

Kaufhaus Tyrol

Innsbruck, Austria 2007–2010

The historic centre of Innsbruck along Maria-Theresien-Straße is characterised by a picturesque town structure, which has grown since mediaeval times. The new Kaufhaus Tyrol as a large inner-city building integrates itself into the existing context with sensitivity and power while still respecting it. The building occupies the space of the former Kaufhaus Tyrol and stretches from Maria-Theresien-Straße through the interior of the block with its central atrium through to Elerstraße.

Structure is given to the long, stretched front of the new building through three façade sections which are at a slight incline to each other, continuing the historic structure of Maria-Theresien-Straße, which has grown irregularly throughout time. The main entrance, situated in the centre, is subtly emphasised by the central part of the building being higher and faces the Old Town and the pedestrian zone. Colonnade-like façade columns with a large cross section form the main architectural characteristic of the building. Through their deep reveals the columns continue the shadow play of the neighbouring buildings with their protruding bays and projections. The façade is made of pre-cast concrete elements with natural stone aggregates, which have polished and sandblasted surfaces. Room-height window openings distributed over all floors mediate between the new Kaufhaus Tyrol and the historic environment.

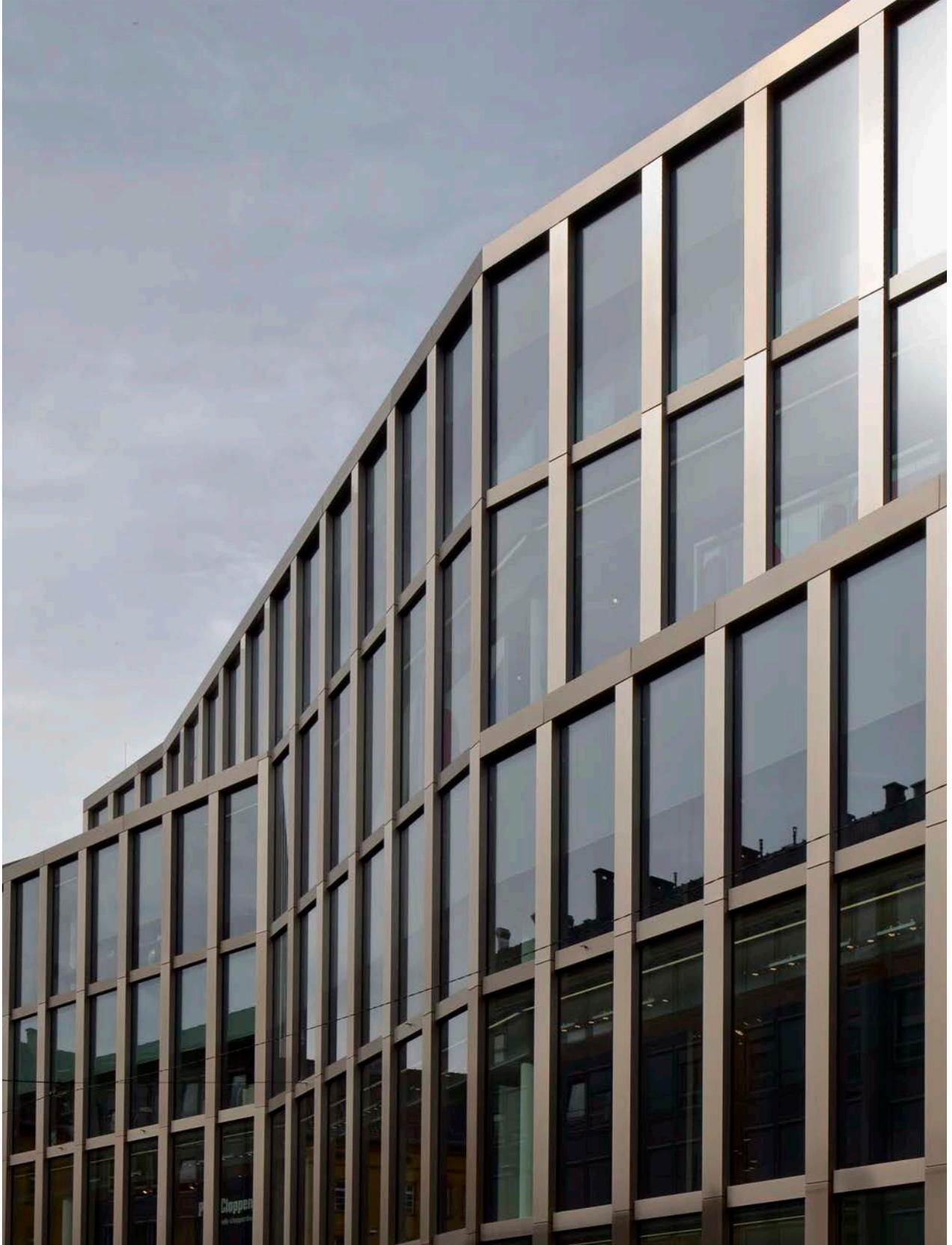
The neighbouring Schindlerhaus, dating back to the sixteenth century, has been frequently modified over the course of the centuries. After careful restoration work of the façade and the addition of a further floor it provides space for offices and meeting rooms and for the former Schindler Café.

The east façade of the Kaufhaus Tyrol along the Elerstraße picks up the theme of the main façade with its room-height window openings. Because of the overall spatial concept and bearing concept, which already existed prior to the design, it is built as non-bearing post and beam construction in anodised, brushed aluminium. An additional entrance on this side allows shoppers to walk all the way through the building from the Maria-Theresien-Straße to Elerstraße. A five-storey, naturally lit atrium provides a central access to all the floors, offering glimpses of other departments and enabling orientation when on a shopping trip.

Project start	2007
Completion	2010
Gross floor area	58,000 m ²
Client	Signa Holding GmbH, Innsbruck
Architect	David Chipperfield Architects Berlin



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Architect	David Chipperfield Architects Berlin
Partner / Directors	David Chipperfield, Christoph Felger (Design lead), Harald Müller
Project architects	Hans Krause (Initial concept), Ulrich Goertz (Preparation and brief to Technical design, Site design supervision, Design intent details)
Project team	François von Chappuis, Florian Dietrich, Kristen Finke, Ole Hallier, Paul Hillerkus, Guido Kappius, Mikhail Kornev, Katrín Löscher, Michael Schmidt, Lukas Schwind, Boris Wolf <i>In collaboration with</i>
Executive architect	Dieter Mathoi Architekten ZT GmbH, Innsbruck (Technical design)
Site supervision	BauManagement Oswald GmbH, Hall in Tirol (Procurement, Construction supervision)
Structural engineer	dibral, Dipl.-Ing. Alfred R. Brunnsteiner ZT GmbH, Natters
Services engineer	Wagner & Partner ZT GmbH, Linz
Fire consultant	Neumann & Partner, Wien
Façade consultant	gkp Fassadentechnik AG, Aadorf
Lighting consultant	matí AG Lichtgestaltung, Adliswil