



The New British Library, St Pancras, London

THE TASK

TPS Landscape Architects provided the design and contract supervision of the hard and soft landscape for the Completion Stage of this nationally important project.

The design elements included roof terraces, car park access external works and interior planting.

Due to the complex requirements of the site location bordering the proposed Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL) at St Pancras Station, protection measures had to be incorporated into the external works. The site boundary of the car park had gabion and reinforced retaining walls, providing protection against flood risk. Space was also allocated for future strategic development of CTRL.

The Building Design included roof terraces extending the internal space to three stories, each serving a different purpose, including a Restaurant Terrace, and Readers' Terrace directly accessed from the building and for public use.

The terraces were designed to meet the architect's brief for flexibility of use by the client for outdoor functions associated with the Library.

Quality materials were used in the design and included hardwood decking, steel pergola, and Portland stone paving and wall copings.

The design and specification of the planting design were particularly challenging for the aspect and growing conditions. Light weight soil mixes, drainage and irrigation were specified to reduce the weight on the roof structure and provide the necessary elements to achieve the optimum conditions for plant growth continued development.

Health and Safety issues for maintenance operations on the roof gardens were an integral part of the design process.

CLIENT:

The British Library

COMPLETION DATE:

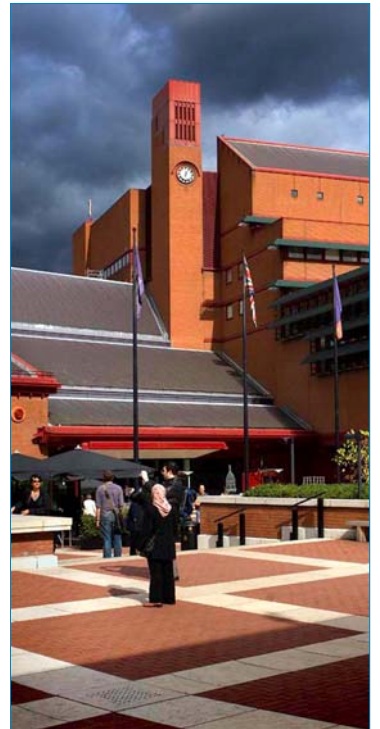
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TPS also provided the design and specification for interior planting at the main entrance and restaurant spaces within the building.

The specimen plants were selected to provide a sculptural foliage affect, surrounding the restaurant space at high level. Guide wires secured to the structural columns allows vines to climb vertically and weeping plants to fall over the supporting ring beam towards the restaurant floor, to achieve the maximum visual impact within this public area.

The design achieved enhancement and 'greening' so it could be an integral part of the architecture of this important building in a prime central London location where space is at a premium.



FURTHER DETAILS

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