



Studios/Offices/Workshops Available from 84 sq.ft (c.4,500 sq.ft total)

Craft Central, The Forge, 397-411 Westferry Road, London E14 3AE

Cherryman

Location

Craft Central is located towards the southern tip of the Isle of Dogs on Westferry Road, a main thoroughfare around the Isle of Dogs. The property is also a short distance from both Mudchute and Island Gardens DLR stations ([click here](#) for live departures) providing a regular service to Canary Wharf (6 mins), Bank (17 mins), Lewisham (10 mins), City Airport (20 mins) and Stratford (19 mins). Thames Clipper also operates from Masthouse Terrace Pier which is within 5 minutes walk from Craft Central which runs a direct regular TFL boat service between Greenwich, City of London and Waterloo [Click here](#) for more details.

Canary Wharf, to the north, comprises approximately 17 million sq ft of office and retail accommodation. Amenities include over 200 shops, bars and restaurants with 4 retail malls. [click here](#) for further information.



History

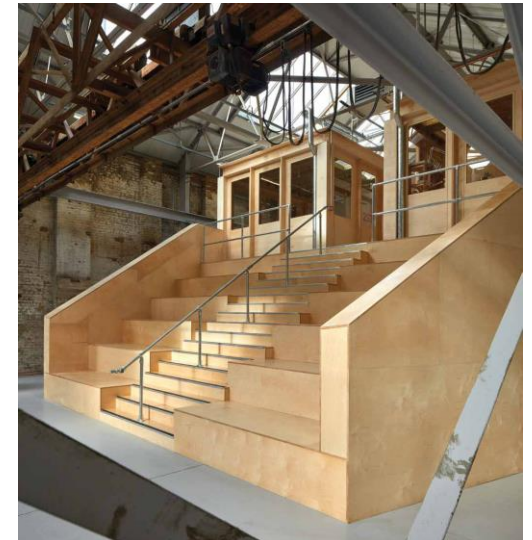
The Forge was built in 1860 as an engineering works associated with the ship building industry. The London shipbuilding industry went into steep decline and after the 1860's most iron navy and merchant ships were built on the Clyde and at Barrow which could also take larger ships. In 1890 The Forge was converted into a workshop for structural engineers and bridge builders and made plates for box girder bridges, many still in use across the world. Since 1951 it has only been used for occasional storage.

It was saved by a Grade II listing in 2003. The old roof was replaced, services and windows added, including in the six keyed semi-circular arched recesses above Westferry Road and external wall buttresses necessary with the removal of supporting buildings. The Forge is built of Flemish bond brick, by which the short and long sides of the bricks are alternated to give great strength.



Today the building is occupied by Craft Central who approached Emrys Architects with a brief to create a collection of studios, workshops and an exhibition space. Emrys designed a free-standing two storey timber structure that, by not touching the original building, maintains its heritage value and integrity while permitting contemporary new use within the immense internal space. The structure provides a series of self-contained studios, meeting rooms, and a triple height gallery at the front of the building.

Amongst all this incredible history, a free-standing, two-storey birch plywood construction proudly stands within the interior of this vast building. Housing versatile studio space bathed in natural light, the renovation was completed to a high specification, offering one of the very best creative spaces in London.



Availability

The design can be adapted to allow varying unit sizes. Studios range from 83 sq. ft up to 345 sq.ft and make maximum use of natural light. Studios can be combined to provide larger units up to say 1,000 sq.ft (subject to availability). The Forge also offers shared workspaces for people who want somewhere to work occasionally rather than commit to a full-time studio.

The Forge also provides co-working and shared space and a triple-height gallery, suitable for venue hire.

The Forge is a discerning location for craftspeople and businesses wishing to link the iconic craftsmanship of the past to the creative world today.

Amenities

- Car-parking
- High-speed wi-fi
- Entry phone system
- An all-inclusive rent
- On-site kitchen (free tea & coffee!)
- 24-hour access
- Heating

Terms

Licences for the studios are available on an all-inclusive (heating, electricity, wi-fi, VAT, Business Rates, ventilation, use of common facilities including wash-up areas, a well-equipped kitchen and break-out area, and a meeting room).

For co-working and venue hire inquiries please enquirer for more details.



