





Finnieston Substation

Industrial design for a non-industrial site

In response to a major increase in power demand, a new substation was required in Glasgow's west end. An existing power company service yard in the area was chosen as the site. NORR led a feasibility study to develop a master plan with a design for the substation, provide future residential development and preserve all four of the area's bowling greens with their related clubhouses and pavilions.

As a functional industrial building, the substation had to meet critical technical criteria. As part of a community, its design had to blend with the streetscape, so NORR created a curved building form and used detailed ashlar stone along the primary frontage to reflect the historic Victorian terraces opposite. The rear façade is more industrial in feel with a grid of offset aluminum mesh panels punctuated by a number of louvered openings. The flat zinc roof has a large overhanging edge with a slight upward slope that will tie into future residential. The finished building appears more sculptural than practical and creates a strong counterpoint to its Grade A listed neighbour.

CLIENT Scottish Power
PORTFOLIO Industrial

SIZE 16,684 SF (1,550 SM)
LOCATION Glasgow, Scotland, UK

April 2014

SERVICES Architecture

AWARDS

DATE

 2016 Glasgow Institute of Architects (GIA) Awards Commendation - Best Commercial category

Industrial

We design industrial projects of all scopes and sizes. The integrated thinking of our architects, master planners, engineers and project managers, enable efficient space utilization with planned flexibility from initial concept and feasibility stages to detailed design. The result: high-quality schemes that optimize a project's potential and maximize the client's return on investment.

The Art of Industrial Design Success

The success of any industrial project is underpinned by a holistic understanding of the vision, technical requirements and manufacturing process—not only from the client but also the other occupiers, planning constraints and the investment markets. NORR's planning and design services include site utilization and infrastructure integration, which is undertaken at initial feasibility stage. Our dedicated experts also consider elements such as the appreciation of potential future adaptation; many of our projects have involved fitting out complex industrial processes into previously constructed space. We listen to our clients' needs to ensure that we deliver a quality architectural solution with added value at all stages of the project.

The Industrial Design Opportunity

The design opportunity for industrial is to create a structure and space that meets today's needs while building in capacity with a scalable solution to meet future needs. At NORR, we design industrial projects from start-ups to custom manufacturing plants and large-scale logistics warehouse and distribution centers that are flexible, efficient and technologically sophisticated.

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