

# aspiration

An e-magazine for aspiring  
Architectural Technology professionals

Issue 15  
Autumn/Winter 2022

AT Awards  
Winners & Finalists  
2022

Developing  
Future Talent

The opportunities  
AT has given me



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## A word from the Editor

Welcome to another autumn/winter edition of aspirATion magazine where the countdown to Christmas 2022 is well and truly on. Once again, we're pleased to be bringing you another issue of insightful features, guidance and support to aid you in your studies, at work and as you develop your career.

In October, our AT Awards for 2022 returned in person to the Village Underground in Shoreditch, London for the first time since 2019, and we have lots of AT Awards-themed content for you to read, including more about the winning projects and reports from the Student Awards for Excellence in Architectural Technology – hopefully this inspires you to enter the AT Awards 2023, open on 6 February 2023!

As the academic year reaches the halfway point for those of you studying, you may be thinking about gaining some work experience. We interviewed the top employer of Chartered Architectural Technologists 2022, Whittam Cox Architects who provide insight on the mechanisms they have in place to nurture and develop the next generation of aspiring professionals into Architectural Technology.

As I always say, please get in touch as we always love to hear from you regarding ideas for future articles, profiles or features, as well as anything in this issue – this publication is for you and is your chance to have your voice heard, share your experiences, successes, and tips among other things.

I hope you enjoy the festive season and all my best wishes for the New Year.

April McKay  
Editor

Get in touch if you have any feedback, ideas or content for the next issue.

Email: [a.mckay@ciat.global](mailto:a.mckay@ciat.global)



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The Access Project





# aspirATion

The network supporting and developing aspiring professionals.

You may often think about what your career as an Architectural Technology professional or Chartered Architectural Technologist will be like, but perhaps you are unsure where to start.

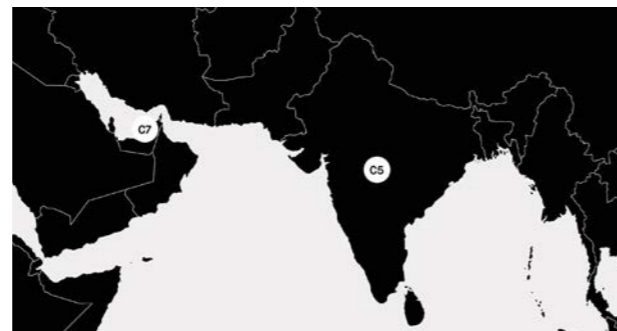
It is never too early to start networking and being affiliated and engaged with certain organisations as this may be fruitful later in your career; either because you know who to contact or perhaps to find your next role. This is why CIAT is committed to helping you get started through our aspirATion initiative.

## What is aspirATion?

aspirATion is a forward thinking and inclusive global community of CIAT members and affiliates, made up of students, graduates, Associates, affiliates and recently qualified Chartered Architectural Technologists. The initiative was established both to support aspiring professionals as well as to help shape the future of the profession.

aspirATion operates at Region/Centre level led by an aspirATion Chair who has convened a local aspirATion Group. aspirATion currently exists/operates in the following areas, though it is growing as Architectural Technology becomes more widely recognised:

- 01 Northern Region
- 02 Yorkshire Region
- 03 North West Region
- 04 East Midlands Region
- 05 West Midlands Region
- 06 Wessex Region
- 07 East Anglia Region
- 08 Central Region
- 09 Greater London Region
- 10 South East Region
- 11 Channel Islands Region
- 12 Western Region
- 13 Scotland West Region
- 14 Scotland East Region
- 15 Northern Ireland Region
- 16 Wales Region
- C2 Republic of Ireland Centre
- C5 Asia Centre (India)
- C6 Europe Centre (Denmark)
- C7 Middle East and Africa Centre (Dubai)



The Chairs of all Regions/Centres in turn form the aspirATion Committee which is currently overseen by William Holland MCIAT and Joe Hyett ACIAT. Both William and Joe have previously been aspirATion Group Chairs in their respective Regions and part of their remit as Committee Chairs is to provide guidance and a framework for the Group Chairs to follow. This is supported administratively by CIAT staff. The aspirATion Committee meets at least once a year to network and share good practice.

