stalls

