

## THE ROTUNDA (AREA C)

### PAUL BARTLETT

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This cylindrical 81 metre (265 ft) high-rise building has been one of Birmingham's most recognisable landmarks since its completion in 1965. Architect James A. Roberts originally wanted it to be twice as high, so it missed out on being even more of a major landmark. Its symmetry identifies it as the same building no matter what part of the city it is viewed from, whether shown whole, peeping out from behind or reflected in other buildings. It is a point-reference between other landmark buildings when approaching the city, and at close range its curves anticipate the later Selfridges. Grade II listed, the Rotunda is the only building from the 1960s' Bullring development to be integrated into redevelopment of the area.

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