



# Empress State

by WilkinsonEyre

This 30-storey building in west London is an important local landmark, constructed in 1959 with a distinctive 'Y' shaped plan. WilkinsonEyre's brief was to modernise and refurbish Empress State in a sympathetic way to provide significant additional flexible office space as well as improving the environmental efficiency of the building.

The curved façades were retained, but to the south elevation a new 5.5m deep extension was added to floors 3-26 to create an extended floorplate for the offices within. This extension is clad in an aluminium curtain walling system which integrates a full-height brise-soleil. This screen unifies and articulates the façades whilst providing much needed solar shading. Three new floors were also added, topped with a revolving observation bar. At ground level an enlarged entrance lobby leads to a newly landscaped public piazza.

## Details

Location: London, UK  
Client: Land Securities Plc  
Architect: WilkinsonEyre  
Structural Engineer: Anthony Hunt Associates  
Mechanical Engineer: MG Partnership  
Electrical Engineer: BWS Partnership  
Overall gross external area: 62,175m<sup>2</sup> / 669,246ft<sup>2</sup>  
Net internal area: 41,415m<sup>2</sup> / 445,787ft<sup>2</sup>  
Value: £85m  
Completed: April 2003

## Awards

RIBA Award 2004