



89th Reunion – Hertfordshire 10-13 May 2018



89th Congrès – Hertfordshire 10-13 mai 2018



L'Union Franco-Britannique des Architectes



UFBA

FBUA



The Franco-British Union of Architects

Day 1 • Thursday 10th May 2018

Mercure Hotel AL10 9AF
Hatfield House AL9 5NB
The Ryde AL9 5DQ

Taxi from Hatfield Station to Mercure Hotel

11.30 Mercure Hatfield Oak Hotel ①
Arrival and registration

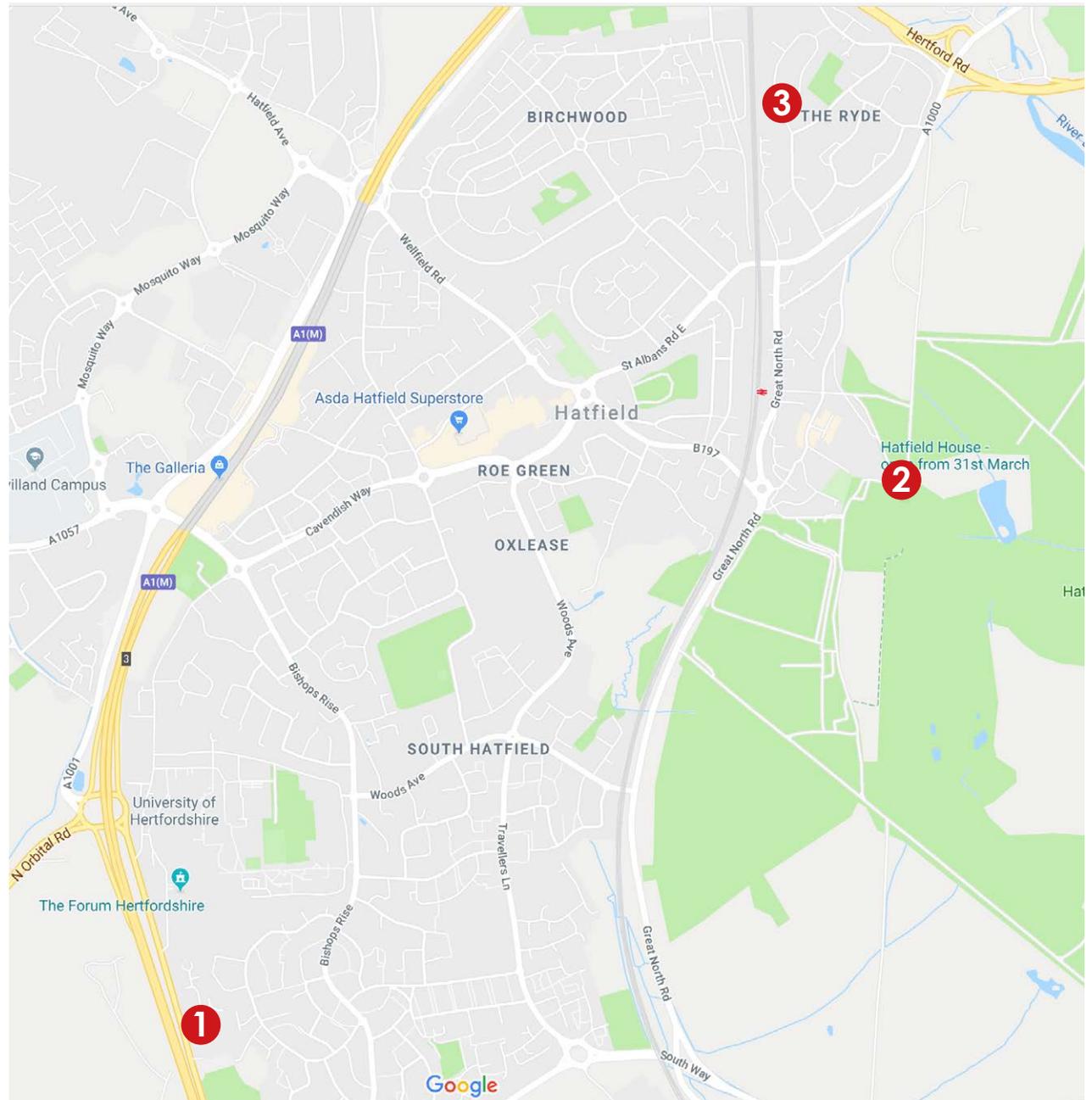
Taxi/cars to Hatfield House

12.30 Hatfield House Café ②
Lunch

14.00 Hatfield House, Gardens and Museum ②
Tour

17.00 69 The Ryde, Hatfield ③
Committee meeting
Tours of houses and talks

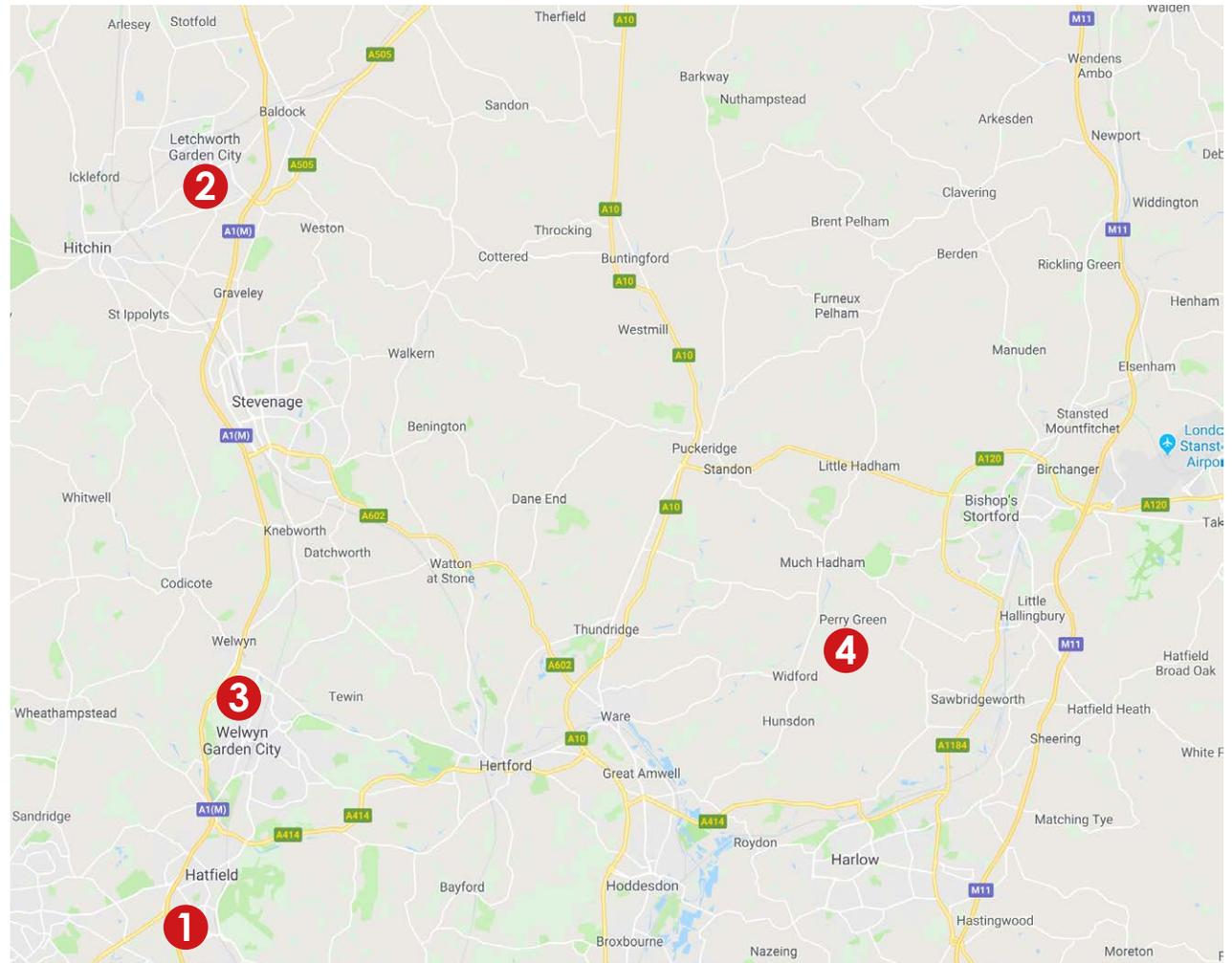
19.30 69 The Ryde, Hatfield ③
Cocktail party and supper



