

BALVAC

DELIVERING SPECIALIST EXPERTISE

SINCE 1933



CELEBRATING 80 YEARS OF SPECIALIST EXPERTISE

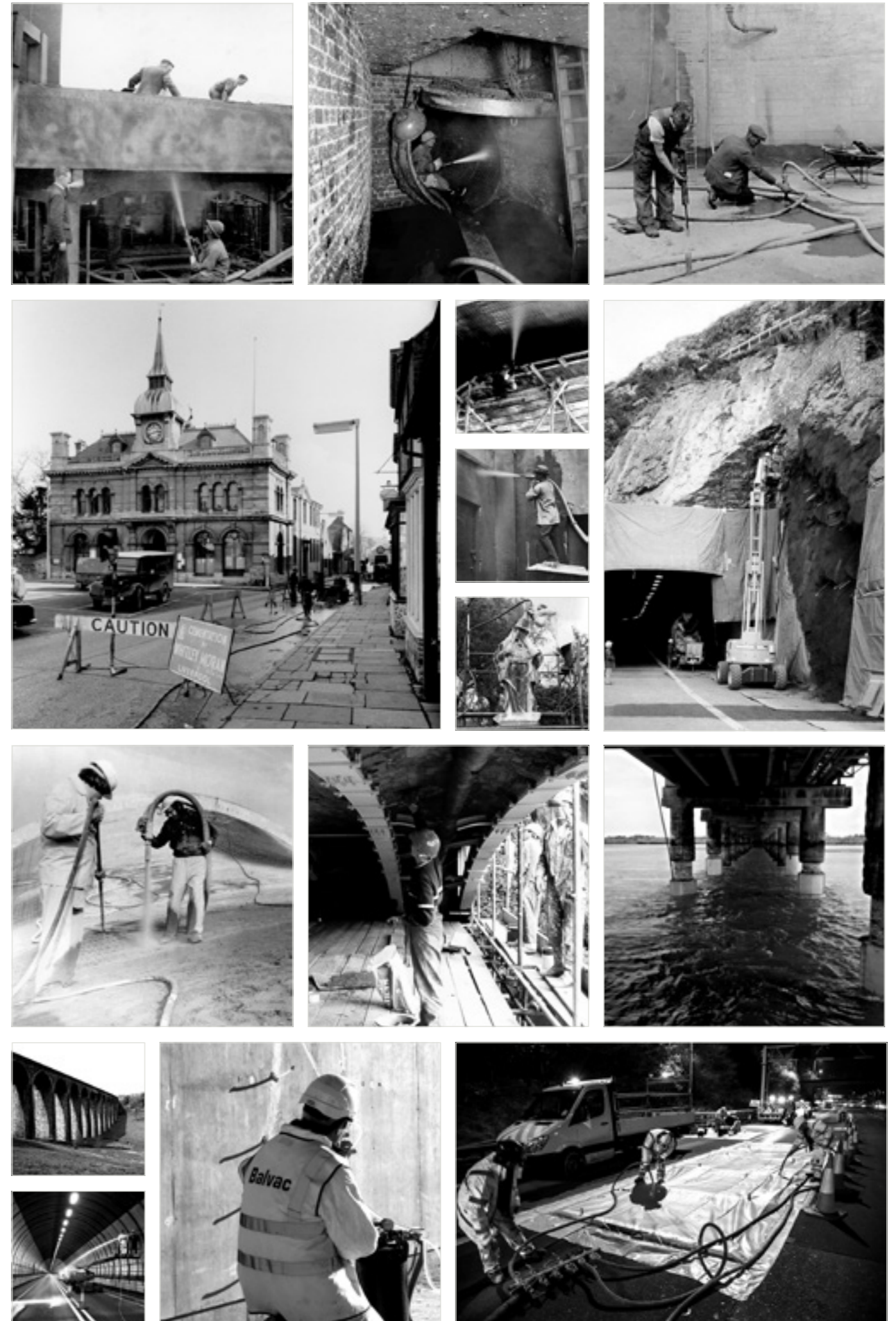
1933-PRESENT DAY

Balvac Ltd was originally incorporated in Liverpool as Whitley Moran & Company Ltd in October 1933.

Since then the company has survived the Second World War, developed various patented techniques for concrete repair and been acquired by Balfour Beatty.

Our name has changed twice as well, initially becoming Balvac Whitley Moran Ltd in 1986 before we eventually settled on our current name in 2003.

During our transformation from gunite professionals to the highly specialised, technical structural repair company we are today, we've been fortunate enough to work on a broad variety of projects both in the UK and across the world.





DEDICATED TO CONTINUOUS INNOVATION

1933-PRESENT DAY



*Top: Colquhoun-Moran cavity lining in load bearing test.
Above: Statue of Lady Jerningham being given the Balvac treatment – from Tomorrow's World, 1975.
Left: A sprayed concrete gun, 1955.*

Gunite was invented in the early 1900s by American taxidermist Carl Akeley. Dry concrete was blown out of a hose with compressed air while water was introduced at the nozzle as it was released. By 1937 Whitley Moran & Co. Ltd engineers were busy designing improvements to the cement guns they used to apply the Gunite.

