

# The New Library Magdalene College

## Cambridge, United Kingdom



The plan of the three-storey building is generated from a tartan grid with alternate spacings of approximately 5.4m and 2m. Structural brick piers are located where the 2m grid lines intersect, at roof level these brick piers become chimneys, characteristic of the roofscape of the College and the wider city of Cambridge.

The CLT roof lanterns are square in plan and formed by two pitched roofs intersecting at right angles. Bespoke steel connectors support the lanterns in the corners at the bottom of each valley. This detail was conceived by consulting engineers Smith and Wallwork and further developed and optimized for manufacture and assembly by Eurban. Such collaboration between the consultants at the design phase as well as during the construction phase was key to the success of the project.

The square roof lanterns allow light to penetrate the entire building. Each of the four sides of the 12 lanterns is fitted with a triangular piece of glazing, so natural light from each orientation filters into the space. The roof lanterns, in combination with light wells connecting the three levels, result in a light-filled space even at the centre of the library's relatively deep plan. Shafts of light animate the interiors throughout the day, from sunrise to sunset.

The CLT was manufactured and supplied by Stora Enso, and it was designed and installed by our partner Eurban. This project description was authored by Sarah Newine Moore at Eurban.



RIBA Stirling Prize 2022 Winner



RIBA National Award 2022 and RIBA East Award 2022



Winner of Wood Awards 2021 – Gold Award



Winner of Wood Awards 2021 – Buildings – Education and Public Sector Award



Winner of Civic Trust Awards 2022



General

**Delivery year**  
2019

**Building type**  
Education

**Area (m<sup>2</sup>)**  
1525

**Storeys**  
3



Photo credit: Nick Kane

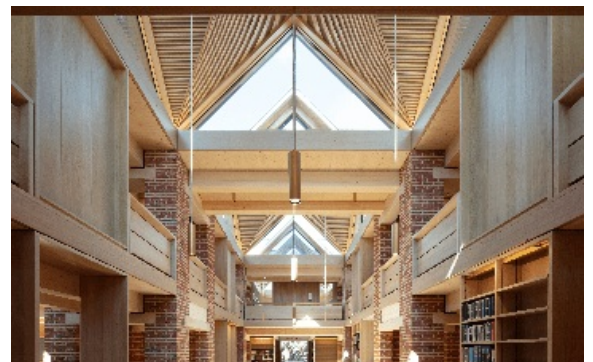


Photo credit: Nick Kane



## Products

**Products**  
CLT

**Product volume (m<sup>3</sup>)**  
180

**Product quality**  
Non Visible Quality (NVI) and Visual quality (VI)



Photo credit: Nick Kane



## Team

**Partner of Stora Enso**  
Eurban

**Structural Engineer**  
Smith & Wallwork  
Eurban

**Main contractor**  
Cocksedge Building Contractors

**Architect**  
Niall McLaughlin Architects

**MEP Designer**  
Max Fordham

**Specialist Timber Contractor**  
Eurban  
Neue Holzbau - Glulam manufactured and supplied to Eurban



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