structurally COMMON sound GROUND



BRIGHTON COMMON PARK PAVILION is the center of attention in a small Boston green space.

Set in Brighton Common Park (also known as Brighton Square), the new pavilion and park transformed an underused public space into a new venue for events and performances.

The pavilion's form and detailing are derived from the rich rail yard history of the surrounding Brighton neighborhood, once the center of all livestock trade for Boston. Designed by architect Touloukian Touloukian, Inc., and structural engineer RSE Associates, Inc., the pavilion's wood and steel structure was designed to represent converging and diverging railroad tracks and the strong roof-line forms of historic railway stations.

The frame is composed of steel channels, angles and plate, and lateral stability is achieved through the use of ³/₈-in. stainless steel cables and turnbuckles and 1¹/₄-in. stainless steel rods that tie the whole primary frame together and allow the open roof framing to cantilever out over the stage area. As a complement to the framing system, an ipê wood skin was integrated into the steel members. The overall composition creates a balance of materials that work together to create an inviting atmosphere for visitors.

Additionally, solar studies drove the design of varying and alternating wood louvers and steel spacing in the roof framing to provide shade for the stage and seating area, as well as to facilitate direct sunlight for the climbing vines at the back of the structure. The result is a dynamic changing pattern of light and shadow.