



Leisure and Community

Client: Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust

College Lake Visitor Centre

Construction of new Visitor Centre, Tring, Hertfordshire.

With its grass roof and earth-retaining structure this building of dramatic contrasts appears to offer visitors approaching its main entrance an underground experience. Inside, however, a double-height visitor interpretation area offers high levels of natural light and panoramic views over the centre's lakes.

Architect:
A+G Architects

Structural Engineer:
Price and Myers

Quantity Surveyor:
Baqus Sworn King



- 1 The Centre's reception area features rammed chalk walls complemented by elegant timber columns, surrounding a fossil pit
- 2 The building's front facade is clad in cedar and features composite windows and doors
- 3 The main entrance is defined by curved earth-retaining walls.
- 4 The entire building is covered with a green roof

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5 & 6 Offering panoramic views over the reserve's lakes, the main observation room is divided by rammed chalk walls set between structural timber columns

7 Let into the resin floor, the central reception area features a glazed pit used to display fossils and mammoth tusks discovered at the reserve

Designed to be highly sustainable, the Centre features: a biodiverse green roof, recycled cellulose and wood fibre insulation, rammed chalk walls, FSC-rated timbers, and is heated via air source heat pumps.

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