In the mid-1930s Whitley Moran & Co. Ltd developed a patented technique known as the Colquhoun-Moran Cavity Lining for Tunnels, Subways and Underground Works. The same principles are still at work today as we provide technical solutions to structural problems in various subterranean environments.

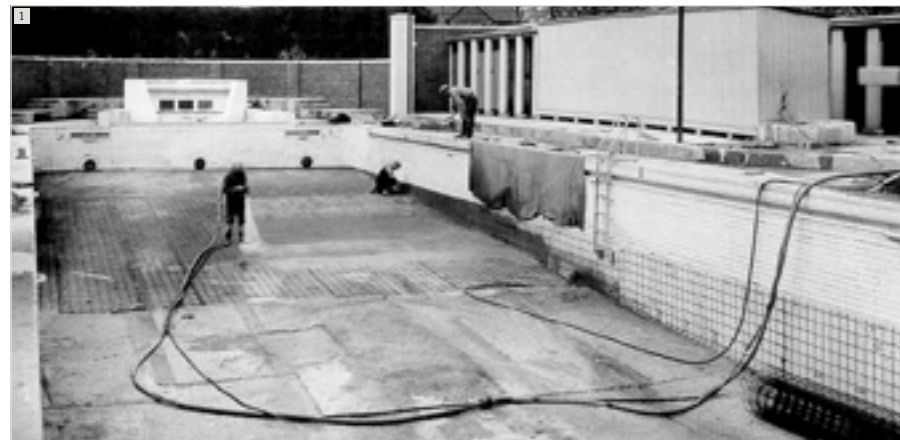
On 7th September 1954, Whitley Moran & Co. Ltd was granted a patent for improvements to the gunite process. This pioneering invention was the forerunner to a number of other innovations such as spray applied levelling and fairing coats.

In the early 1970s, James Milne was working for Balfour Beatty in East Pakistan and Bangladesh. While there he developed a unique vacuum assisted process that was used to repair crumbling brick bridges. Further development by Balfour Beatty Power Construction Ltd. followed and the Balvac Process was patented in 1973. It was so innovative that the BBC featured it on its flagship science programme 'Tomorrow's World' in 1975.

PROJECTS

1933-PRESENT DAY

1. Cement gun repairs to a beautiful outdoor swimming pool in Rock Park, Barnstaple, 1935.
2. Working at height in 1954, Skerryvore Lighthouse.
3. Repairing wartime fire damage, Gladstone Dock Liverpool, 1946.
4. The Mayor of Liverpool, Alderman Reginald R. Bailey, congratulating our Skerryvore Lighthouse gunite team on a job well done, 1954.
5. Chicken Rock Lighthouse was heavily damaged by fire in 1960 and Whitley Moran & Co. Ltd was contracted to repair it in 1962 using gunite and pressure grouting.
6. Built in the glamorous location of Warrington this vault was commissioned by Barclays to house some of their extensive bullion reserves. Our responsibility on this project was to build the cable supported roof using gunite.
7. Pier replacement works to Greatham Bridge West Sussex, 1987.
8. Repair and refurbishment of Woodlands Road Flyover, Altrincham, 1996.
9. Protecting the steelwork of the new headquarters building for the Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation was the largest project of its kind at the time, 1983-1984.
10. Fire bursts from vents 8 and 9 during the Summit Tunnel fire, Greater Manchester/West Yorkshire border, 1984. We repaired the damaged tunnel using spray applied gunite.
11. The now demolished cooling towers of Thorpe Marsh Power Station, 1989. We repaired the cracks using vacuum assisted resin injection.
12. Balvac spent five years on site at Albert Dock, Liverpool, using vacuum assisted resin injection techniques to stabilise and strengthen extensive vulnerable areas of brickwork.
13. Kingston Bridge, Glasgow. We were involved throughout the design stage providing specialist advice and carried out post tensioning and plate bonding strengthening techniques.
14. The fully refurbished Thornton Viaduct from the West Span view, now open for cycling and walking as part of the Great Northern Railway Trail between Cullingworth and Queensbury.



A MODERN COMPANY. BUILT ON TRADITIONAL VALUES.

Looking back at some of the images in our archive, it's clear that many things have changed for the better since the early years of the company.

Health and safety legislation and practices have, quite rightly, undergone a revolution and we are committed to ensuring the elimination of all workplace injuries, lost time incidents and ill health as a result of our activities.

We are also dedicated to becoming more sustainable in our work and building long-term customer relationships based on successful project delivery, co-operation and trust.

With this in mind we look forward to the opportunities that the next eighty years will bring. But as we do so there is one thing that we are certain will stay the same, and that is our commitment to delivering technically brilliant solutions combined with quality, value and outstanding service.

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