

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY 12 MAY

French party arrive at Heathrow.

Visit Belvedere Farm Estate/Polo Centre at Sunningdale. A prototype village by Demetri Porphyrios.

Arrive Caversham, near Reading, and board the "Caversham Princess" river boat for cruise on River Thames and lunch en route to Mapledurham.

Mapledurham House (Elizabethan) and village with almshouses, church and watermill.

To Swindon via Downs and White Horse at Uffington.

AGM at Wiltshire Hotel, Swindon, followed by Talks with slides by Helen Ryan.

Dinner followed by:-

'Conservation and Development in Oxford' - Lecture and slides by John Ashdown, City Conservation Officer.

FRIDAY 13 MAY - DAY IN OXFORD

Tour of Oxford. Guided walks in Oxford, visiting new College developments.

Lunch in Arlosh Hall, Manchester College.

Informal visits/walks in Oxford or free for shopping.

Then to Wantage, Court Hill Ridgeway Centre and Youth Hostel. Visit and aperitifs.

Dinner at Lains Barn.

SATURDAY 14 MAY

Swindon - New Buildings. Visits to:-

Renault Building (Foster Associates)
Nationwide's Croft Administration Building (Holford Associates)
Allied Dunbar Training Centre (B.D.P.) (RIBA Regional Award)

Drive across Downs to Avebury. Meet at Great Barn, Avebury. Lunch followed by visits to:-

Avebury Manor House Avebury Ring

Return passing Silbury Hall and Marlborough.

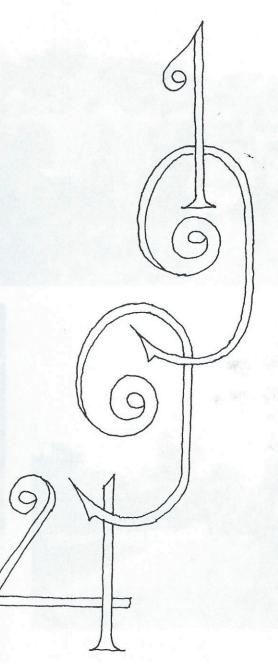
Reception in the Fellows' Garden at Wadham College, Oxford. Banquet - Wadham College.

SUNDAY 15 MAY

Visit to Stowe and tour of House. Lunch in marquee in grounds.

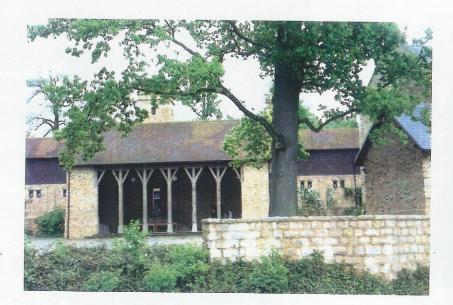
Tour of Gardens.

Depart Stowe to return to Heathrow.

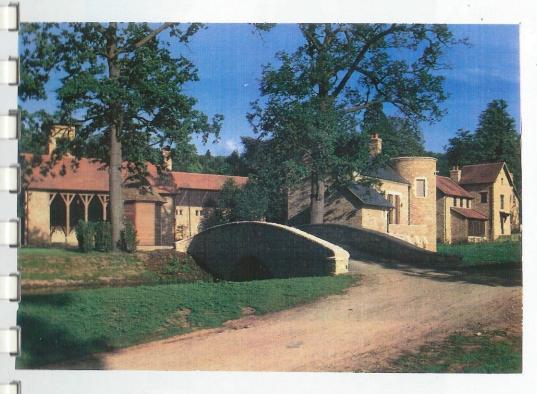


THURSDAY

Belvedere Farm near Ascot
A prototype village by
Demetri Porphyrios
brings traditional urban values
to the heart of contemporary debate.