Day 2 • Friday 11th May 2018

Letchworth Garden City
Welwyn Garden City
Perry Green SG10 6EE

- 9.00 Coach departs** ①
Mercure Hatfield Oak Hotel
- 9.30 Letchworth Garden City** ②
Tour and Barry Parker exhibition
- 13.00 Lunch**
- 14.30 Welwyn Garden City** ③
Tour and Ideal Home exhibition site
- 15.30 Welwyn Garden City** ③
Templewood School,
Welwyn Garden City AL8 7SD
- 17.00 Perry Green** ④
Tour of home of Henry Moore
and new galleries
Supper



Day 3 • Saturday 12th May 2018

Harlow New Town
New Hall, Harlow CM7 9LJ
Haileybury SG13 7NU
Hatfield House AL9 5NB

9.00 Coach departs
Mercure Hatfield Oak Hotel

10.00 Harlow New Town
and Harlow Newhall
Tour

12.00 Gibberd Garden and House
CM17 0NA
Tours

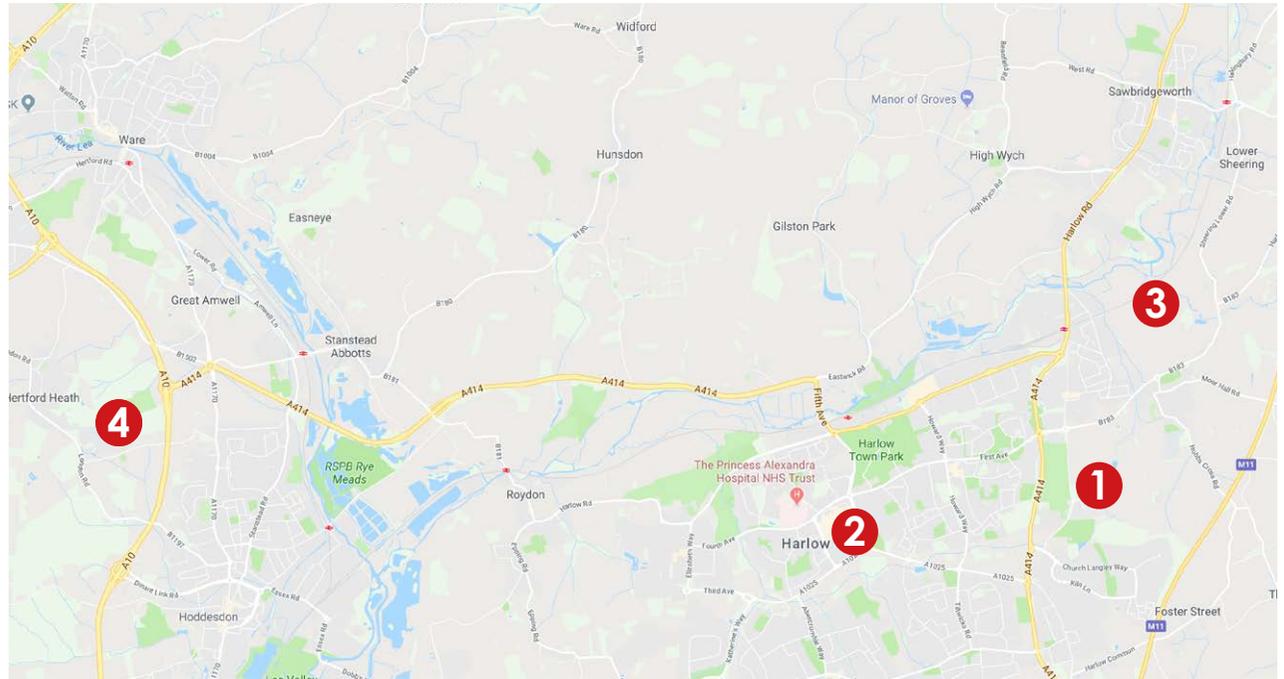
15.30 Haileybury
Hertford Heath
Visit to the archives
and grounds

