

Canada Water Library

Southwark, London

The idea of a free standing object in space is quite appropriate for a library, since it is a portal to the discovery of other worlds. As a piece of sculpture it binds together a tube station, a stretch of open water and a plaza and makes the precursor landmark of a substantial new development on London's Canada Water.

The inverted pyramid form contains a readily accessible café, performance space, internet points and popular books within a small footprint at ground level, whilst the expanding shape above enables the containment of the main library within a single, galleried, skylit double volume. The whole is clad in aluminium sheets, anodised a light bronze with sequined perforations.



Left: A new place and resource to explore, read, learn, meet and be creative in.

Bottom: A timber-lined central spiral staircase links the ground floor entrance and cafe area to the main library space.



Address

Canada Water, London

Client

London Borough of Southwark

Local Authority

London Borough of Southwark

Content

New Library building including a café, learning facilities and a performance space.

Completion Date

November 2011

Value

£14 million

Size

2,900 m²

Key Consultants

Structural Engineers
Adams Kara Taylor
Service Engineers
Hoare Lea Consulting Engineers
Environmental Engineers
Waterman Civils
Landscape Architects
Edco Design
Quantity Surveyors
Nigel Rose LLP
Acoustic
Sandy Brown Associates
Construction/Programme
Profile Construction Consultants

CZWG team

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