

WANDSWORTH RECOVERY CENTRE SPRINGFIELD UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL TOOTING, LONDON, UK



Wandsworth Recovery Centre

The Wandsworth Recovery Centre is a new mixed gender inpatient facility for adults with acute mental illness at Springfield University Hospital. It comprises an 18 bed acute ward and a 10 bed psychiatric intensive care unit together with community team bases and outpatient facilities.

The building is part of a larger master plan strategy for the Springfield University Hospital site to integrate their mental health services into a new residential area, with the aim of helping remove the stigma of mental illness. The building is conceived as one block within a new grid plan focussed around the existing listed Victorian institution, which is to be redeveloped as housing.

Due to the siting and desire for this building to be a piece of urban architecture, it required a scale and massing to fit in with the master plan strategy. Furthermore, the mix of accommodation required by the Trust, including significant car parking, meant that patient accommodation had to be lifted off the ground floor. Our use of stepped courtyards and extensive use of glazing around the living, dining and day spaces to help visually link the indoor and outdoor patient areas, has given the building a light airy quality and a sense of space that belies the area restrictions imposed by the site.

The courtyard gardens are oases of peace and calm, hidden from the outside world.

The overall impression is of a dignified civic building, with a quality and solidity of finish and materials that reflects the Trust's desire for a robust and secure unit situated in an urban environment.

For more information, please visit www.medical-architecture.com

Sector:
Mental Health

Client:
Integrated Health projects (IHP)
South West London and St George's
Mental Health NHS Trust

Role:
Lead Consultant, Healthcare Planner,
Master Planner, Architect, Interior Design,
Landscape Architect

Value:
£23m

Status:
Completed 2009