National Gallery of Canada Ottowa, Ontario 1988 Moshe Safdie



Daylighting Features of the National Gallery of Canada

1 Skylights

in order to minimize heat loss, skylight consists of clear thermopane assembly with low E coating and width is limited to six feet

2 Motorized Roller Blinds

fabric roller blinds mounted on the inside of each skylight above the galleries are controlled automatically by a photosensor located in the skylight in order to maintain desired light levels

3 Reflective Light Shaft

six foot wide mirror-lined shafts extend 25' from the upper floor to the lower to propagate light to lower-level rooms

4 Prismatic Diffuser Lens

prismatic acrylic lens at ceiling level helps to diffuse daylight across the lower gallery

5 Automated Blinds

in side galleries, daylight is brought in through a vertical clerestory with automated blinds mounted on the interior of the clerestory

6 Fixed Louvers

wide aluminum louvers, installed at a fixed pitch to prevent direct sunlight penetration, are mounted inside the clerestory of the side galleries

7 Electric Lights

most of the electric lights in the galleries are spotlights, linked to a building management system where curators can decide when to turn the lights on or off, based on scheduling, season, time of day, and curatorial specifications













