

“This is the very highest quality architecture. It shows how an architect can add joy, an enhanced experience of materials and human dimension to every part of a building...”

(RIBA Judges’ Citation)



Storey’s Field Centre from the south-east

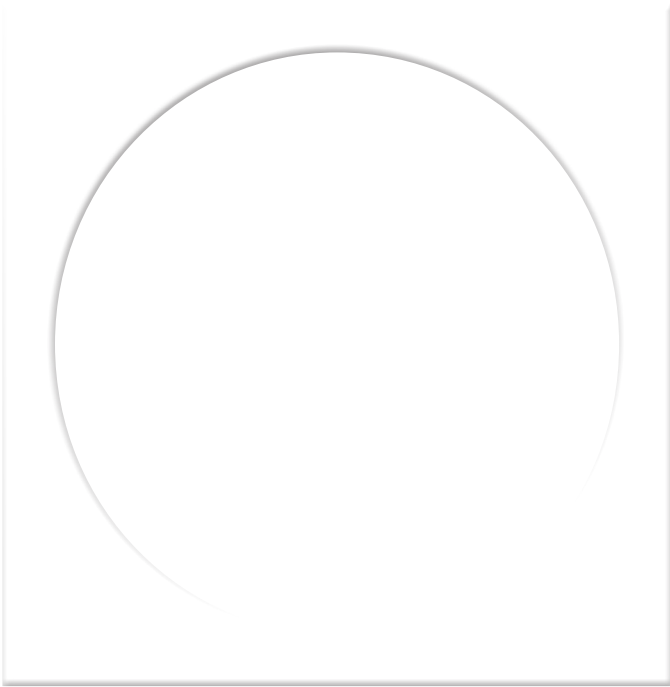
“This building is an inspiring model for how a green agenda can enrich architectural form and public space.”
(Architects’ Journal)

To find out more about the Storey’s Field Centre and the programme of events planned please visit:
storeysfieldcentre.org.uk

Office:
01223 656696
Bookings & venue enquiries:
info@storeysfieldcentre.org.uk
Media enquiries:
info@nwcambridge.co.uk

Storey’s Field Centre
Eddington Avenue
Cambridge CB3 1AA

Quality architecture for the 21st Century



Storey’s Field Centre

Storey’s Field Centre is a landmark community centre and performance hall in the centre of Eddington, the University of Cambridge’s new district in the City.

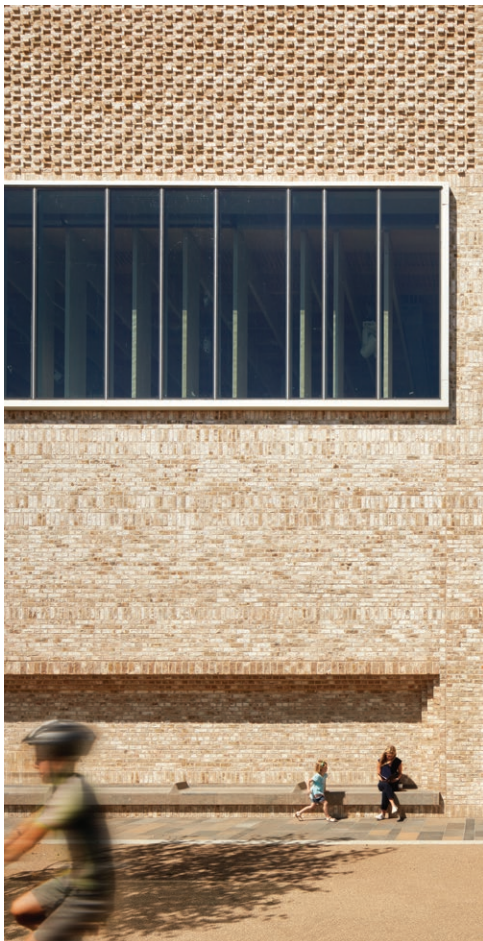
The Storey’s Field Centre fulfils a social and cultural role for residents at Eddington, as well as the wider Cambridge community.
Designed by architectural practice MUMA, the beautiful single-storey building - which has a main hall and two multi-purpose rooms - was specifically created to meet a wide range of uses. All events, from playgroups and Zumba classes to concerts, conferences and weddings, are catered for. Overlooking green open spaces and the urban heart of Eddington, Storey’s Field Centre is the civic heart of the community.

It was purposefully positioned to be highly visible to the public; welcoming and accessible. Three main rooms of varying sizes are available to use and are suitable for seated groups of up to 20, 50 and 180 people.