Local aspirATion Groups will typically meet more frequently as they hold different events and outreach activities and are encouraged to work with the following groups to organise events which can include socials, CPD events or site visits:

- Region/Centre Committees
- CIAT Accredited Programmes
- Colleges and schools
- Peer groups such as
  - neighbouring aspirATion Groups
  - members of BRE Academy
  - CIOB Novus
  - RICS Matrics
  - local industry professionals

## Why get involved?

Being part of aspirATion will provide you with support whether you are studying, a recent graduate, an early

career practitioner or have recently become a Chartered Architectural Technologist. There will be other members or affiliates that are going through the same thing or perhaps are a little further into their career, meaning they can share valuable tips from their own recent experiences.

Some of our former aspirATion Chairs have gained employment through their involvement and networking events. Similarly, several former Chairs have been appointed to other roles within the Institute such as Regional Chairs, Councillors or as Trustees on the Institute's Executive Board, for example.

## How to get involved?

We will advertise vacancies for the role of Chair via the Accredited Programme leaders, email and AT Weekly. Should any Chairs ask us to promote other roles they have within their aspirATion Committee, we will circulate them via the above means as well.

If you would like to be put in contact with your local aspirATion Chair, please email [education@ciat.global](mailto:education@ciat.global).



aspirATion Group Chairs and Committee Members celebrating at the AT Awards 2022 in Shoreditch, London





Winner  
2022

STUDENT AWARD FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL  
TECHNOLOGY | PROJECT

# Between the Bridges Regeneration

Words by Ian Westhead ACIAT, Solent University

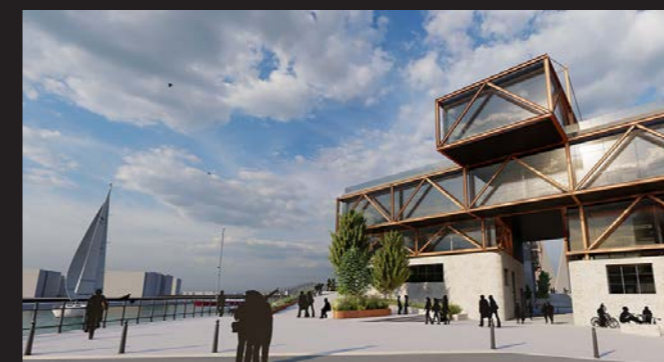
**BCP FuturePlaces, an urban regeneration company, acted as my client. They have an active masterplan of sites across the Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole conurbation that they are seeking to invest in and develop over the coming years. It was from this masterplan that I chose the 'Between the Bridges' site, which is a three-acre brownfield area adjacent to Poole town centre.**

In response to the brief, I set out to deliver a varied development including a cultural landmark, commercial retail units, light industrial units, residential units, health and wellbeing facilities and a supporting public realm that connects to the wider town. For environmental development, I set out to research and implement the most suitable construction techniques and technologies and integrate a largely car-free transport scheme, which favours the '15 minute city' and 'walkable urbanism'.

The project also had to respond to the flood risk from the adjacent channel and the corrosive effects of the coastal environment.

My process started loosely with 'site zoning' sketches. These illustrated permeability, important sightlines, appropriate heights and the best areas for active uses and private, residential uses. This established the concept of creating sightlines towards the two distinctive bridges adjacent to the site and the historic church tower in the Old Town. A second concept was to grade the heights of the buildings up from east to west to correspond with the lower Old Town and the higher regeneration area. The sketches were then gradually refined to give rough areas for commercial units, residential units, the public realm and ancillary and servicing areas.