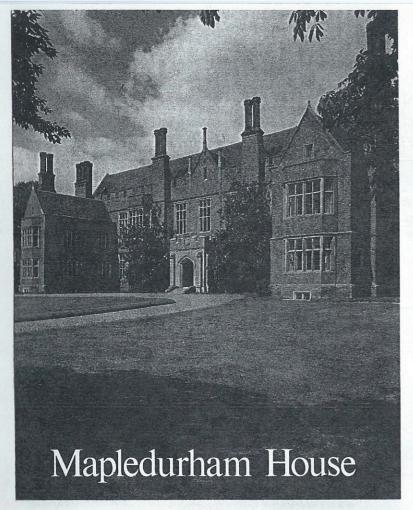


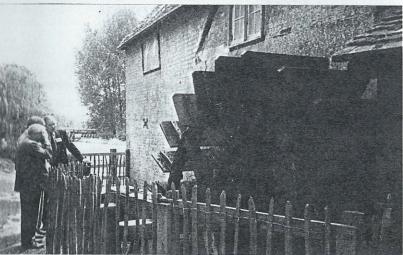




A 48th Wedding Anniversary



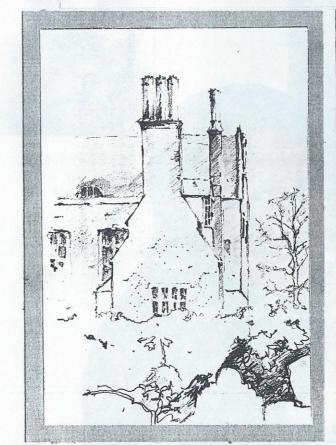


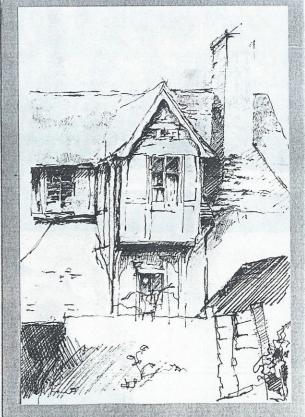


Visite de Mapledurham House

Mapledurham appartient á la même famille depuis 1490: la famille Blount. Cette famille, originaire de Normandie, descend du chevalier Le Blond, qui, avec ses deux fils, accompanga le Duc de Normandie, Guillaume le Conquerant, en Angleterre, en 1066. Apres la battaille d'Hastings (1066), Guillaume devint roi d'Angleterre et leur donne une terre. Cette famille, par la suite, fut toujours honorée et protégèe par les rois d'Angleterre, et occupa des charges importantes. Ainsi pendant le règne de la rèine Elizabeth, deux membres de la famille, le père et ensuite le fils ont étè "Lieutenant de la Tour de Londres", (bien que la famille soit restèe catholique).

A l'époque élizabéthaine, le bâtiment que vous avez aperçu en arrivant à cette demeure, vielle maison manoriale, devait parâitre plutôt modeste pour des gens si illustres. De plus, beaucoup de membres de la Cour se faisaient construire de magnifiques demeures: c'est ainsi qu'en 1588, Sir Michael Blount (1530–1610), Lieutenant de la Tour de Londres, commença la construction de cette belle demeure. Son fils, Sir Richard, la poursivit et l'acheva. Le plan de la bâtisse: en forme de E est charactéristique de l'époque Elizabéthaine: le corps principal du château est flanqué de deux ailes.





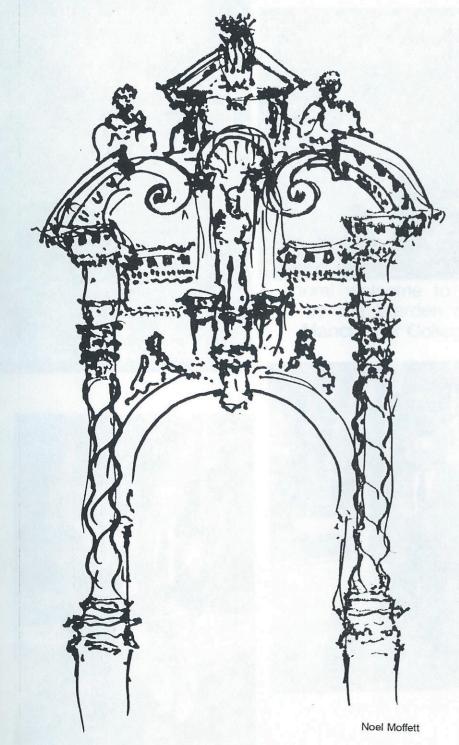
Defor Roser

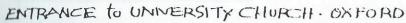


MAISON MAPLEDURHAM

- C'est le Manoir Crapaud, dit Rat; cette crique sur la gauche, où tu vois une pancarte: « Propriété privée - Défense d'aborder », conduit à sa remise à bateaux, et c'est là que nous laisserons notre embarcation. Les écuries sont tout à fait à droite. Ce que tu regardes en ce moment, c'est la salle des banquets - très ancienne. Crapaud est assez riche et cette maison est vraiment l'une des plus belles de la région, mais nous ne le reconnaissons jamais en sa présence.





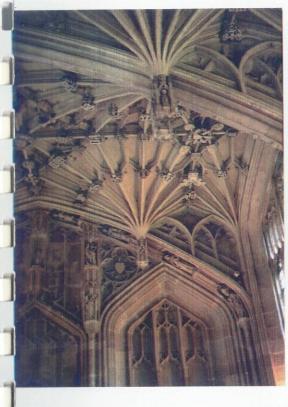




Oxford is indeed well-known by all manner of mortals. Here King Harold died, Richard the Lionheart was born, Henry V was educated, Elizabeth 1 was entertained and fêted, and this is where William of Orange refused to eat anything for fear of being poisoned!

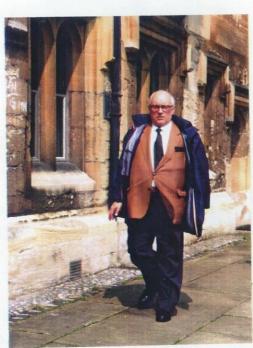
Academic Oxford has nurtured politicians, clerics, poets, philosophers and scientists, to mention a few. Oxford has been home to generations of writers, artists and publishers - and car builders.

