

Architecture

The new museum should be an analogy and abstract representative of Norway and her culture. The roof represents the Norwegian nature of a flat and green landscape suddenly forming into a hard steep mountainous environment of the Prekestolen.

The folded walls and roofs are protecting and embracing the art. The concept of the folding floors guides the people from the lobby to the different exhibition areas in a natural way. Transparency is used for the orientation inside the building. The central lobby is visible throughout the whole museum. The open public function areas are all situated on the ground floor.

The northern lights will be captured by positioning some of the roof windows in this specific direction.

The dark tarred timber wooden vaults are the reflection of the cultural heritage of the stave churches. The culture heritage high up on the top level enforces respect and gives a feeling of protection and safety at the same time.

The public accessible areas of the museum are open and transparent and are in contrast with the safe character of the vaults. Culture is not only a world open for a selective group but it is open and accessible for everyone.

On approaching the first floor one is entering a higher security zone. The offices, workshops, reception and storage area have their own internal circuit which links to the public areas where necessary. As the programme is spread out over the location the museum has a horizontal character which also keeps the costs of the fire safety investments at a reasonable level.

Universal Design

The museum has to be accessible for everyone. Lifts and ramps are readily available which take you to all floors; stairway access is limited apart from emergency exit areas. The horizontal program around a central lobby makes clear and recognizable routing throughout the museum. There is a central point with ascending and descending ramps and elevators. The transparent character of the building helps to orientate inside the building.

Too big a contrast between darkness and light will be avoided. Natural daylight will be used where possible.

Environmental Targets

It is important to create a building with a long useful life. The target is a CO2 neutral building.

We can reach our goals with the following aspects:

The use of natural daylight instead of artificial light.

Good insulation for a cool building during the summer months and low energy costs in the winter period.

Heat accumulation in the lobby area; the heating will be supported by a geothermal heat pump station. The heat generated in the summer months will be buffered in the ground and used in the winter period.

Natural cooling and ventilation with the use of roof vegetation and by bringing plants and vegetation in the patio of the office area.

Relations Heritage

We believe in the synergy of old and new. The new building is the décor for the old building. In this way the old stations' buildings will be better represented at the big square. With the pedestrian routes going in between the old and new buildings urban life will be created at this special location.

Relations with Surroundings

In the proposal for the redevelopment of the "Vestbanen" there are several important guidelines to be considered:

Strengthen the routings from the former Aker shipyards to the centre of Oslo.

Improve the social environment in relation to Aker Brygge and Radhuisplassen.

Enhance the local and main line station building.

An area with a size of the Radhuisplassen requires good façades to have an important public function in Oslo. To achieve this we have to improve the facades of the Radhuisplassen by adding a new beacon and a new dominant façade on the station side of the Radhuisplassen.

Construct the office building over the motorway ramp.

Development Opportunities

The new museum gives economic developments an impulse in the near future. A museum with public functions like a library, bookshop, café and new terraces attracts people and will create jobs.