About Craft Central

Craft Central is registered charity for 40 years supporting craftsmanship and craftspeople, encouraging the public to appreciate craft skills and buy fine craft products.

The charity can provide many resources for creative enterprises and individuals including studio spaces; co-working spaces and desks; educational workshops and classes, plus a busy programme of events held in their gallery.

By locating to Craft Central occupiers can exhibit and sell fine craft products at our events, whilst the ever-growing network of designer-makers enables craftspeople to link with colleagues in the wider craft and creative community.

Contact



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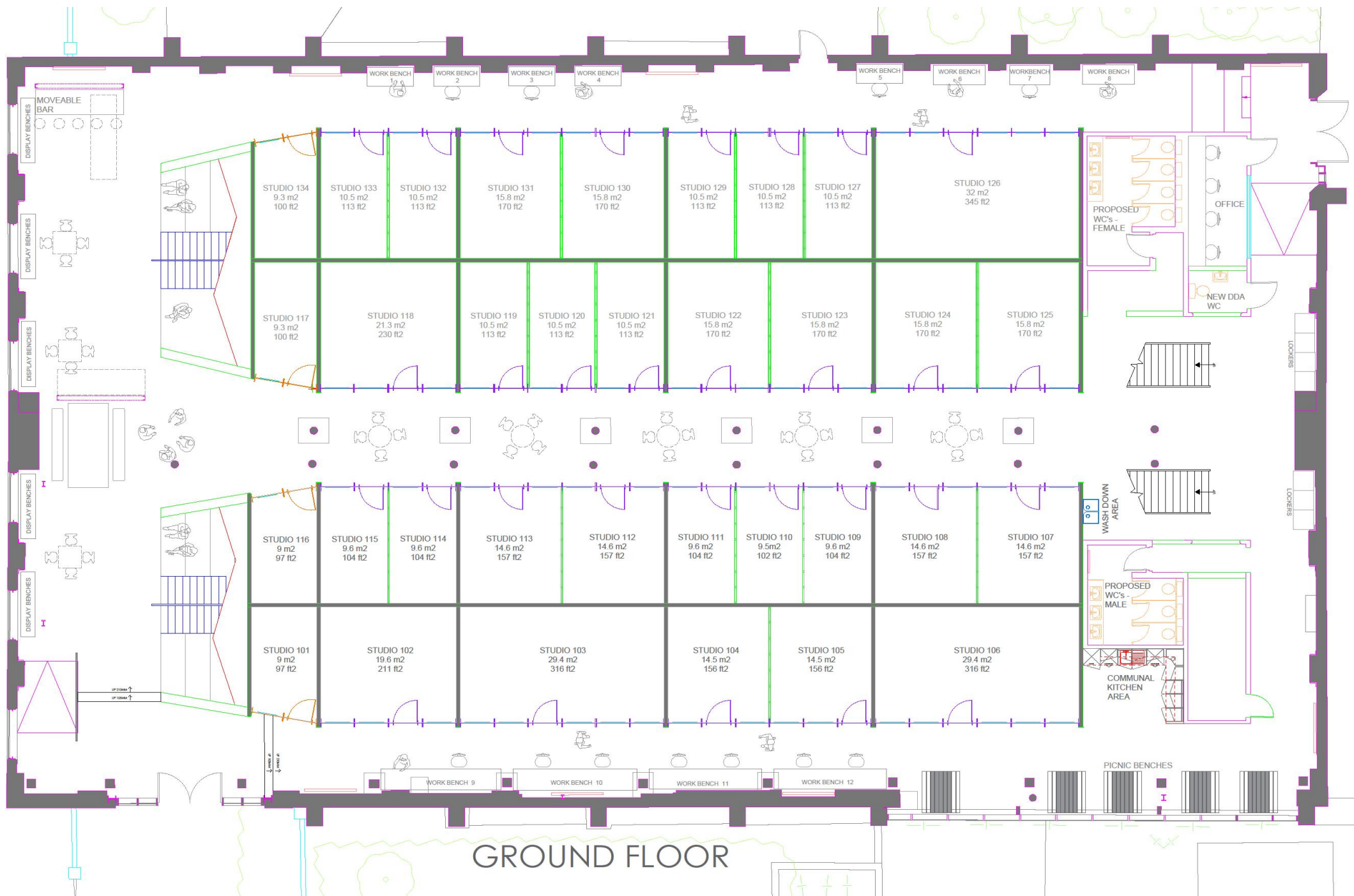
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February 2020