As the plans developed and began to be elevated, I considered how best to represent the site's context in the scheme. Overall, it was the theme of maritime industry that had the greatest influence. This was continued right into the selection of particular materials, constructions and systems in the technical stages, where details such as weathering-steel window heads were chosen to replicate the natural corrosion of the nearby steel-clad buildings; slimline metal casements read with the historic quayside warehouses; and cable truss curtain walling suggested the rigging of boats. Locally inspired Purbeck Stone and Poole pottery-style glazed brick slips were chosen as cladding materials, but were integrated into rainscreen constructions that allowed for greater flexibility in the format and orientation of the coursing, bringing a fresh interpretation of the historic vernacular.



Functionality and inclusivity were considered in the public realm by, for example, conforming to the gradients and stepped access requirements set out in the Building Regulations; separating pedestrians from vehicles; and complying with local authority transport policy in road design. Residential and commercial cores were designed with bin and bike stores, BS-compliant fire strategies and goods and personnel lifts, ensuring safe access and comprehensive servicing. Sanitary facilities were considered in terms of Doc M, with accessible WC and shower packs specified in key areas. Level thresholds are detailed in all balcony and terrace scenarios. A full range of one-bed to four-bed residential units are provided, accommodating various ages and occupancies.

A regard for buildability and assembly is present in, for example, the in-situ concrete superstructure for the lower storeys in the art gallery where there are long spans and offset load paths, in comparison to the steel-framed superstructure of the residential buildings where gridlines stack and spans are shorter. Lightweight SFS is specified for most external walls, which is a relatively fast construction and consists of demountable and recyclable structural items. Various other pre-manufactured components are specified that simplify installation, such as floor cassettes, pre-fabricated balconies and curtain walls.

The maintenance of the buildings and equipment is one area in which health and safety has been considered. Flat roofs are provided with access hatches from stair cores and mansafe systems to all areas, such that M&E equipment is safely accessible and serviceable. Compliant means of escape, including the provision of firefighting shafts where required, also addresses the users' health and safety.

Various active and passive measures have been included to address environment and sustainability. Each apartment is specified with a Daikin Hydrobox fed from communal air source heat pumps, and these have meters that allow for the monitoring and optimisation of space and water heating. Commercial and communal areas are also heated via ASHP, meaning gas will not have to be brought into the site. Flat roofs are intended for a PV provision of approx. 320m<sup>2</sup> to partially offset the electrical consumption within the commercial buildings; total power output is anticipated to be 48kWp. In south-facing areas, cantilevering superstructures and oversailing soffits reduce overheating to internal spaces whilst increasing the lettable areas of the floors above. Floorplates are generally open plan to afford greatest flexibility in building use and penetration of natural light. Phase 2 is to include a 200-space electric car club, which is designed to encourage residents away from private car ownership and prioritise more sustainable vehicles in the conurbation road network. Extensive ecological provision at street level and in the green roofs aids CO<sub>2</sub> absorption and the attenuation of surface water runoff. The use of pre-manufactured systems and components wherever possible reduces material wastage as a result of factory-controlled manufacturing conditions.

Performance and durability have been addressed with, for example, the specification of Grade 3 Caltite cementaid where the superstructure is within the flood zone, which safeguards the accommodation at the undercroft level. Adherence to robust detailing in the residential areas ensures a warrantable and 'tried and tested' solution in terms of acoustic transfer. The high thermal mass of screed optimises the underfloor, ASHP-fed space heating. Building Management Systems (BMS) are to be installed in commercial areas, optimising heat loss/recovery; lighting, water usage and any other M&E items. Flow-restrictors are specified to all sanitaryware in the commercial and residential accommodation to minimise potable water consumption. Demountable cladding components allow for maintenance and replacement without detriment to the building structure. Marine grade components and finishes, such as seals, powdercoating and fixings, ensure that constructions are suitably resilient in the coastal environment. ■



Winners &  
FinalistsSTUDENT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE  
IN ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY  
| PROJECT*aspirATion* magazine takes a look at  
the other Winners & Finalists in the  
Project category

Highly Commended

**Culinary Growth Incubator**Adam Lunney ACIAT,  
Anglia Ruskin University

The Culinary Growth Incubator provides a circular ecosystem to grow, harvest, study, assemble, sell, consume, and reuse or repurpose food sustainably at source. This carefully thought through design incorporates several unique features, including a bioclimatic skinned façade to maximise views out of the building and control solar gain into it.



