

## THE POINT LEISURE CENTRE

<b>Location:</b>	Milton Keynes
<b>Size:</b>	70 000 square feet
<b>Value:</b>	£9 million
<b>Client:</b>	Bass Leisure/American Multi-Cinema
<b>Completion:</b>	1985
<b>BDP Professions:</b>	Architects, mechanical, electrical and structural engineers, landscape architects, acoustics and energy specialists

Milton Keynes' unique entertainment centre The Point, designed by Building Design Partnership, is a 70 foot high mirrored crystal ziggurat within a bright red steel exposed lattice pyramid frame. Now an established landmark for the city, the design concept for The Point was produced in conjunction with interior designer Neil Tibbatts and developed on BDP's Acropolis computer-aided design system.

The Point houses a discotheque, bars, two restaurants, a 1500 seat bingo, social club and childrens' entertainments all on a number of levels. The ziggurat acts as the front entrance emphasis for the complex and all this part is operated by Bass Leisure. The theatrical use of interior and exterior lighting is achieved via the pyramid frame which carries the lighting and acts as a display medium for rapidly changing signs and banners. At the rear is Britains first purpose-built ten screen multiplex cinema with a seating capacity for over 2000 seats. This is operated by American Multi-Cinema and connects to the Bass section via a glazed link.

Sited on Midsummer Boulevard, the Point is directly opposite the city's successful shopping area. Hailed as a 'unique concept in entertainment', The Point provides a fully integrated entertainment venue for the rapidly expanding population of Milton Keynes and the residents of the surrounding region. 'Cinema again has a future in this country,' said film producer David Puttnam at the opening. The truth of this has been proved by the high attendances at the cinema since its opening, stimulated by a wide selection of films and low ticket prices in an attractive environment.

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