

Paternoster Square Column, London

CWO have, in ten months, completed the £950,000 Paternoster Square Column.

Designed by architects, Whitfield Partners, the column, standing 23m high, is the largest free-standing monument, to be built in London in the last century. The new column forms a central feature of the pedestrianised Paternoster Square, the £400M Office and Retail Development of Mitsubishi Estate Co.

At the top of the base and shaft of the column, CWO have placed the intricately carved corinthian capital. Nine months in the making, the capital started life as a 50 tonne block of Portland Combe field Whitbed stone. Trimmed down to 25 tonnes during the rough cut, the finished capital was whittled down to a mere 10 tonnes.

The capital sits atop the shaft of the column which comprises five pieces of Portland each weighing six tonnes. This in turn sits on a base stone of about four tonnes. The whole column is mounted on a Portland limestone and De Lank granite water feature with eight cascades, all produced at CWO's workshop in Chichester.

The main feature of the column, a 3m-high gold leafed copper urn with flamed finial, was the final piece to be placed. At night the urn is illuminated by the latest fibre-optic lighting, creating a major new landmark for the City.



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Natural Stone Awards 2002
Category: Craftsmanship



Client: Stanhope PLC
Architect: Whitfield Partners
Management Contractor: Mace
Contract Value: £950,000

SCULPTURES AND MONUMENTS