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Lynch Architects - the NOVA Range

Summary

Project Overview

- The Building
- The Nova Ironmongery Range

Product Development

Range:

- DLH01 Nova Lever Handle
- WC01 Nova WC Set
- PH01 Pull Handle Set Straight
- Bespoke PH02 Pull Handle Off set

Project Pictures

All pictures courtesy of Andy Stagg, Lynch Architects and Valentin Lynch

Project overview - The n2 building

Designed by Lynch Architects for Landsec, n2 is a new-build office completed in the summer 2023, marking the latest phase of the Nova Estate in Victoria, London. The form of the building is strongly influenced by both townscape and underground conditions- mediating between the large blocks of 'Nova South' and 'Nova North' to the west and of 'Portland House' to the east, whilst at the same time forming the setting for the listed buildings directly to the south, including the Victoria Palace Theatre. The incredibly complex underground constraints, including the Victoria Line running tunnels, related passenger connecting infrastructure, pre-existing piles, plus several sewers that also traverse the site, all combined to present considerable challenges and limitations regarding where the loads of the building could actually be grounded, resulting in the distinctive concrete and steel truss structure that wraps around the base of the building and supports the office above.

The office façade is designed with deep reveals to the south to reduce the amount of solar glare entering the building, thereby reducing running costs. Bespoke vertical louvres have been incorporated within this, above the truss line, to ensure that they are in sympathy with the overall concept and to disguise the fact that the plant has been moved to the lower levels, as unlike the other buildings at Nova the highest levels are all given over to usable office space – where the air is cleaner and the light and views are best, rather than being taken up as plantrooms.

By giving careful consideration to materials and detailing in addition to massing issues, all set within a layering of elements to provide depth and shadow, the building strives to provide a richness and consistency that enhances the overall experience for both the office worker and the wider general public- offering places to walk, to sit and dwell, to watch and to contemplate, as well as to work. This consistency is reinforced by materials such as the timber soffit to the entrance area and perimeter colonnade that continues, seemingly uninterrupted, between inside and out - uniting the two and also relating the public to the private. At the main roof terrace level on level 15 a clubroom with spectacular views across London has been provided for the use of all occupiers of the building, and here the materials used at ground floor level are re-introduced and recombined to provide a special place for occupiers and guests to relax or to work.

