

The Franco British Union of Architects - Reunion 17 - 20 May 2012

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Thursday 17 May
Norwich Cathedral



Norwich Cathedral was started in 1096, thirty years after the Norman Conquest of England and is built out of Caen stone. The original build was finished in 1145 and the plan of the Cathedral and much of the building fabric remains from that period. The large cloister was started in 1297 though it was not finished until 1430 – Norwich was much affected by the 'Black Death'. The spire (second highest in England after Salisbury Cathedral) was completed in 1480 and is a replacement for an earlier wooden spire.

The most recent additions to the Cathedral are the Refectory and Hostelry buildings (where we will have lunch and the AGM) designed by Hopkins Architects and completed in 2010.

Friday 18 May
East Ruston Garden



The garden at East Ruston lies very close to the North Sea in a black corner of Norfolk. The owners of the garden brought an unremarkable old rectory some twenty five years ago and set about creating a garden out of flat agricultural land. The result is a spectacular 32 acre garden and an inspiration as to what can be achieved with vision and hard work. The garden's owner and creator will talk about the design and making of the garden.

Norwich Castle Museum



Norwich Castle was one of the earliest Royal Castles built sometime between 1066 and 1075 as a fortified place to control the important city of Norwich. The Castle was one of the 48 mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086 and was the only Royal Castle in East Anglia at that time. The stone keep was built between 1095 and 1110. The Castle has been heavily restored externally, more recently by Anthony Salvin in the 1830s, but internally the form of the original Castle is still apparent.

The Castle was used as a gaol from 1220-1887 when it was purchased by the city. It has been used as a Museum and Art Gallery since then.

Saturday 19 May
Houghton Hall



Houghton Hall is the home of the Marquess of Cholmondeley and was built by his ancestor Robert Walpole who was in effect the first 'Prime Minister' of the United Kingdom between 1721-1742, the longest administration in British history. The house was designed by Colin Campbell who began the building in 1722. The design was altered by James Gibbs who added the domes. The interiors, which survive to a remarkable extent, were designed by William Kent between 1725-1735. The park was laid out by Charles Bridgeman and contains some interesting modern sculpture collected by the present Marquess.

Sunday 20 May
University of East Anglia



The University of East Anglia will be fifty years old in 2013. The original University buildings, the 'Ziggurats', were designed by Sir Denys Lasdun and are still a striking sight. Since the original work there have been a succession of interesting buildings. We will see work by Sir Bernard Feilden, Rick Mather, John Miller and Lord Foster. Lunch will be in the Sainsbury Centre designed by Norman Foster and opened in 1978.

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Programme

Thursday 17 May

1230

Lunch at Norwich Cathedral Refectory

1430-1630

Tour of Cathedral with the Cathedral Architect, Henry Freeland and to the new buildings by Hopkins Architects

1630-1700

Tea in the Cathedral Refectory

1700-1800

Annual General Meeting in the Cathedral Meeting Room

1930

Dinner at Dragon Hall, a merchant hall built around 1430

Friday 18 May

0930

Depart Premier Inn Hotel

1030

Visit to East Ruston Garden with a talk about the creation of the garden by the owner Alan Gray

1230-1400

Lunch at East Ruston Garden

1500-1700

Visit to the Castle Museum and a walking tour of the city centre

1930

Dinner at Loch Fyne Restaurant

Saturday 19 May

0930

Depart Premier Inn Hotel

1045

Coffee at Houghton Hall

1100-1300

Visit Hall

1300-1430

Lunch at the Hall

1430-1545

Visit Houghton Gardens

1645

Back at the hotel

1930

Walk from hotel to Assembly House

1945-2330

Gala Dinner

Sunday 20 May

1030

Depart Premier Inn Hotel

1100-1230

Walk through the University of East Anglia to look at the Lasdun Ziggurats and new buildings by Rick Mather and John Miller

1230-1415

Lunch in Norman Foster's Sainsbury Centre

1415

Coach to hotel and railway station to catch the 1500 train