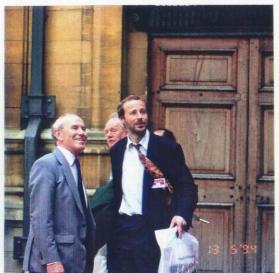
As you visit the 'dreaming spires', the influence of all these, past and present, is evident all around you.



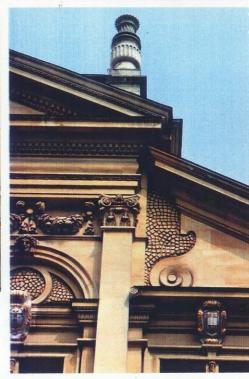


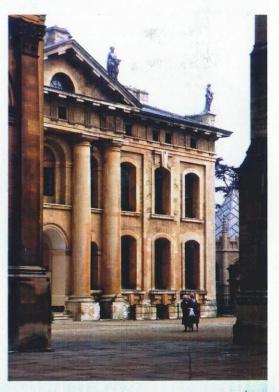
A choral welcome to lunch by the Warden of Manchester College

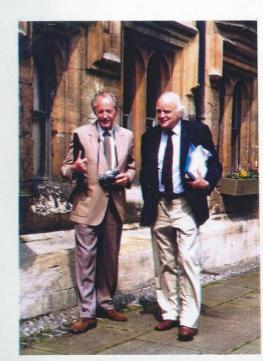


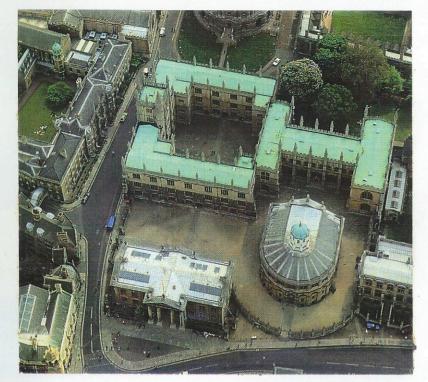








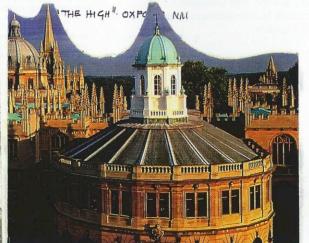




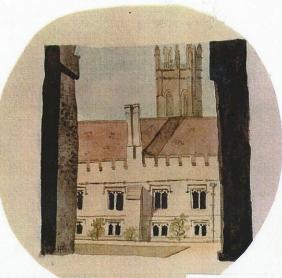






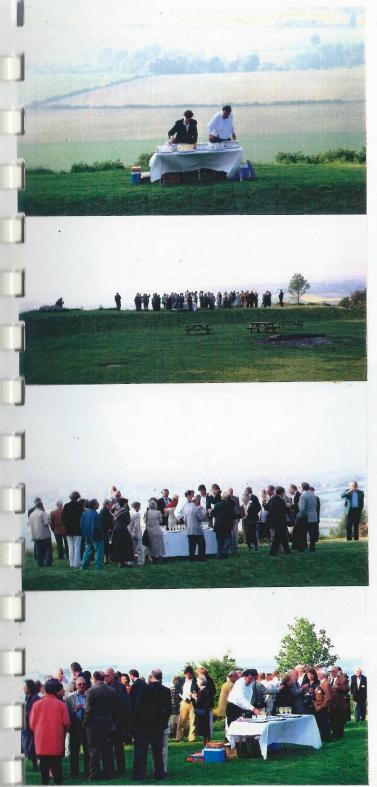






LEFT: All Souls College. The gateway.

Helen Ryan







The Ridgeway Centre started as a telephone call from a local farmer saying he had five barns by the railway line. "You can have them if you take them away - otherwise I will bulldoze them".

Dr Dick Squires dismantled them but then had to decide what to do with them. He has enjoyed the Ridgeway since childhood and had come to regard it as one of the community's great assets.

Dr Squires then thought of the Ridgeway where there was a need for accommodation for walkers and this was his chance. Why not re-erect the barns on the Ridgeway to provide simple accommodation in a spectacular building with a spectacular view?

He managed to acquire an amazing site which had been an old chalk quarry but used for the previous 12 years as a dump for Wantage domestic refuse. Regarding accommodation and requirements, he assessed the type of people who would wish to use the Centre and added other amenities such as a large games/picnic area with tables and barbecues, a room open for 24 hours a day for Ridgeway walkers and people who wished to shelter from inclement weather, with toilet facilities and a Display Area for exhibitions and general matters of interest.

Seven stables were also provided - for those who might turn up with a horse and require shelter for the night.

The Project was made to work more easily as the Local Council and other Bodies have all been very generous with funds. It is run by the Youth Hostel Association with members of the Local Council and Representatives of the Vale and Downland Trust as Trustees.

The Scheme was joint second in the 1985 Times/RIBA Community Architectural Award.