- Patrick and Claudia Lynch, David Evans

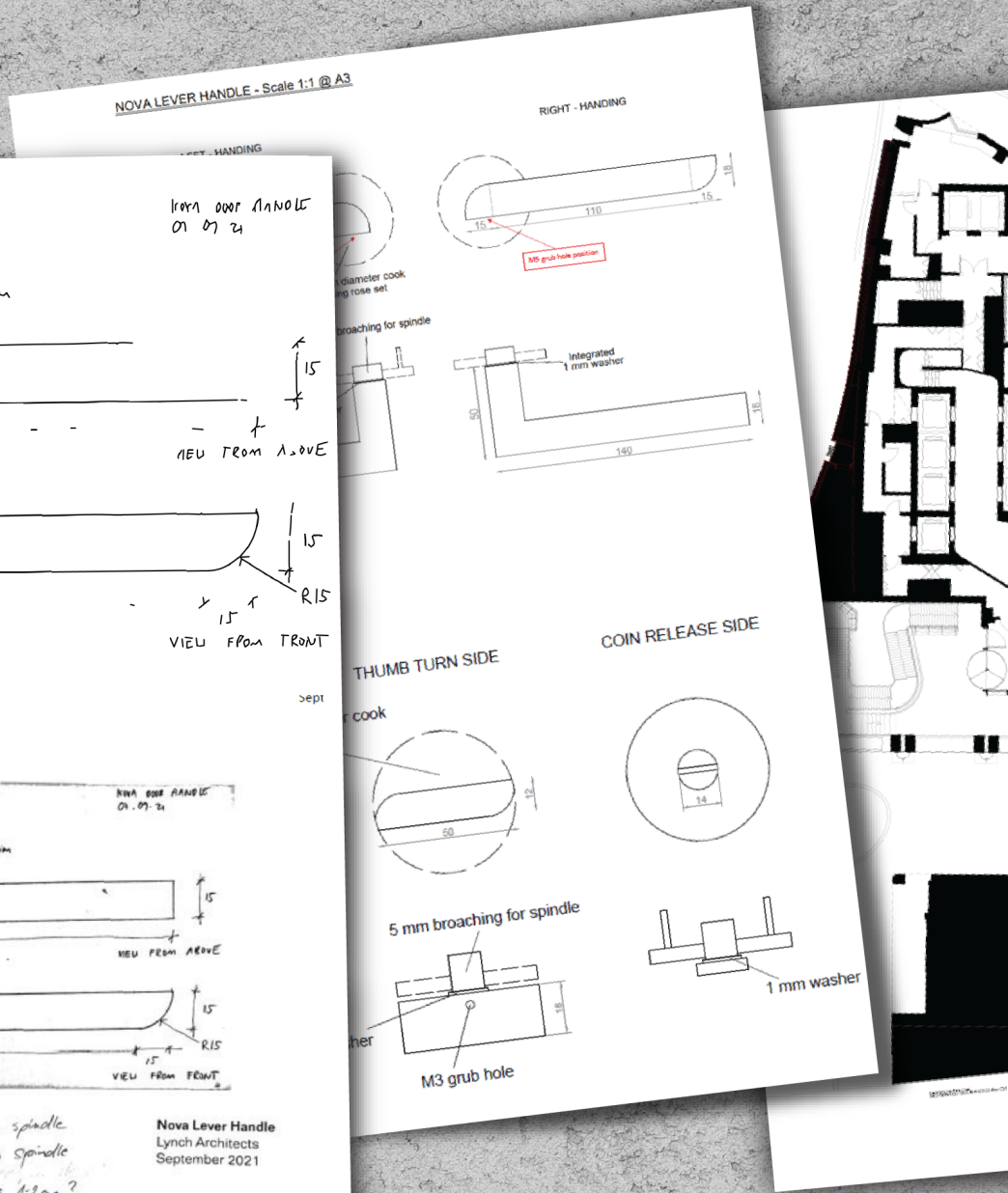
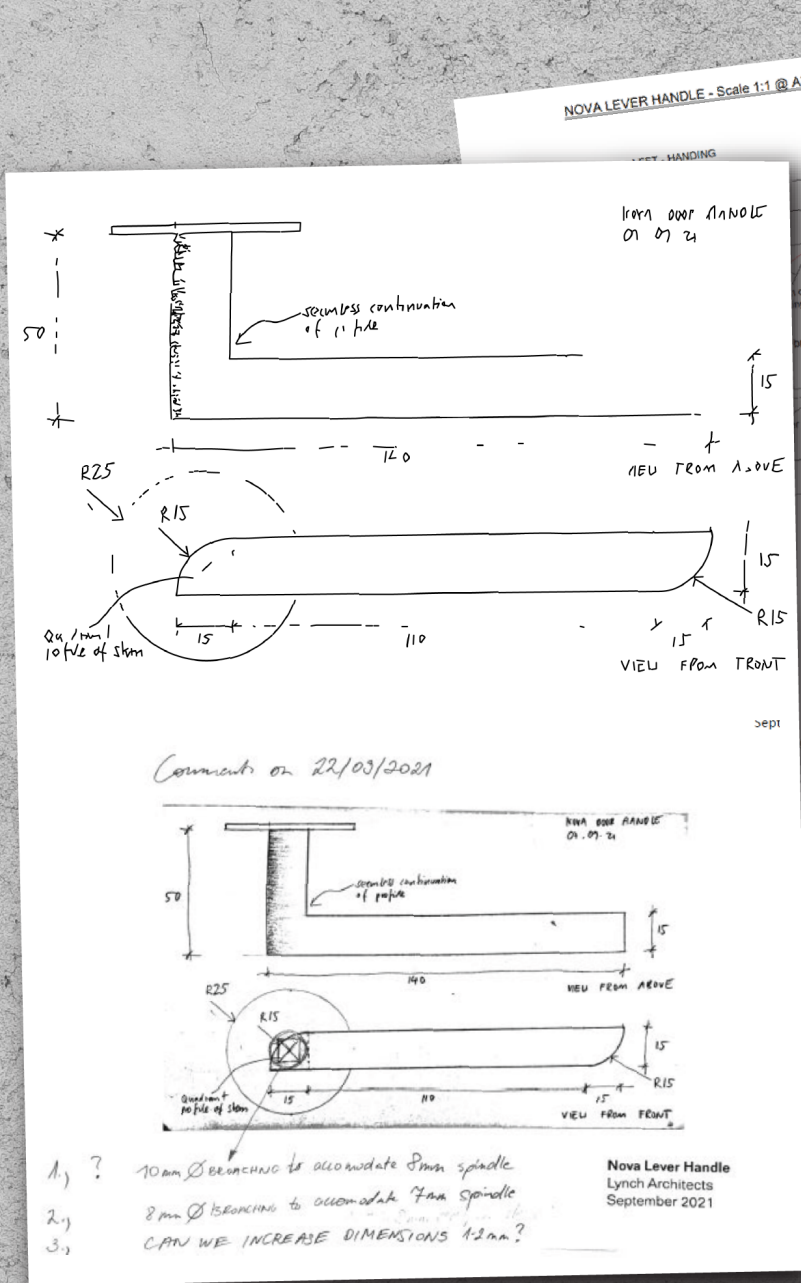
Project overview - The Nova Ironmongery Range

