

Case study

A sustainable oasis for prayer

The Cambridge Central Mosque is an extraordinary building that fuses traditional architecture with modern. The thought behind it was to create a British mosque for the 21st century, and the architects found inspiration in both Islamic and English religious architectural traditions. Marks Barfield Architects won the competition to design the building in 2009, and their concept was to create a calm oasis with a lot of green areas.

The mosque also strives to be as green as possible and sustainability was taken into consideration when this space was built. The large skylights in the roof of the building provides natural light all year round, and it is supplemented by low energy LED bulbs. There is also solar panels on the roof and heat pumps that create more energy than they use, to keep the carbon footprint as low as possible.

Within the building, d line products from the Knud Holscher collection has been used. The pull and lever handles in real satin brass finish is stunning against the mix of dark and light wood, that is dominant in the mosque. The Cambridge Central Mosque was also recently nominated for the RIBA Stirling Prize, together with six other buildings.

“We didn’t want to create a replica or pastiche of something that existed elsewhere. The opportunity to do something English, British, excited us. Now that there is a significant Muslim community it’s time to work out what it means to have an English mosque.” - David Marks

About d line

d line is a heritage Danish design brand conceiving and hand crafting enduring architectural hardware, sanitary ware and solutions for barrier-free living.

Launched in 1971 with the coordinated line of stainless steel architectural products Knud Holscher created for St Catherine’s College Oxford, d line has since collaborated with iconic Danish designers including Arne Jacobsen. The brand’s ambition is to be universally known, coveted and admired for the uncompromising endurance of its design, craftsmanship and quality.

About the Knud Holscher collection

Danish architect and industrial designer Knud Holscher has been part of d line from the beginning, conceiving our first coordinated line of architectural hardware in 1971 as ‘modest design that is designed to last’.

Holscher graduated from the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts School of Architecture in 1957, having studied under Arne Jacobsen. Only three years later, he found himself working for his professor on St. Catherine’s College, Oxford, and thumbing through stacks of brochures to piece together its finishing touches.

As a result of this frustrating exercise, Holscher came to design a series of award-winning, minimalist architectural hardware for d line, starting with the iconic U and L levers, whose characteristic bend would influence the entire product range.

Having established Knud Holscher Design in Copenhagen in 1995, Holscher has since worked with a team that includes his architect son, Rasmus, and that designs everything from future-proof buildings like Copenhagen’s Kastrup Airport, to future-proof hardware for d line.

Holscher has won over 70 awards, including many iF Design Awards that recognise design excellence and date back as far as 1978 and those first lever handles and doorstops for d line.

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Notes to editors

Architect: Marks Barfield Architects

Location: Cambridge, United Kingdom

Year: 2019

Product attributes:

- Designed by Knud Holscher
- 20-year guarantee
- High quality stainless steel AISI 316 (non-corrosive and highly durable)
- Several colours and finishes for different aesthetics, choose between: satin stainless steel , brass, PVD brass, PVD copper, PVD black

Links

- <https://dline.com/collections/knud-holscher/>
- <https://dline.com/cases/cambridge-central-mosque/>

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