Commended

**ARC517 Sirocco Quays: Multi-Generational Residential Scheme**Hannah Irwin,  
Ulster University

Hannah's proposed redevelopment will extend and bring life to the East Bank of the River Lagan in Belfast, creating a vibrant, new waterfront urban quarter. The unusually shaped site presented a challenge in producing an effective design but was conquered and presents a striking building with a richly textured façade and a landmark tower providing a focal locating point for the area.



Finalist

**The 'Spotlight' Community Theatre**Sarah Ball,  
Nottingham Trent University

The theatre provides workshops and courses for people of all ages and backgrounds. The auditorium is situated within a central courtyard with amphitheatre seating that creates a unique theatre experience. The courtyard has a large glass roof that is fixed above exposed curved steel beams along with a retractile acoustic tensile roof that is secured between these beams. It also comprises of a public garden that promotes biodiversity and wellbeing.



Finalist

**PSV7 - A Sustainable Single Family House**Márton Fehér & Jonathan Skov,  
VIA University

PSV7, which is short for Peter Stellfeld Vej 7, is a single-family house of two and a half storeys. The plot is located in the Vestereng area, in northern Aarhus, Denmark, surrounded by nature. The goal was to create a modern, up-to-date design, whilst keeping tradition in mind, so that the building would not disrupt a neighbourhood with more dated dwellings. Keeping interior spaces open and to bring nature inside, large windows facing the south were installed.



Finalist

**University Gateway**Mike Newsway, CIAT affiliate,  
University of Northampton

The brief required a landmark building that would be at the centre of a recently built university campus, that was both constructed and used in a highly sustainable manner. The long thin plot suited the concept of a shoe shaped building that reflects the history of Northampton, as a centre for shoe and boot manufacture. The use of cross laminated (CLT) and glue laminated (GLULAM) timber provides both the structural elements and the final finish of the building, which produced a striking building design.

Winner  
2022STUDENT AWARD FOR  
EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL  
TECHNOLOGY | REPORT

# The Potential for Digital Construction Technologies to Advance Fire Evacuation Procedures

Words by Ellis O'Hare ACIAT, Ulster University

In recent years digital construction processes and emerging technologies have had a huge impact on the construction sector, advancing the design, construction, operation and maintenance of buildings. As an area of potential advancement, it is essential to recognise the extent of the benefits associated with fire evacuation procedures without disregarding traditional approaches which have been drawn upon in studies to date. This study aims to present the concept of linking a QR code to a Building Information Model (BIM) in Autodesk Revit to deliver a 3D instructional escape based on the location of the building occupant.

The concept developed in this study is furthering current studies investigating Bluetooth low energy (BLE) sensors and real time location systems (RTLS) by proposing a solution to overcome ambiguity that can be attached to unfamiliarity with a building environment. The solution to this has been investigated within this study in the form of an instructional escape video, directing users onto a safe escape route from their origin to reach a fire assembly point. The animated video includes graphics and directional arrows to point the user in the correct direction, critical in assisting individuals who are unfamiliar with a space. The results show the potential for professionals within the architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) industry to incorporate BIM authoring software into the workflow in terms of the use of a Revit model, and how the Enscape plugin allows for a realistic evacuation demonstration to be obtained. Future work in this area may consider formulating a real-time fire evacuation management system that aligns with the 3D animation to allow for the QR code to be updated. To extend the BIM module, further research into how this system may incorporate real-time information and respond to information about smoke detectors to provide alternative escape routes for occupants during a fire.

