Arc Climbing Center / Arte531

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Curated by Paola Pinto

SWITZERLAND , CHIPPENHAM, **UNITED KINGDOM**

- Architects: Arte531
- Area: 1584 m²
- Year: 2022
- Photographs: Pete Holme Photography, Paul Tweedey (TCA)
- Specifications: Kingspan Insulated Panels, CIC Cladding Design, Rhinoclad®, Palram, Plastec Eco Lues, Smart Systems, Tubemaxx
- M&E Engineers: Greengage
  Ecologist: Ellendale
  Principal Contractor: Rigg Construction

MORE SPECS

Text description provided by the architects. Site of the UK's first purpose-built climbing centers, this multi-award-winning project has been celebrated as a civic leader in place creation, reinvigorating a little-used part of the rural market town.

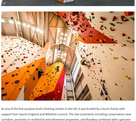
Brief: Designed as a series of vox-pitching volumes it holds a range of high-level climbing facilities while reducing the visual mass within the landscape conservation area. It is designed to increase the volume of the floodplain on which it sits while remaining safe in even the most severe of future flood scenarios.

The brief was to improve an area of disused sports fields which were prone to flooding. The client was a local charity with a desire to bring significant benefits to the local community and has long revised an investment. The brief was built by the local population through a series of community engagement meetings and working with key stakeholders and offering an alternative centre for the area of land.

Sustainability: The building is highly insulated and uses local materials to minimise embodied energy. BIM and Photovoltaics ensure minimal energy demand. Low water taps, W.C.s, showers, etc. are installed to improve water usage. Low-energy lighting and PV panels are used to ensure minimal electricity requirements while usage. Use of re-wilding and wildflower meadows, flowering roof finishing holes, bee posts, circa 20 bird and bat boxes, the retention of existing trees, and the planting of hundreds more. Limited parking and improved cycle/footpath access to minimise car usage. Recycling areas, 24 and EV charge points. Low-energy lighting and for handling noise.

Challenges: Sitting on a flood plain, we needed to not only ensure the building and its users were safe in the case of high water but not also to ensure that the site could hold more water after we undertook the work in protect properties downstream. The building itself is lifted 1.5m into the air on stilts and large compensatory volumes were excavated.

The community and local public of Corsham (around 5,000 from census) visited and will be visited internationally to feel the information needed to balance to requirements of energy usage while accounting for local, which is extremely light and hard to be considered at every step of the design and build process to ensure the longevity of air handling and fire detection through easy access to filters etc.



As one of the first purpose-built climbing centers in the UK, it was funded by a local charity with support from Sports England and Wiltshire Council. The site constraints including conservation view corridors, proximity to residential and retirement properties, and flooding combined with a genuine desire for the client to be for the people of Chippenham ensured that the building had to balance a number of factors. As such, we had levels of design against cost-effectiveness to ensure a viable business case going forwards.

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Metinal Sliding Door - Rabel-Ex Slim Sage

METAL
Metinal Sliding Door - Prime

WOOD
Hudson Valley Home, USA - Alcoves™ Stabilized Aluminum Cores

METAL
Metinal Sliding Door - Rabel-Ex Slim Sage

CERAMIC
Sensa Barriers & Speed Gates

Project gallery

Project location

Address: Chippenham, Wiltshire, United Kingdom

Location for reference only. Coordinates: 51.46207,-2.06180. Accuracy: Rooftop. Source: Google

About this office

Arte531
Office

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Materials

Wood Steel

#Tags

Projects Built Projects Selected Projects Sports Architecture
Recreation & Training Skatepark Chippenham United Kingdom

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