19.30 Gala Dinner
Hatfield House Old Palace

1
2

3

4



Day 4 • Sunday 13th May 2018

Torilla AL10 9SY
Strawdance SG13 8NE
Woodcock Lodge SG13 8ND
Potters Bar Station EN6 1AN

10.30 **Taxi/cars leave for**
Torilla, Wilkins Green Lane

1

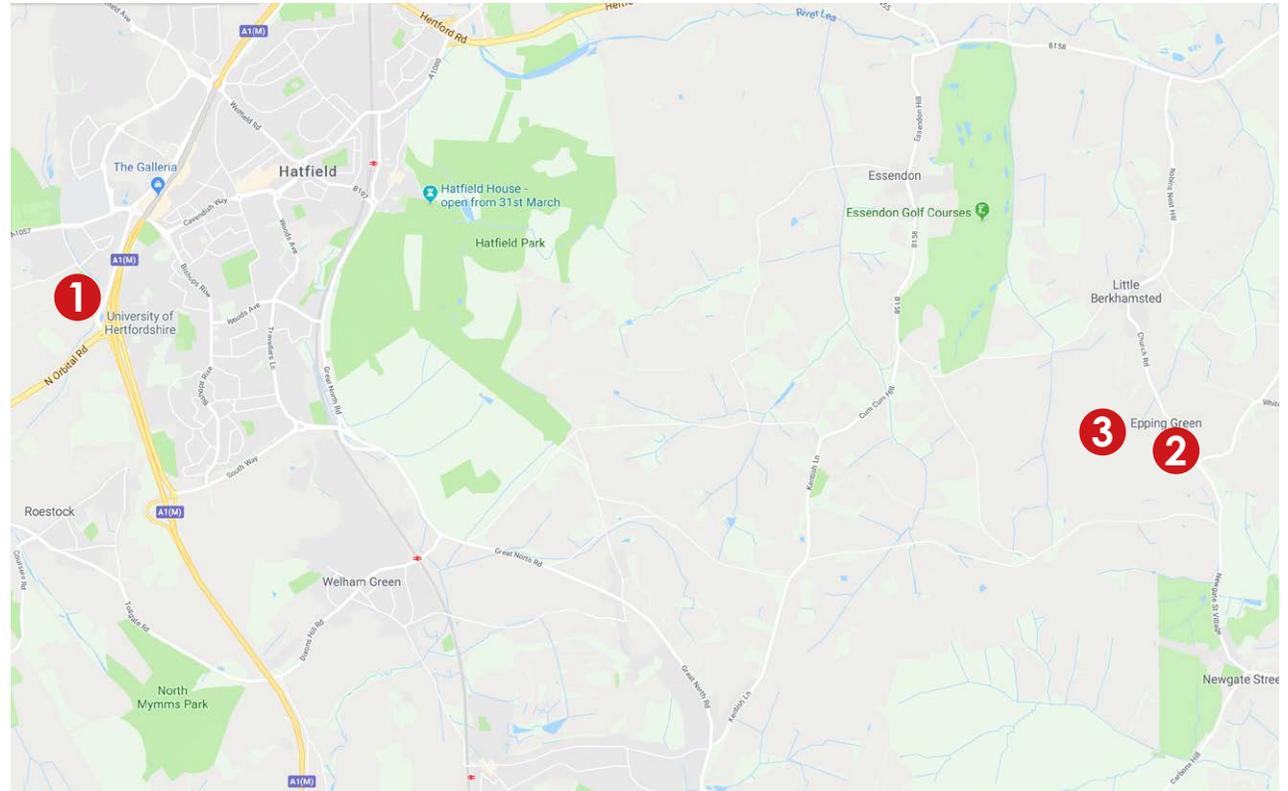
12.00 **Strawdance**
Tour

2

13.00 **Woodcock Lodge**
Home of Yasmin Shariff
Walk through bluebell woods
Lunch
Fete

