

Culture and Education Quarter, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

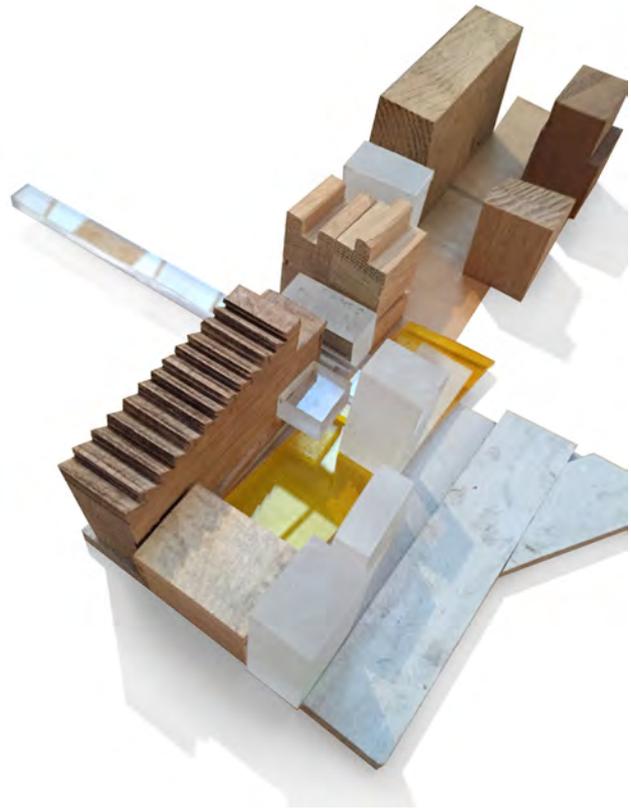
Client: London Legacy Development Corporation
Value: £400m
Collaborators: Fielden Clegg Bradley Studios, DRDH,
Coffey and David Kohn Architects, together with
Expedition, Gardiner & Theobald and Atelier Ten

5th Studio were shortlisted to design a new cultural quarter at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London, dubbed 'Olympicopolis'. The practice formed part of a team with Fielden Clegg Bradley Studios, DRDH, Coffey and David Kohn Architects, together with Expedition, Gardiner & Theobald, and Atelier Ten. The project sought to establish new east London locations for The Victoria & Albert Museum, Sadler's Wells, University of the Arts London (London College of Fashion) and the Smithsonian.

Other buildings in the Olympic Park are objects standing in landscape – we propose an inversion of this condition: a public landscape established between objects. The element that unites all the institutions is also the space that is central to the site: a continuous walk linking the different levels, with views across the park, becoming the context for events and cross-institutional collaborations: a unique space in the world.

The V&A, Sadler's Wells, and UAL are neighbours, each have their own 'front door' and specific relationships to the new terraces, off which four towers are also set: The residential towers at the north are markers for the overall development, two smaller pavilions of the Smithsonian sit next to the water. Active Carpenters Road frontages are created for the V&A, Sadler's Wells and UAL.

An 'earthenware' and 'glassware' language is proposed for external materials of the specific architecture developed to test each building brief.



Above Study model of the arts college

Below The proposal makes a positive village edge landscape, arresting the previous suburban creep and re-instating an orchard landscape.





Above The house settles into its landscape context while forming a clear and positive termination of the village settlement at Pertenhall.

Left Patterns of use - these changing conditions of occupation have influenced the design in terms of the plan arrangement

Below An extraordinary architectural intersection space

