

Neue Nationalgalerie Refurbishment, Berlin

Built heritage — 06A001297

David Chipperfield Architects

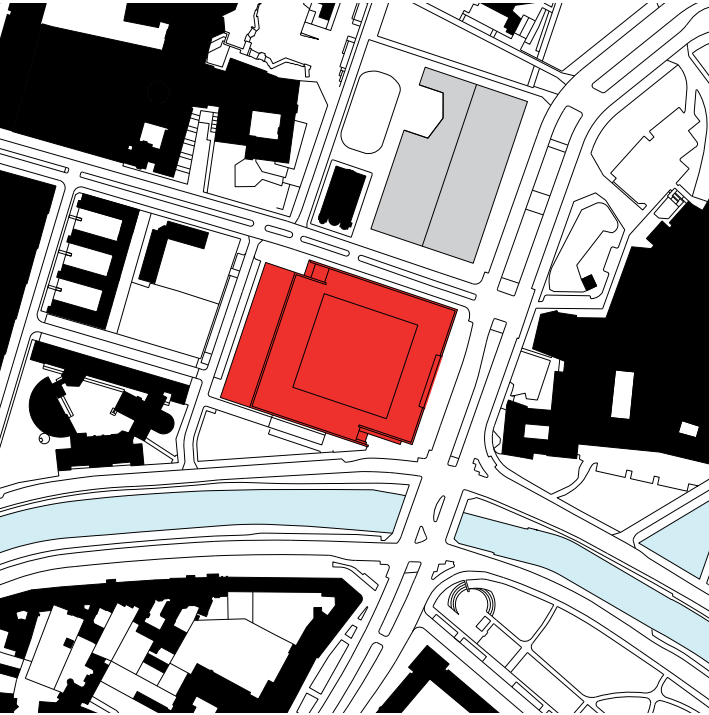
“As much Mies as possible”

After almost fifty years of use, the Neue Nationalgalerie in Berlin required a comprehensive refurbishment. Considering the significance of this icon of twentieth-century architecture, the intervention in the existing fabric did not aim to be a new interpretation, but rather a respectful repair of the landmark building.

Completed in 1968, the Neue Nationalgalerie is the only building by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe in Europe after his emigration to the USA. The need to extensively repair the reinforced concrete shell and completely renew the technical building services required an in-depth intervention. The building has been refurbished and upgraded to current technical standards with a minimum of visual compromise to the original appearance. Around 35,000 building components were dismantled, restored, modified where necessary and reinstalled in their original positions. The functional and technical upgrades include air-conditioning, artificial lighting, security, visitors' facilities, such as cloakroom and museum shop, art handling and disabled access.

Key to the complex planning process was finding a balance between conservation and the use as a modern museum. Essential interventions had to be reconciled with preserving as much original substance as possible and remain subordinate to the existing design, while discreetly legible as contemporary elements.

Project start	2012 / 2021
Construction start	2016
Completion	2021
Opening	August 2021
Gross floor area	13.900 m²
Client	Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz vertreten durch das Bundesamt für Bauwesen und Raumordnung
User	Nationalgalerie – Staatliche Museen zu Berlin



Site plan 1:5000



Neue Nationalgalerie – View from Sigismundstraße © Simon Menges