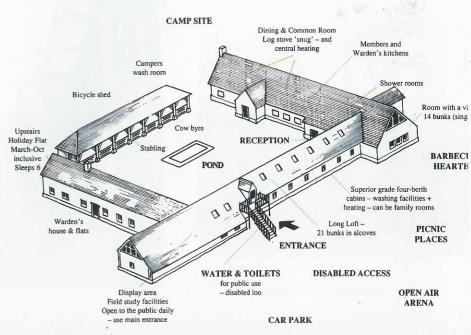
The Ridgeway Centre caters for about 9,000 overnight stays each year.

The Court Hill Ridgeway Centre, Wantage

Owned by the Court Hill Trust and managed by the Youth Hostels Association.

Combines the practical needs of accommodation with the preservation of five timber framed buildings, making it an exciting and lovely place to stay.

BEECH COPSE



SATURDAY

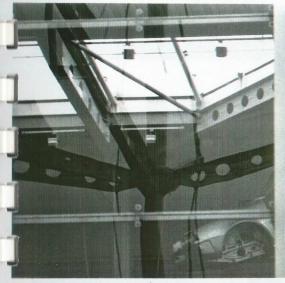
RENAULT (UK) LIMITED, RENAULT CENTRE, SWINDON

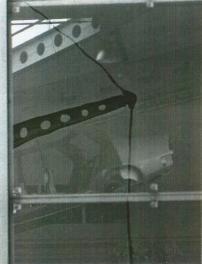
ARCHITECTS: FOSTER ASSOCIATES

"Renault presented a challenge of establishing a progressive image of design quality that would extend out from their product range across to their working environment. This quest for excellence was sought within demanding limits of time and cost in ways that would accommodate the dynamic of change during the building life ..."











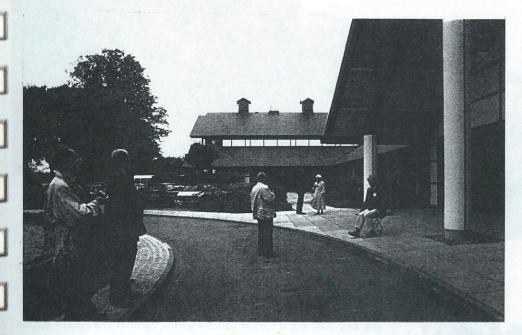




Alternative building use

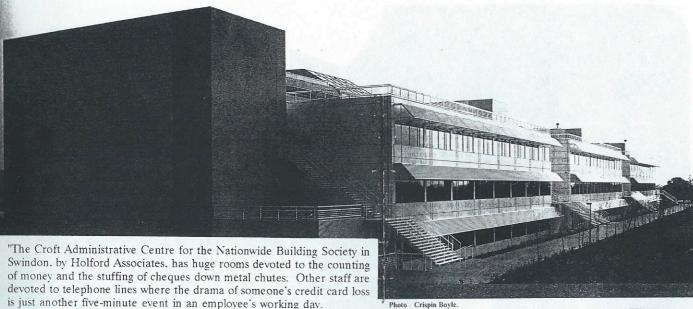
ALLIED DUNBAR TRAINING CENTRE

ARCHITECTS BDP





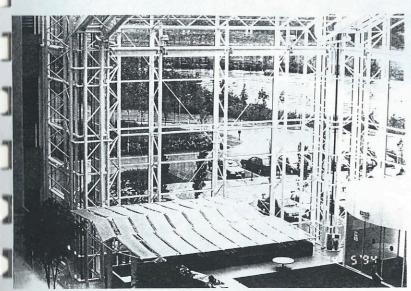


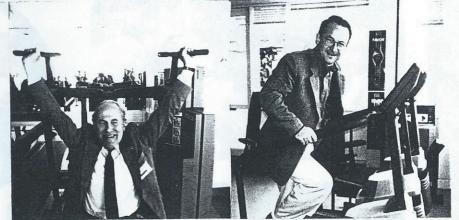




is just another five-minute event in an employee's working day.

"The staff appear to lounge among their free-style work station,s but the reality of work is as strict as it was for the staff of Frank Lloyd Wright's Larkin Building. In fact the (subtle) regimentation of staff goes further in 1992 than 1904. Today's employees, moved to greenfield sites on the edge of town, are provided with an alternative to "everyday" life; every facility - shops and canteens during working hours - is provided, and they are even encouraged to stay after hours with tennis courts and company squash ladders.