A fundamental principle for an Architectural Technology professional is to problem solve and advance current practice where opportunities exist. One such area of opportunity is around fire evacuation procedures. Current practice routinely sees manual or automated announcements in a space, with an individual providing visual prompts towards the nearest fire evacuation route based on one's location. There is an opportunity to disrupt traditional fire evacuation procedures in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and make use of the new and emerging technologies that are widely available. The overarching aim of this study is to produce an 'accessible for all' concept which can be accessed by scanning a QR code to enhance the existing fire procedures by improving their impact factor especially in unfamiliar settings through animation and colour.

In the last decade, fire safety and Building Information Modelling (BIM) have emerged in the AEC industry, but it could be argued that the potential for BIM and digital technologies in general have not been fully exploited when it comes to advancing existing fire safety related processes which includes fire evacuation procedures. Currently, fire evacuation processes follow a regimented structure by which

rapid safety information is verbally directed towards individuals which they are to retain. The issue with this form of direction is that it is adhered to within the first few moments that an individual enters a space when one is not fully attentive, which may leave a significant amount of time between the point in which they first retain the information and the point in which they may need to recite it, i.e. during a fire evacuation, creating a higher possibility of one forgetting the original information. Other fixed forms of fire evacuation procedures include 'five-point fire evacuation notices' found fixed to internal walls beside fire extinguishers or emergency evacuation plans which are often fixed to the back of internal doors. The presentation of this fire evacuation literature may easily go unnoticed, and the overall appeal is lacking in most cases primarily due to the location where it is placed, or the text size used to outline the action required. On review of the existing implementation of technology and fire management within buildings, it appears to be either very limited or non-existent. A strategy such as that developed within this study, could disrupt traditional workflows by forming new possibilities for fire evacuation procedures using technology to revolutionise building design and life cycle. The escape animation concept accessed through scanning a QR code, is an accessible approach that builds on new and previous studies to compose a modern-day advancement on traditional approaches with the safety of building occupants as a prime focus.

The success of studies to date sets a precedent for the QR code and escape animation concept developed in this paper, as it advances the familiarity between individuals and their environment via the use of technology. The study in this paper recognises a potential gap in work relating to health and safety from a fire evacuation perspective and technology application. The findings in this paper demonstrate the potential of incorporating a 3D animation into an existing evacuation plan to enhance the process of communicating building evacuation procedures for building occupants. The safe evacuation video developed as part of this paper can be accessed from occupants' smartphone devices, to provide an enhanced means of evacuation in the fire. The video footage demonstrates how an individual may obtain a safe escape from the setting (board room) using a walkthrough generated in Enscape. The evacuation video shows the potential for professionals within the AEC industry to incorporate BIM authoring software into the workflow in terms of the use of a Revit model, and how the Enscape plugin allows for a realistic evacuation demonstration to be obtained. The possibilities of technology are more pertinent than ever, and it is up to professionals within the AEC industry to utilise available technology for process improvement. To build upon the success of the method developed within this paper, one may consider the idea of continual improvement by formulating

a real-time fire evacuation management system that aligns with the 3D animation to allow for the QR code to be updated. To extend the BIM module, further research into how this system may incorporate real-time information and respond to information about smoke detectors could be included in the framework to provide alternative escape routes for occupants during a fire for example if a route has been blocked off or if a route is congested. Further investigations into Big Data may affirm the relationship between human cognitive behaviour and the proposed method to highlight the reality of effective building occupants (primarily delegated members or visitors to the university) would respond to the animation as opposed to gravitating towards following the crowd. Inclusive design principles are an area for further development which needs to be factored into the proposed concept to make it more universal within the AEC industry, by addressing the needs and behaviours of a variation in building occupants including those who carry disabilities, particularly visually impaired individuals, and wheelchair users. ■