The acoustics for the main hall can be adjusted to suit a range of events, from a film screening to a chamber music performance.
Since opening in 2018, the Storey’s Field Centre has an exciting programme of community and cultural events for the Eddington residents and the wider Cambridge population and has been recognised by the prestigious RIBA Awards.



Moon gate leading to the walled garden



Main hall elevation from the south



Spiral staircase within the main hall



Main Hall

The Storey’s Field Centre and Eddington Nursery won a National Award from the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA).

Project:
Storey’s Field Centre and
Eddington Nursery for the North West
Cambridge Development

Client:
University of Cambridge

Architect:
McInnes Usher McKnight Architects
(MUMA)

Structural engineer:
AECOM

MEP consultant:
AECOM

Quantity surveyor cost consultant:
Gardiner & Theobald

Project Management:
Turner & Townsend

Contractor:
Farrans

Landscape Consultant:
Sarah Price Landscapes

Theatre and Acoustic Consultant
(Community Centre):
Sound Space Vision

Acoustician (Nursery):
AECOM

Facade Engineering:
FMDC Ltd

Clerk of Works:
Calfordseaden

Lighting Design:
Lumineer

Building Physics:
AECOM

Fire Engineering:
AECOM

Access Consultant:
Centre For Accessible
Environments

BREEAM Consultant:
NHBC

Storey’s Field Centre is operated through
a Joint Venture between Cambridge City
Council and the University of Cambridge.

Eddington Nursery is operated by Bright
Horizons Family Solutions for the University
of Cambridge.



Storey’s Field Centre from the Nursery courtyard



Nursery courtyard



Walled garden



Colourful geometric shapes within the nursery classrooms

Eddington Nursery: top-class learning from the very beginning

The building designed by MUMA incorporates both the Storey’s Field Centre and the Eddington Nursery. The Nursery is designed to give children the best possible learning environment from their earliest days in education and is located between the Storey’s Field Centre and the University of Cambridge Primary School.

- The nursery courtyard creates a secure and sheltered play garden for the children. A cloister wrapping the play garden provides access to the classrooms and covered play.
- With no corridors, the classrooms can engage directly with the garden, whilst benefiting from cross ventilation.
- The Nursery classrooms have primary-coloured niched windows in simple geometric shapes, with built-in seats.
- The windows in the Nursery’s sleep room are arranged like constellations of stars influenced by Aquarius and Gemini.



Intricate brickwork along the nursery facade from the west

“This is an example of the very best in British architectural design, when it is this good it offers ideas, skill and care in ways that transform the human use and experience of this building at every opportunity.”

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Each room within the Centre has views out to the surrounding landscapes and the building’s single storey reflects traditional civic buildings such as churches and town halls. The traditional University of Cambridge college courts and dining halls were also an important inspiration for the design. Just like the dining halls and chapels of Cambridge, the 15-metre high main hall uses architectural elements such as a timber lined base, clerestory light and exposed, articulated structure.

Other points of interest include:

- Over a quarter of a million bricks were used in the Centre. The patterned brickwork of walls in the main hall act to enhance the acoustics, but also suggests patterns of geology in the surrounding landscape.
- Inside the main hall, the access stairwell to the building’s roof is via a sculptural spiral staircase that can be used as part of performances.
- A decorative circular opening in the walled garden incorporates a sunburst ventilation inlet grille for ventilating the main hall.
- The drainpipes within the gardens have been replaced by delicate rain chains, intensifying the sight and sound of water when it rains.
- A series of stone benches wrap around the outside of the building, one forming a suntrap on the southern side.

Sustainability delivered with simple engineering

Eddington has been designed to high levels of sustainability and the Centre and Nursery have been designed to BREAAAM Outstanding and Excellent respectively. The Storey’s Field Centre helps Eddington be an exemplar sustainable community.

- Natural ventilation has been integrated into the architecture with stack effect being used to draw passively cooled air into the main hall via an underground labyrinth.
- At the ceiling level, the warmer air is extracted through openings concealed within a layered ceiling of ash joists, battens and veneered plywood.
- The acoustic attenuation zone in the ceiling also controls noise before the air exits through a combination of perforated, patterned brickwork and louvres at each end of the hall.
- Photovoltaic panels on the roof of the building, helping to feed electricity back to the grid.
- The landscape design incorporates 55 characterful trees chosen for their shape. These include retired orchard trees.
- Like the rest of Eddington, the building uses a site-wide district heating network for its underfloor heating.
- Rainwater, collected and treated in newly-created lakes on the development, provide a non-potable water supply for toilets and watering the gardens.