FBUA Sports team in the Nationwide Health Club







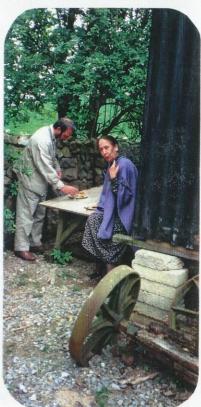
DEJEUNER SUR L'HERBE







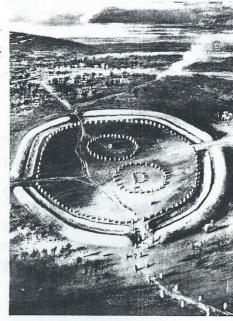




Une diseuse de bonne aventure de la region

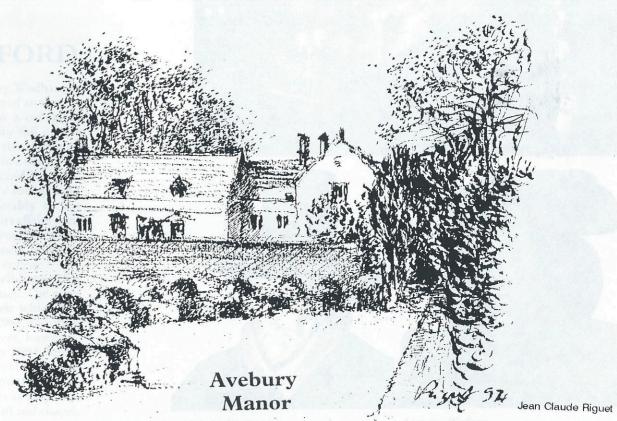






Avebury, as it might have appeared some 4500 years ago





The Franco - British Union of Architects

The President
and the British Committee
request the pleasure of the company of

at the Banquet of the 73rd Reunion at Wadham College, Oxford on Saturday 14th May 1994

RSVP

6.45pm for 7.45pm

WADHAM COLLEGE, OXFORD

adham College was founded by Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham in the reign of King James I. Nicholas Wadham, a member of an ancient Somerset family, died in 1609, leaving his fortune to endow a college at Oxford. The hard work of translating intentions into reality fell on his widow, Dorothy, a formidable lady of 75. She fought all the claims of Nicholas's relations, lobbied at court, negotiated the purchase of a site, drew up the college statutes, and appointed the first Warden, Fellows and Scholars, and the college cook, to such effect that the college was ready for opening within four years of Nicholas's death. She added considerably to the endowment from her own resources, and kept tight control of its affairs until her death in 1618; although she never actually visited Oxford from her home in Devon to see the results of her generosity and business acumen. Nicholas and Dorothy Wadham are honoured as the co-founders of the college.

Dorothy Wadham chose as her architect William Arnold, well-known for his work in the West Country (most notably, Montacute House). The main quadrangle is little changed from his design. The stonework which had become black and crumbling was renewed between 1957 and 1964, restoring the original freshness of the building. The window fitments were, however, altered in the XVIIIth Century, and the lawn dates only from 1809; before that the quadrangle was gravelled. Arnold built in the Gothic style which was traditional for Oxford colleges, but added Renaissance decorative features to it. This is most obvious in the East Range, which faces visitors as they look across the lawn from the main gate, and which contains the hall and chapel.





Nicholas Wadham

Dorothy Wadham

Excerpts from the PRESIDENTS ADDRESS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Warden and Domestic Bursar and the Steward Mr Beech for allowing us to use this wonderful Elizabethan Hall and also Mr Roach who is in charge tonight and finally Professor Charles McCallum who designed the new Library of this college and who arranged everything for us to be able to come here tonight.

En Anglais il existe une différence entre un `after-dinner speech' et un `Speech after Dinner'. Un `After Dinner Speech' est adressé à un joyeux auditoire, il est plein de plaisanteries et de sarcasmes et il dure quatre minutes. Si l'orateur est Jeffrey Archer ou Paul Lou Sulizer ça peut coûter cinq milles livres.

Un `Speech After Dinner' contient moins de plaisanteries, mais il est en géneral instructif, dure vingt minutes et ne coûte rien. Je ne suis pas payé mais j'éspere ne pas vous garder plus de deux minutes.

The last Oxford reunion was 24 years ago in 1970. Sir Gilbert Inglefield/President Henri Jacques Le Meme/V. Pres and Tony Hickman, Jean Claude Rochette, Corinne Bennett (Wilson) and Francois Mayer elected. I have been unable to find a list of participants but I do know that some of you present tonight were at Oxford 24 years ago and before many of us were even a twinkle in our parents eyes in 1930 64 years ago 22 members attended a Reunion in Oxford and Gotch was elected President.

Since 1970 when the FBUA last visited Oxford, there have been many changes and new buildings and we have all advanced enormously in the fields of new materials and design approaches. The Computer has come into its own with the use of CAD which has revolutionised the Architects Office and his approach to Drawing Production. Different methods of contracting have been advanced and in England the Architects role has changed quite considerably.

In this country we - as Architects - are all aware of the growth of the Project Manager, and the failure of the Profession to control our position as Project Managers. Perhaps the Schools should pay greater attention to Contract Control and Project Management as well as Design. Certainly the teaching of **Design is very ephemeral and changes with fashions.** The 1950's and 1960's were - with hindsight - an unfortunate period, with only a few exceptions of good buildings, and the profession is still reeling as the scape goat, and must take some of the blame.