A reoccurring motif or theme within the building is of a rectangle or square with the opposing corners of two sides being curved. This occurs in plan on the single concrete column situated internally in the reception area, and repeats throughout the building; for example in the wayfinding signage, or in the safety manifestation on the glazing, and in the plan shape of the clubroom serving counter. It is also the thematic basis of the 'Nova Handle' ironmongery series, forming the main shape of the lever handle and the opposing ends of the pull handle series. It also repeats in the snib-turn locks, and in so doing the whole series continues the related link of elements from structure to finish.

Examples of both the lever handle and the pull handle from the Nova series are incorporated within the clubroom.



Product Development



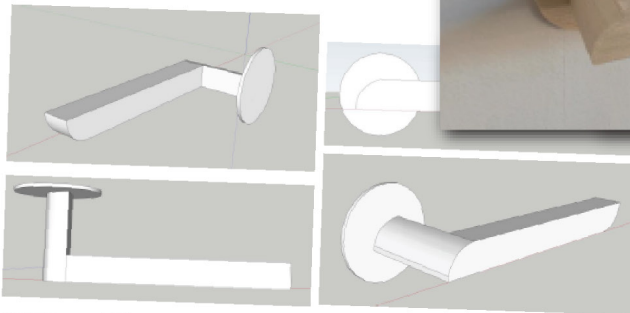
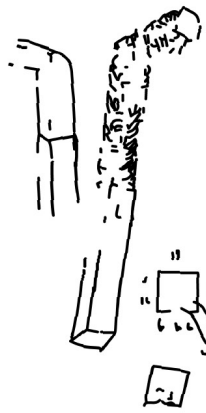
1. Conceptualisation

We begin by creating initial sketches, exploring various forms and shapes while considering the overall project vision and goals.

2. Design and Engineering

Next, we refine these concepts to optimise and customise the product to fit specific requirements such as door frames and locks using CAD softwares.

"[It] would look the same at first sight; you might only glimpse the brass at the rear through a glazed door or feel it being slightly colder to the touch, but that could both be nice."
Claudia Lynch



"Apart from a full brass version... using the same geometry as the lever handle, we would like to investigate a version where this is combined with solid oak in the straight central area of the handle that you touch."

- Claudia Lynch

3. Prototyping and Testing

In the final step, physical prototypes are constructed and rigorously tested for factors like proportion, tactile feel, and resistance. This iterative process ensures the development of a high-quality product, ready for production.

Nova Lever Handle by Lynch Architects

17

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NOVAL01

In perpetual motion, the opposite curves at each end of the handles design create a sense of spatial disparity and uniformity in conjunction, encapsulating the fluidity of the handle as it is pulled down. Coupled with a circular rose, this distinctive design would subtly compliment any interior, and is available in all izé finishes for full customisation and a bespoke touch.

Length : 140mm

Width : 18mm

Projection : 55mm

Rose diameter : 50mm

Finishes : available in all izé finishes

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Nova Bathroom Turn by Lynch Architects

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NOVAT01

A delicate miniature of the lever handle design, the bathroom turn exudes the same arched and straight edges at opposite ends, producing a flowing and rounded shape upon a circular rose. This turn is customisable as its available in all the izé finishes.

Length : 50mm

Width : 18mm

Projection : 22mm

Rose diameter : 50mm

Finishes : available in all izé finishes

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The Nova Lever Handle with its matching Bathroom Turn

Nova Pull Handle by Lynch Architects

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NOVAP02

A combination of all Nova handle designs, this pull handle encompasses the shape of the privacy turn at the top and bottom of the oak insert, proving that Lynch Architects left no stone unturned during the design process to mimic the motif of the estate. Originally made with a satin nickel-plated finish, the handles can be finished in all izé finishes from the range.

Length : 400mm

Width : 18mm

Projection : 55mm

Rose Diameter : 50mm

Finishes : available in all izé finishes

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The bespoke Nova Pull Handle Off-set mounted in the n2 building.



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The Nova Lever Handle and complementary Escutcheon in the n2 building.