

OFFICE BLOCK & TRAIN TERMINUS (WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT, NEWCASTLE)

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THE SITE

SIXTH, SEVENTH LEVEL PLAN

FIFTH LEVEL PLAN

THIRD, FOURTH LEVEL PLAN

SECOND LEVEL PLAN

FIRST LEVEL PLAN

THE CONTEXT

The OFFICE BLOCK + TRAIN STATION TERMINUS (OST) is proposed in the South East corner of the waterfront development at the edge of the Hunter street and developed at the most eventual zone of the site. The buildings adjoining the development on the south and east side are maximum 30m high and fairly nondescript. This corner demanded a strong statement that marks the end of the row of low key facades lining up on the southern edge of the waterfront development proposal.

THE CONCEPT

The 'interaction' and culmination (and/or even the beginning) of all the events at the South Eastern corner of the waterfront development is in itself the concept for the OFFICE BLOCK + TRAIN STATION TERMINUS building. The building form is a METAPHOR OF AN IMPACT created as a result of the termination of the train line underground. This hidden but most active process of the train termination is likely to get the populace into the site and hence been given high regard for achieving the design outcome.

THE PROCESS

The entire built form of the OST block has been generated using a simple volume which multiplies, turns, tilts, tumbles and freezes. The Eastern block as an essential part of the process anchors itself as a very firmly into the ground which houses in the most important service core of the building. Although the built form attains a very strong character, the important part of the process anchors itself in the most important service core of the building. Each of the elevations of materials and colours. Each of the elevations addresses different sets of conditions and hence has a different character as compared to the other three. The underground train terminus and the office block have a common accessibility through the huge and inviting entrance foyer. The foyer on the other hand has other semi-public activities. Those require floating population for their survival. The Office block measuring approximately 6000 sq m and is of unproprietary type sharing levels and access. The inclined transparent canopies throw in reflected light into the various levels through the common spaces and volumes making the drama more eventual. Finally as a culmination of the metaphor a frame, which belongs to the structure, gets displaced and expresses itself very boldly on the Eastern facade. Rest all is the visual experience and a story....

ROOF PLAN

SOUTH ELEVATION

EAST ELEVATION

WEST ELEVATION

NORTH ELEVATION

ENTRY LEVEL PLAN

SECTION A A

TERMINUS LEVEL PLAN

MASTER PLAN (THE CONTEXT)

THE BACKGROUND

As a part of the design studio of the masters class of architecture at UNSW in 2004 we proposed a waterfront development masterplan for Newcastle, which was a team exercise. The design of the OFFICE BLOCK + TRAIN STATION TERMINUS, a individual design solution, was continuous to the masterplan and was a response to its passive and active design elements....

Waterfront development at Newcastle

OFFICE BLOCK + TRAIN TERMINUS