There is an opportunity to disrupt traditional fire evacuation procedures in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and make use of new and emerging technologies



Ellis with Kevin Crawford PCIAT (left) and Matt Allwright at the AT Awards 2022 in Shoreditch, London

Winners & Finalists

STUDENT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGY | REPORT

aspirATion magazine takes a look at the other Winners & Finalists in the Report category



Highly Commended

Noise Reduction and Soundscape Design in Urban Green Spaces (UGS)

Ebony Napier, Nottingham Trent University

A methodical Report on the most effective types of noise reducing barriers to mitigate the volume of noise pollutants perceived within an UGS. The work follows a systematic approach and natural flow from its introduction through to its clear analysis and inciteful conclusions. The use of simulation-based research was a real highlight of the work.

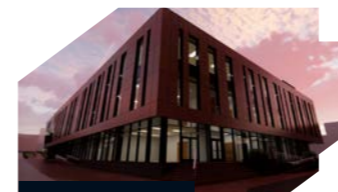


Commended

Determining Optimal Diffuser Geometry and Application Strategies to Enhance Acoustic Performance Within a Concert Hall

Sarah Ball, Nottingham Trent University

This Report explores the implementation of varied diffuser types and application strategies to create an optimal reverberation time of two seconds within a concert hall. The thorough introduction to this issue highlights the importance of this study to improve the impact of poor conditions on the health of both concert hall users and musicians.



Finalist

The Impact of Timber Species Microstructure Upon Moisture Uptake and Structural Capability

Adam Dhawan ACIAT, Coventry University

This Report is an investigation into how the microstructure of four different timber species; European Ash, Western Red Cedar, American Red Oak and American White Oak affects each species moisture uptake and structural capability to identify suitable species for withstanding extreme weather events. Based on the results of the investigation, the suitability of each species is Red Oak, White Oak, Ash and Red Cedar.



Finalist

Is Mass Timber the Future of Mid to High-rise Residential Construction in the United Kingdom? A Review of Current Legislation in Designing for Fire

Gus Hodge, University of Westminster

Gus' Report looked to establish the capacity for the United Kingdom to successfully negate issues of fire safety in the construction of mid to high-rise residential buildings using mass timber materials in the future. This was the result of an extensive programme of research and critical analysis across the 2021-22 academic year, cumulating in a final investigative report.



Finalist

Organisational Culture Factors Influencing Digital Transformation/ Innovation in the UK Construction Industry

Hadeel Joud, Leeds Beckett University

This Report is a study which explores factors of organisational culture that impact digital innovation of the construction industry in the UK context, through the analysing of secondary data gathered from a survey questionnaire conducted with participants working in UK-based construction firms. It concluded that there is a proven role of the organisational culture of the organisations.



Winner  
2022EMERGING TALENT IN THE  
TECHNOLOGY OF ARCHITECTURE

# Sam Lambert ACIAT

Words by Peter Stead FCIAT, Chartered Architectural Technologist

The second recipient for excellence in the technology of architecture for those in the early stages of their career in Architectural Technology.

The Award recognises Associate members and Chartered Architectural Technologists with a professional career path of ten years or less.

Sam's development and contribution as an Architectural Technologist is firmly bolstered by his ambitious and determined professional mindset. It is this mindset that sets Sam apart as an emerging young professional at P+HS Architects which has been demonstrated by his achievements and willingness to work individually, or collaboratively as part of a team, to yield the highest possible outcomes with the task in hand.

Sam joined P+HS Architects in May 2019 as an apprentice and it was clear from the start that he had the desire and ambition to succeed, albeit with a poles apart background in farming and no knowledge or experience in architecture and construction! The fact that Sam showed so much interest and enthusiasm towards all aspects of Architectural Technology, as well as the willingness to learn, made it clear that he had great potential as an Architectural Technologist. Sam hit the ground running in his first few months of employment, building professional relationships between colleagues whilst also assisting his mentor, gaining project related experiences and knowledge which he could then implement into his university studies.

