



North view 建筑北立面

Kielder Observatory

The design brief called for an inexpensive building, not only suitable to house two telescopes and a warm room, primarily intended for amateurs and outreach work, but also suitable for scientific research. The design had to achieve a positive relation to the exposed setting on top of Black Fell overlooking Kielder Water and had to include both the facilities needed in this remote site and a "social space" for interaction and presentations, while being accessible both literally and culturally.

Timber was chosen as the material for the observatory early in the design process. Besides being a low carbon material and the obvious relation to its forest setting, the architects wanted a low-tech engineering aesthetic for the observatory, the opposite of the NASA-inspired world of high tech, high-expense and exclusive science. Instead, the architects wanted to evoke the curious, ad hoc structures that have served as observatories down the ages, and to the timber structures of the rural/industrial landscape at Kielder, the pit props of small coal mines and the timber trestle bridges of the railway that served them. The architects felt that a beautifully handcrafted timber building with "Victorian" engineering would be more inspiring in this setting than seamless, glossy domes.



基尔德天文台

项目要求天文台能够摆放两架天文望远镜并设置一个温暖的房间，它既要能满足业余爱好者的需求，又要适合科学研究。天文台的设计要与其所在的布莱克伐木场建立积极的联系，在这个偏远的地区提供基础设施和互动社交空间，使人们从各个层面上走进天文台。

天文台采用了木材作为主要材料。木材是一种低碳材料，又与森林有着显著的联系。此外，建筑师想以一种低科技的工程美学来建造天文台，正好与美国国家航天航空局所运用的高科技、高费用技术形成鲜明对比。建筑师沿用了自古以来天文台的奇特而随意的结构，这些木材与基尔德地区的木结构建筑景观、小煤矿的支柱以及铁路的木栈桥交相映衬。在建筑师的眼里，一座美丽的手工建造的木结构建筑和维多利亚时期的工程设计远比无缝、光滑的穹顶更具吸引力。

1. 森林
2. 停车场
3. 风力涡轮
4. 天文台

1. forestry plantation
2. parking
3. wind turbine
4. observatory



望远镜 Telescope



旋转台 Rotated



西南立面 Southwest view

Photo: David Grandorge

Cultural

Completion Date: 2008

Architect: Charles Barclay Architects