However we are in a most exciting period of architectural design and approaches. Greater respect than ever before is being taken of our Heritage and this in turn has helped to develop a healthy and human architecture as you saw at Belvedere Village by Demetri Porphyrios - a friend of Prince Charles. They were at that other University together, and perhaps it was through Demetrios that our Prince obtained his rather eclectic views on Architecture, plus his ability to formulate a laymans theme on design enjoyed by the General Public and the Common Press. Everyone is a better Architect than the Architect - its a pity we can't all be lawyers as well - we'd earn more money.

In England at the moment there seems to be three definite architectural approaches. The vernacular or Modern Classicism as you saw at Belvedere Village, the high-tech as at the Renault Factory and neo classicism as promulgated by Quinlin Terry as seen on the stretch of River near Kingston on Thames.

It may be interesting next year to arrange a short seminar to compare differences between the French and British Project Control, with the various alternative Methods of Contracting used by each Country - especially as we are drawing closer and closer to a universal approach through the EEC and Common Market, with the effects of the various Safety Acts in each Country and consideration taken with regard to Maintenance and the Construction Design Management Regulations which come into force next year.

We already know about the Maintenance cost implications. The Lloyds Building is an example where the external cleaning is costing over £2M per year. Maybe the French Architects have already come to grips with these problems. All Architecture is prone to fashions and I believe that the effects of the new Act may be considerable with regard to Design of Buildings. Hindsight is a very exact science and the gems of today frequently become the eyesores of tomorrow.

However one thing that does not seem to have changed is the FBUA. There is still the same camaradie and enjoyment of each others company and looking at Buildings and enjoying good food. Our forefathers must have been very wise when they wrote the FBUA Constitution in 1921.

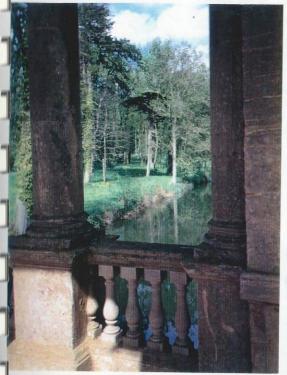
Little has changed and the principles set then are as viable today. There have only been 5 Secretary Generals in 73 years which in itself is a brilliant concept as it gives a wonderful continuity and permits new ideas to be properly integrated without the necessity for revolutions. Carte de la Fontaine - 40 years, Owen Campbell Jones - 8 years, Clive Pascall - 9 years, Tony Bechu - 4 years and now since 1983 our excellent Tony Hickman.

J'espere sincèrement que vous avez aimé la réunion de cette année. Succèder à Claude Decoux après sa brillante réunion à Toulouse présente un réel défi. Il me sera difficile de l'égaler. Son idée d'élaborer des séminaires sur les méthodes de chaque pays, leurs facons de Conserver et de Rénover les bâtiments historiques et Classés a bien commencé. Je pense que nous pouvons teus nous féliciter pour le succès du Seminaire de ce printemps où Benjamin Mouton a fait son excellente conférence sur la méthode française.

Je suis très fier d'avoir été élu votre President pour l'année à venir. J'attends cela avec impatience, bien qu'avec mon français épouvantable, j'appréhende la présidence de nos reunions.

SUNDAY

Stowe Landscape Gardens











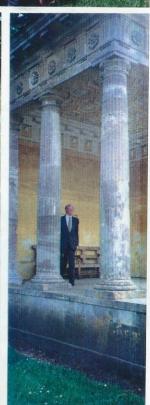


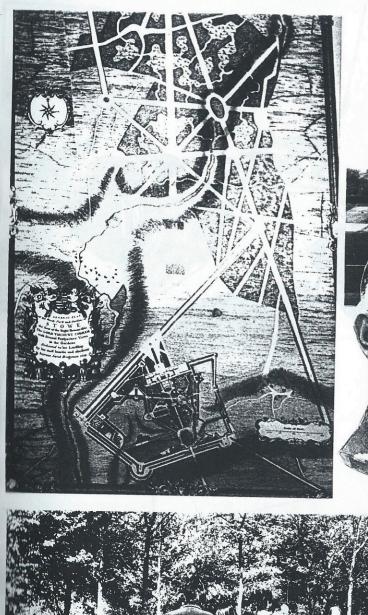
















Using original documents, the National Trust has embarked on a vast programme to restore the 18th-century gardens of Stowe.











This Newsletter was prepared by Julian St Leger with the help of Howard Nash & Stephanie Pollard.

Photographs by Arrol, Beauval-Nash, Biggins, Hickman, Montefiore, Plummer, Régis, St Leger & Waterhouse.

The characters and situations shown are entirely imaginary and bear no relation to any real person or actual happening.

Copyright © 1994



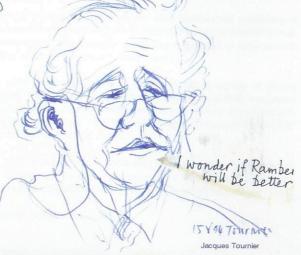














OBITUARIES

CHARLES DORIAN

Né le 5 Mars 1905, Charles DORIAN nous a quittés à la veille de rentrer dans sa quatre vingt dixième année. Il était membre de notre association depuis un demi siècle.

