

Euston Station Plaza, London

Location

UK

Client

Network Rail

Budget

Circa £10m

(Architecture, Engineering & Landscape)

Period

2008 - 2012

Services

Masterplanning

Detailed Design

Website

www.cbastudios.com

Euston Station is a major transport hub, acting as the main National Rail network for all northbound travel as well as a central London underground and bus station. The plaza outside the main entrance receives a very high volume of pedestrian traffic. The proposed design had to accommodate this while providing a larger area for retail and softer landscape areas for those lingering in the space. Three large office towers were constructed on the forecourt in the 1970's; consequently, the space was dark, out of date and a poor welcome point to London visitors. The key technical challenge to overcome was the fact that the plaza is in effect a roof garden, sitting directly above underground car-parking.

CBA designed a simple, uncluttered space with dark bands of granite following the building grid and echoing the black granite columns of the station façade. Permanent seating combined with tree planters which, together with low retaining walls around the new retail pavilion were also clad with black granite. Lighting was integrated into steps, retaining walls and planters to define changes in level and uplighters highlighted the multi-stemmed birch, used to provide vertical accent, without causing visual severance between the station entrance and retail pavilions. Thin bands of red granite lead to a relocated listed statue of Stephenson and reflect the granite used within the base of the statue itself.



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