3

16.00 **Cars/taxi depart**
to Potters Bar station
for Kings Cross



Day 1 • Hatfield House

Old Palace at Hatfield house was built in c1480-97 for the Bishop of Ely. It was seized by Henry VIII and became the childhood home of Queen Elizabeth I. Only part of the Old Palace and gardens survive. The famous Rainbow Portrait of Elizabeth can be seen in the New Palace, a Jacobean house built 1607-12 by Robert Cecil, the chief minister to Elizabeth I.

The New and Old Palace sit in spectacular park and gardens. Thomas Chaundler laid out the East Garden c1610-11. Salomon de Caus worked on the gardens till c1612 and John Tradescant the elder supervised the planting. The gardens have been remodeled and extended in the C19 and C20.



Day 1 • The Ryde, Hatfield

The Ryde is a development of 28 houses, a community house, tennis courts and communal gardens in Hatfield. The scheme was initiated by Michael Bailey, a transport correspondent for The Times who was inspired by Scandinavian models of communal housing and wanted to set a new pattern in development and urban renewal.

Designed by Peter Phippen, Peter Randall and David Parkes in 1963-66, the concept of narrow frontage single storey houses with a series of linked patios was influenced by Chermeyeff's courtyard houses, Danish examples and work by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Research and Development Group led by Cleeve Barr and Oliver Cox where both Parkes and Randall were working.



Day 2 • Letchworth Garden City

Letchworth Garden City is rooted in the idealism and utopian experimentation of Quaker industrialists Joseph and Seebohm Rowntree and Ebenezer Howard's concept for garden cities. Their ideas initially shaped the 150 acre site model village at New Earswick near York and then the Garden Cities in Letchworth and Welwyn. Parker and Unwin were commissioned to design New Earswick for the Rowntrees and two years later they started work in 1903 on the first Garden City at Letchworth.

Ebenezer Howard's Garden City movement was a reaction to the overcrowding and industrial pollution of Victorian cities. He drew on Quaker precedents at Port Sunlight, Bournville and Robert Owen's 'Vision for a new society' – a 'happy home for many generations of children where they will be brought up amid surroundings that will benefit them spiritually, mentally and physically'.

The 1905 and 1907 Cheap Cottage Exhibitions helped shape the character and form of the architecture which developed in Letchworth. These prototypes were intended to exhibit new ways of building affordable homes, and challenge current building codes.



Day 2 • Welwyn Garden City

In 1919 Howard arranged the purchase of land near the village of Welwyn and on 29 April 1920 a company, Welwyn Garden City Ltd, was formed to plan and build 'a town designed for healthy living' where people could live, work and raise their families away from the miseries of congested cities.

Louis de Soissons was appointed architect and town planner. The town is laid out along tree-lined boulevards with a neo-Georgian town centre.

As with Letchworth Garden City an exhibition of model dwellings shaped the vision of housing types. The Daily Mail Model Village exhibition was held in 1922 with 41 houses built to demonstrate 16 different systems of housing construction incorporating the very latest electrical and hot water systems, cooking appliances and interior fittings.

Other notable architects who have designed buildings in WGC include Otto Salvisberg, E C Kaufman, Wells Coates, C M Hennell, Shepherd Robson, Bill Allen, J Bickerdike and James Cubitt Fello Atkinson and Architects Co-Partnership.