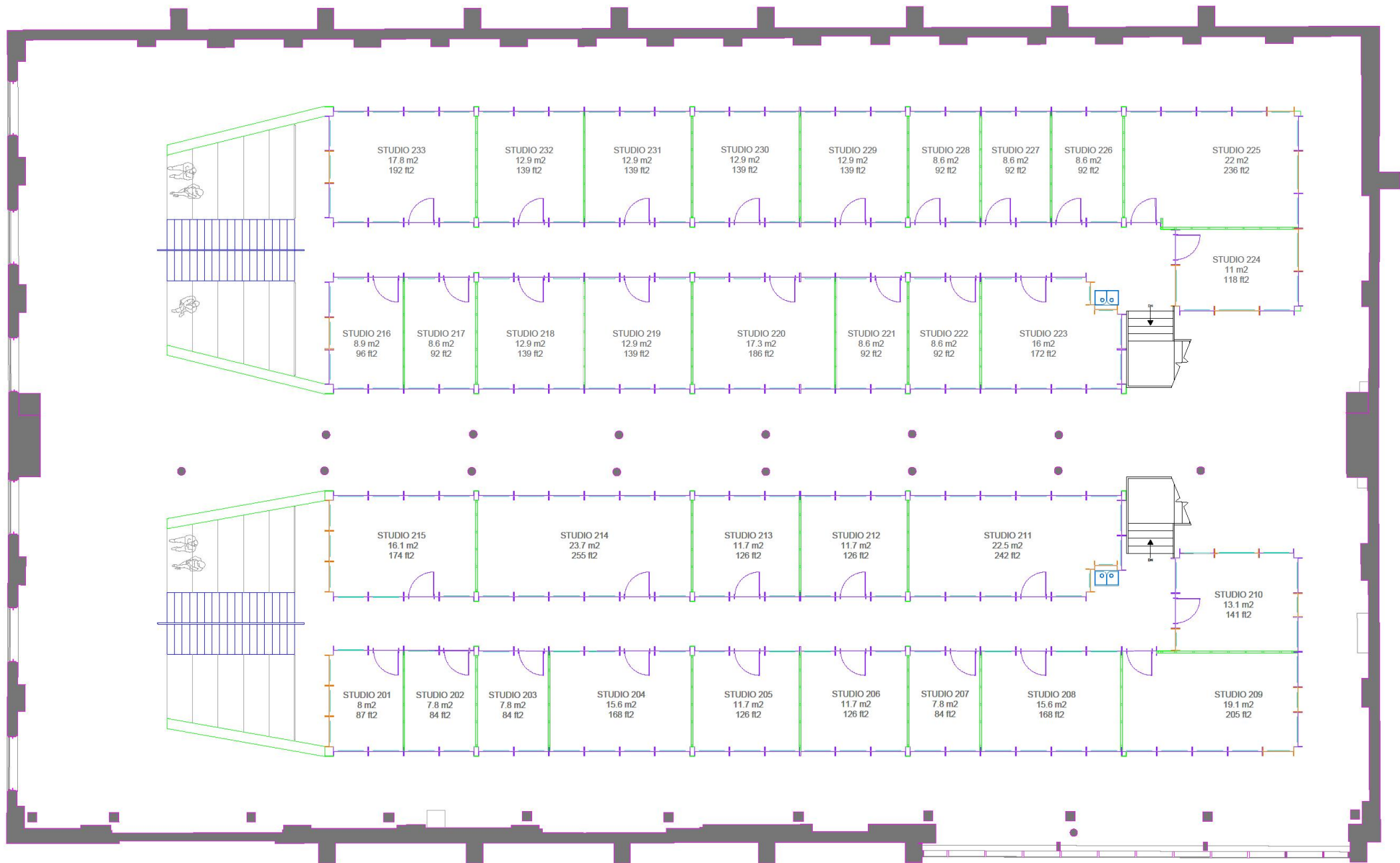
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NB. Dividing panels between the various studios highlighted in green can be removed to create larger spaces



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