Elève du Lycée Descartes à Paris il y avait acquis cet esprit cartésien qui plaît tant aux français et qu'il enrichissait d'une sensibilité et d'un sens artistique raffinés.

Elève de PONTREMOLI à l'Ecole des Beaux-Arts il eut l'honneur de lui succéder à l'Académie d'Architecture. Dessinateur exceptionnel son relevé de concours d'Architecte en Chef des Monuments Historiques portant sur l'église de la TRINITE de VENDOME fait date dans les archives de la Direction due Patrimoine. La légèreté et la précision des tracés flamboyants les plus complexes sont éblouissantes.

Il devient également Architecte en Chef des Bâtiments Civils et Palais Nationaux.

Parmi les nombreux édifices anciens où il exécuta des travaux de restauration, citons les Hôtels de THAON et d'ESCOVILLE à Caen (Calvados), l'église de Saint-SAVIN sur GARTEMPE et le château de OIRON (Deux-Sèvres), la Cathédrale de Chartres où il rénova les grandes orgues, le Musée RODIN à Paris. Il alla même à Madagascar restaurer le palais de la Reine Ranavalo.

Associé pendant un certain temps à son frère Jean, ils réalisèent des constructions neuves comme la Bibliothèque de Tours.

Au titre des B.C.P.N. il construisit le Lycée de Niort et l'école hôtelière de Tours.

Au-delà de ses qualités professionelles c'est le compagnon de voyage, sa fidèle amitié, sa gentillesse et sa discrétion, l'aquarelliste de talent que nous avions la joie d'apprécier à l'U.F.B.A'

Que son frère Jean accepte l'expression de notre ardente compassion.

(Jean-Claude Rochette)

NOEL MOFFETT

With Noel Moffett's recent death from injuries sustained in a traffic accident, the architectural profession has been deprived of a popular character and a fine teacher.

Noel, together with his Polish wife Alina, has been a familiar figure on London's architectural scene for many years. His genial, open attitude and his passionately held opinions will be greatly missed. He will also be remembered as an innovative architect, a fine artist and draughtsman and a useful journalist. He was, above all, a dedicated teacher who could inspire students to find new ways of doing, seeing and recording things.

His sketches have been widely exhibited and published, but in a teaching context they were not seen as art pieces but as tools that conveyed the sense of a building or a place.

Noel Moffett was born in Cork, Ireland on 25 December 1912 of Presbyterian parents. Educated at Cork Grammar School and Trinity College, Dublin he later moved to Liverpool University where he gained an Honours Degree in Architecture in 1938 and graduated in Civic Design with a First the following year.

He briefly spent time in the London offices of Serge Chermayeff, Sir John Burnet, Tait & Partners and Joseph Emberton, all practices that had an interest in modern architecture. Returning to Ireland during the war he began a small practice in Dublin and ran in conjunction with it an atelier which included among its members the American Kevin Roche and Reg Malcolmson. It was here in the atelier that his lifelong interest in teaching began. During his time in Dublin he designed a number of buildings including the Achill open air theatre (1941), a Jewish Community Centre, a prefabricated low-cost concrete housing system and a large housing scheme in Dundalk (1948), plus a number of exhibitions as well as stage sets for the Gate Theatre.

During this time too he began to contribute to 'Architectural Design' as their Irish correspondent with a memorable special issue on The Architecture of Ireland (1947). In 1950 he returned to London and joined the teaching staff at Kingston School of Art (now Kingston University). From 1962-70 he was appointed the first head of the Department of Town Planning. By that time his London practice (shared with his wife Alina from 1956) had taken off and he began work on a succession of housing schemes, schools and facility buildings. The most widely published of these were a group of flats for retired professionals in Priory Road, West Hampstead and a group of flats for old people on the old GLC White City Estate, both employing a prefabricated system of hexagonal units.

Noel Moffett was always committed to students and their welfare.

On one memorable occasion in Paris in 1965 he was given an opportunity to speak at a plenary session of the International Union of Architects' Congress. With his white locks and shining bald dome catching the arc lights with almost Messianic zeal, he chastised his audience in French (tinged with his mild Irish brogue) for leaving students out in the cold.

"You must give them a hearing", he cried, "they are our profession's future."

His AA presidency brought with it opportunities to travel to the US where for the last period of his professional life he became immersed in academe. He taught first at Iowa University, at Moscow, Idaho, where he was Distinguished Visiting Professor, and at Washington State University where he was Visiting Professor of Architecture until 1986.

Over a number of decades he also established professional connections with colleagues in Poland, frequently attending their conferences and recently designing a hospital in Gdynia with Alina which is still under construction.

In 1968 he provided Polish architects with a survey of recent British architectural trends in a special issue of their magazine 'Architektura'. Some parts of this material he later expanded into the illustrated book 'The Best of British Architecture 1980-2000' which was published in 1993.

