



Lloyd's of London

London - Built



Location
London, UK

Date
1978 - 1986

Client
Lloyd's of London

Cost
£75 million

Area
55,000m²

Structural Engineer
Arup

Services Engineer
Arup

Cost Consultant
Monk Dunstone Associates

Lighting Consultant
Friedrich Wagner of Lichttechnische Planung

Main Contractor
Bovis Construction Ltd

The building is still modern, innovative and unique – it has really stood the test of time just like the market that it sits within.

Richard Ward, Chief Executive of Lloyd's of London

Awards

2011
Grade I listed by English Heritage

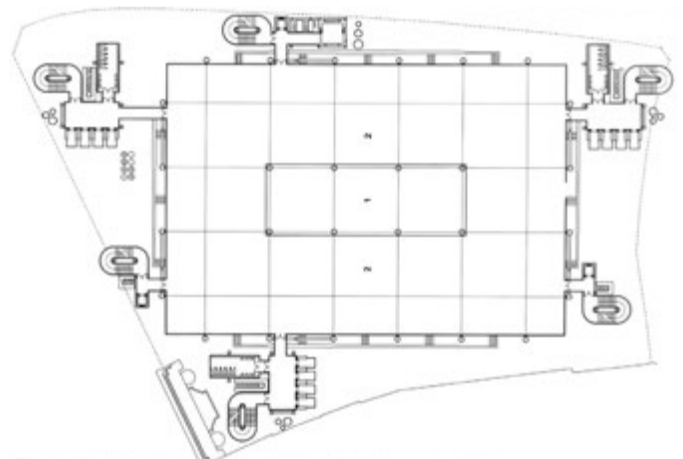
1988
RIBA Regional Award

PA Award for Innovation in Building Design and Construction
Eternit 8th International Prize for Architecture (Special Mention)

1987
Financial Times 'Architecture at Work' Award

Civic Trust Award

Concrete Society Commendation



Lloyd's of London is the world's greatest insurance market. It had moved its dealing room twice in 50 years and wanted a building that would provide for its needs well into the 21st century. It was also imperative that Lloyd's could continue their operations unhindered during the rebuilding operation, which almost inevitably involved the demolition of the existing 1928 building. The competition for a new building was won on the basis not of an architectural proposal but of a strategy for the future of this key City institution.

The practice proposed a building where the dealing room could expand or contract, according to the needs of the market, by means of a series of galleries around a central space. To maximise space, services are arranged on the perimeter. As the architectural form of the building evolved, particular attention was paid to its impact on the surrounding area, especially on the listed 19th century Leadenhall Market.

As a result, Lloyd's became a complex grouping of towers, almost Gothic in feeling – an effect enhanced by the height of the external plant-room towers.

Lloyd's is one of the great architectural achievements of the 1980s, one of the buildings which confirmed the practice's position in the front rank of international architects. It has emerged as one of the greatest modern British buildings, one which balances technical efficiency with architectural expressiveness to produce an effect which might be called highly romantic and judged a very positive addition to the London skyline.

The building was Grade I listed in 2011, the youngest structure to obtain this status. English Heritage described it as "universally recognized as one of the key buildings of modern epoch."