Day 2 • Templewood School, Welwyn Garden City

Designed for 200 junior and 120 infant children and built between 1948 and 1950, the design articulates principles outlined in Building Bulletin 1, 'New Primary Schools', (1949). Individual teaching spaces extend outdoors through a series of paved terraces. Doors and windows are designed to be easily accessible to small children. Circulation spaces were designed as extensions of teaching spaces to help create spaces for project based learning.

There was an allocated budget for art work in new schools and there are three large murals by Patricia Tew who flew Cartalina flying boats to Russia during the war. Tew was paid £175 and the paints cost £8. Two of the mural scenes depict fairy tales including The Magic Fish and The Selfish Giant and the third has four scenes from the life of St Nicolas. Le Corbusier visited the school and is reported to have remarked 'C'est jolie' with reference to the murals.



Day 2 • Perry Green, Much Hadham

In 1940 after their home in Hampstead was damaged during the Blitz, Henry and Irina Moore moved to Perry Green. They were able to rent half the former farmhouse and gradually extended their ownership to the entire farmhouse and surrounding farmland and the neighbouring pub.

The site now belongs to the Henry Moore Foundation and the house, studios and large scale sculptures can be seen in the grounds. A new visitor centre and administration hub designed by Hugh Broughton Architects was completed a few months ago. This new state-of-the-art building features a beautifully crafted oak reading room; a light and airy reception office; six climate controlled rooms designed to safely house the extensive and varied archive collections; and a further project space for the digitising, re-housing and conservation of materials.



Day 3 • Harlow New Town

Situated on the border of Hertfordshire, Harlow New Town lies in Essex. The original masterplan was prepared by Sir Frederick Gibberd in 1947. Inspired by the contemporaneous Copenhagen Plan, he produced a 'finger diagram' with long thin neighbourhoods splaying out from a dense urban 'palm'. Each finger provided housing for 5,000-8,000 people along with shops, churches, community centres and pubs. Wedges of woodland and green space between each of the fingers offered scope for both agricultural and recreational use.

Gibberd invited many of the country's leading post-war architects to design buildings in the town, including Philip Powell and Hidalgo Moya, Leonard Manasseh, Michael Neylan, E C P Monson, Gerard Goalen, Maxwell Fry, Jane Drew, Graham Dawbarn, H. T. Cadbury-Brown and William Crabtree. Harlow has one of the most extensive cycle track networks in the country, connecting all areas of the town to the town centre and industrial areas.

The town's authorities built Britain's first pedestrian precinct, and first modern-style residential tower block, The Lawn, constructed in 1951; it is now a Grade II listed building. Gibberd's tromp-l'oeil terrace in Orchard Croft and Dawbarn's maisonette blocks at Pennymead are also notable, as is Michael Neylan's pioneering development at Bishopsfield. The first neighbourhood, Mark Hall, is a conservation area. Gibberd's original town hall, a landmark in the town, has been demolished and replaced by a new civic centre and The Water Gardens shopping area.



Day 3 • Harlow Newhall

Newhall, is located on the eastern outskirts of the city and owes its existence to fourth-generation farmers, Jon and William Moen, who inherited 280 acres of prime Essex farmland in the early 1980s.

Roger Evans was appointed to develop a masterplan for a 6,000-strong neighbourhood – a scale in keeping with Gibberd's original plans – to accommodate 2,800 homes within walking distance of community facilities, shops and schools.

The designers of Newhall have had to use ingenuity to house contemporary parking requirements in such a high-density scheme. Housing has been designed by a number of well known architects including Proctor Mathews, PCKO, Richard Murphy and Alison Brooks.



Day 3 • Gibberd House and Garden

Sir Frederick Gibberd was a major figure in British Modernism and post-war reconstruction. After training at the Birmingham School of Architecture, Gibberd moved to London and took up work in the offices of E Berry Webber. Gibberd became a member of the Modern Architectural Research Group which formed in 1933 when Sigfried Giedion of the Congrès International d'Architecture Moderne asked Morton Shand to assemble a group that would represent Britain at their events. In 1941 Gibberd was appointed studio master and eventually became principal of the Architectural Association and under his tutelage were a number of influential students including Hidalgo (Jacko) Moya and Philip Powell. Gibberd's MARS Group and the Architectural Association networks were a major influence on the development of Harlow.