In 1990 he was made an honorary member of the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland. For many years he enjoyed the reunions of the Franco-British Union of Architects which he joined in 1966.

(Dennis Sharp - abridged)

RONALD POTTER

Ronnie Potter, who died in March this year, was a true Franco-British Architect as he had a French mother and an English father. He was born near Paris in his grandfather's house in 1920.

He went to the Architectural Association just before the War and was then called up into the Army where he became a Captain in the Sappers and spent three years in Kenya training African soldiers.

He returned to his architectural studies at the AA after the War, where he met Barbara and they married in 1949.

His first job was with Erno Goldfinger, where he stayed for 12

months. However, he did then leave abruptly. It was Ronnie Potter, although others have claimed the story for themselves, who when Erno was out for the day answered the telephone and said "Here Goldfinger". After a pause a voice at the other end replied "funny, here Goldfinger too. You're fired."

He then joined Easton & Robertson, a large London practice, where he became a Partner and was responsible for Hatfield Technical College, two Bank of England Printing Works, Bank buildings for Lloyds, etc.

In 1968 he and Barbara decided to set up a joint practice together, the success of which has proved the importance of a close client/architect relationship, as can be seen in their many years of association with the Savoy Hotel and Claridges and the London Hostels Association. Barbara is continuing the Practice with the help of her son Mark.

Ronnie's great sideline interest was model railways. A room at the top of his house was devoted solely to his railways. He made the stations and scenery and all the railway carriages himself. It was a fascinating sight to see.

Like all good reliable friends when they leave, he will be greatly missed by many of us.

(Julian St Leger)

JOHN CLIFFORD RATCLIFF

John died in August 1994 aged 79 at Swanage in Dorset where he lived in retirement enjoying his sketching and painting and other hobbies. He had suffered injuries in a road accident and later succumbed in hospital after a heart attack.

John's career was full of interest. After a period studying French and German at the Universities of Dijon and Göttingen he embarked on his architectural studies at The Architectural Association in 1932 and set up in practice for a brief period after qualifying. The War intervened and after serving as an Army garrison engineer, he was commissioned in the Royal Engineers. John was posted to Egypt where he was involved with the construction of military installations and airfields. Later on he was sent with a group of RE comrades in civilian guise into neutral Turkey. To gain Turkish goodwill they reconstructed a road through the Taurus Mountains but the main purpose was the construction of airfields and camps - all to do with possible military operations from Turkey. John was in charge of some of these installations and experienced some

bizarre moments since the Germans were also active in wooing the Turks.

After the War John was involved in Town Planning studies and worked with the Ministry of Town & Country Planning, but eventually joined Howard Lobb's practice, then involved with housing and industrial work. He was seconded to the design office from the 1951 Festival of Britain Exhibition as one of the team of architects working under the direction of Hugh Casson. In that role his wartime experience of working under pressure paid off and John's efforts were recognised by the award of the OBE.

Back with Howard Lobb, he was in charge of designing the British Pavilion at the Brussells Exhibition of 1956 which received a design prize. On the strength of that he was appointed Architect to the Blackpool Pleasure Beach Company and found himself in the bizarre world of giant wheels, ghost trains, roller coasters and the like - all of which he found to be a tough challenge in aspects of public safety, hostile marine climate and pressure for profitability.

In other directions John's experience ranged through office buildings, generating stations, motorway service stations and race courses. Creatively involved in so many large projects, he gained a reputation for thoroughness and efficiency.

John was a faithful supporter of our Union. He was our President in 1968 when the Reunion was held in Brighton, and for a time he served as Treasurer.

(Tony Brandreth)

ADRIAN ALBERT VAN MONTAGU

Adrian van Montagu died in March 1994, aged 93. Adrian was a Norman by birth - his birthplace being the village of Bavent near Caen. His family emigrated to England when he was ten years old, so he earned and enjoyed the facility of being truly bilingual.

Adrian's architectural education was at the Bartlett School, University College London and he started practice in 1930. He and his associates specialised in public house work and work for Debenhams, the London department store group. Later, as sole practitioner, he was closely associated with the civil engineers Binnie & Partners, and handled the architectural and landscaping work for a large number of projects in which they specialised. These comprised waterworks installations and dams and reservoirs, and power stations, etc., in this country and overseas in Pakistan, Hong Kong and in Malaysia where the Mangla Power Station was perhaps the most impressive project with

which he was associated.

Adrian was a superb perspective artist and watercolourist - skills that served him particularly well in his involvement with those large civil engineering works.

Adrian was a faithful supporter of our Union which he joined in 1949 and served as President in 1964. His wife, Olive, was his constant companion on our Reunion occasions - her collapse and sudden death several years ago was a devastating blow to him and we did not often see him in his later years.

(Tony Brandreth)

Printed and collated by: Robin Wood; Julian St. Leger & Derek Montefiore

(VICTIONIA FEITHINIII)

I PAULUITE TERRITORIO