With the passing of The New Towns Act in 1946, Gibberd was appointed to take up the challenge of designing Harlow in Essex as one of the 'first wave' of towns to alleviate the post-war housing shortage. The New Town of Harlow was to accommodate 60,000 inhabitants. Gibberd purchased a property in Marsh Lane, Harlow with 16 acres of land to give him an opportunity to try out ideas for creating sequences of spaces within a landscape. The gardens were developed throughout his life and various elements salvaged from his commissions would find their way into the scheme, including boulders from the Lyn Celyn Reservoir, columns from the demolished parts of Coutts Bank in London, as well as some 80 sculptures from leading artists and many personal friends. Gibberd remained in Harlow for the rest of his life and supervised the implementation of the various phases of development over the next four decades.



Day 3 • Haileybury



The East India Company commissioned William Wilkins, a leading exponent of Greek revivalism to design the Quad and classical South Front when it founded its college at Haileybury, Hertford Heath in 1806. Wilkins had designed Downing College, Cambridge two years earlier and subsequently worked on University College London (1826-1830) and the National Gallery (1831-1838). Early landscapes by Humphrey Repton (1809) include a reflecting pool designed to accentuate the Wilkins classical facade.

Other buildings on the site include a domed Chapel which was originally was designed by Arthur Blomfield (1876-7) and rebuilt after a fire in 1878. The Chapel was remodelled by Herbert Baker in 1936. The school hall was designed by J W Simpson and Maxwell Ayrton and the dining hall by Herbert Baker and Oscar Faber. Later additions include a swimming pool (1996) and accommodation for 120 female pupils (2002) by Studio E Architects.

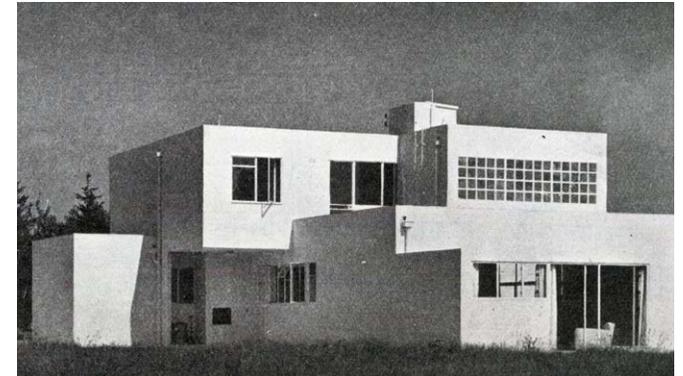


Day 4 • Torilla, Hatfield

Rescued by Dennis Sharp from demolition, this striking modern movement house shows the influence of Le Corbusier's Maison La Roche.

Designed in 1934-5 by F R S Yorke with Marcel Breuer, Torilla is entirely constructed in 4" and 6" concrete and rendered at a later date in roughcast. The Lenscrete clerestory window and the large south facing window to the living room flood natural daylight and sunlight into the open plan living area. The upstairs roof terrace was designed to be used as a nursery.

The house was renovated by John Winter for the artist Alan Charlton and retains many of its original features and details.



Day 4 • Strawdance, Woodcock Lodge



Designed by Yasmin Shariff, Strawdance is a load bearing strawbale structure which curves to form a cylinder – generating a circular space for dance. The studio was built for under £5,000 in 2000.

The dance studio provides a flexible space for a multitude of activities from poetry readings, music performances and meditation.



Woodcock Lodge was originally a hunting lodge for Hatfield House with a 'square' moat. It was then significantly extended and landscaped at the end of the 19th century when it formed a part of the Baker Estate. The house was purchased by Dennis Sharp in 1972 and subdivided into 5 units. The grounds have been kept intact and the yew hedges, bluebell wood and rose gardens restored over the years.



THE THREE MAGNETS

No. 1.