In his first year of studying, Sam achieved top mark distinctions in all four modules which was an early indication of how well this young emerging talent was doing. Part of this success was due to Sam's ability to learn whilst working on projects and incorporating his knowledge into his

assignments. Sam was based in one of our residential teams, assisting with stage four drawing packages for two large residential projects. It was clear that Sam was a fast learner as he started to draft his own working drawing packages for both projects. The fact that Sam learnt quickly meant that he could be trusted to assist on a greater range of projects.

By the end of his first year's study, Sam was successfully working within our residential team, so it was time to further develop his experience. Sam moved to one of our healthcare teams working on multi-million-pound projects that were delivered in Revit. Understanding the complexities of healthcare projects was one thing but combined with learning Revit from scratch and studying at university at the same time was a real test. It seemed overwhelming at first, but I knew that Sam had the ability to learn and embrace new challenges, and with support it was the right time for him to step up.

The COVID-19 pandemic presented a lot of new challenges for our profession and, in particular, younger members of the team. Like all staff, Sam had to embrace working from home remotely, physically separated from the 1 to 1 mentoring that he was comfortably used to. This meant that Sam was isolated whilst assisting on projects and working on his university assignments, testing him to see how well he could adapt to working independently. It was little surprise that Sam's determined attitude meant that he embraced the unique situation like any professional

There is an opportunity to disrupt traditional fire evacuation procedures in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and make use of new and emerging technologies



Architectural Technologist should and he did an excellent job assisting on projects and remaining enthusiastic throughout the pandemic, regularly dialling into meetings to see how the team, and its projects, were doing and taking part in online social events boosting team morale in the dark and dull days of lockdown.

Sam's graduation two and a half years after joining P+HS was a real testimony to how far he had excelled and emerged as a young Technologist, to say that he came to PHS with no experience, to then take on the monumental task of understanding both residential and healthcare projects, also learning AutoCAD and Revit, whilst studying and achieving top marks in his HNC studies all through the stresses and isolation of a global pandemic was a clear representation of Sam's commitment and character as a young professional.

Soon after qualifying, Sam began to take on more senior roles and responsibilities due to his rapid development up to this point. Sam was responsible for producing 1:5 construction detail packages for several jobs. At first, Sam found it tricky to understand the concept of detailing, however he slowly started to develop his knowledge on how build-ups worked. One notable project where Sam faced his most technical challenge was developing bespoke fire stopping details for a £9.6m healthcare project. The unique construction of the building meant that there were no certified standard details, so Sam was tasked with producing multiple fire stopping details to be proposed to the project's Fire Officer, who Sam then collaborated with to design bespoke fire stopping details for the full project. Sam's proactive mindset meant that contractors could approach him for a solution to a problem and Sam's reaction would be to propose a bespoke detail to overcome such a challenge.

Aspiring to become a Chartered Architectural Technologist, Sam's clear sense of direction and ambition is making this possible. As a junior apprentice, Sam was a student member and soon after qualifying, became an Associate member.

Sam is currently in the process of submitting his Professional Assessment, bringing him one step closer to becoming a Chartered Architectural Technologist.

Not only has Sam demonstrated a clear commitment to his chosen career path and profession but he has a vision for his future within Architectural Technology. Sam perceives the future of Architectural Technology to be heavily dependent on Building Information Modelling (BIM). He aspires to becoming a leading figure at P+HS in the understanding and development of BIM software.

Sam has definitely had an impact: encouraged by his success, P+HS has appointed three more junior assistants who are embarking on their apprenticeship studies as Architectural Technologists in the same way as Sam, bolstering our intake of young assistants. It is worth noting that Sam has become a role model to new starters at the company with young apprentices regularly seeking his advice. In his role as an ADB champion, Sam can mentor new starters and help them to understand BIM which as Sam perceives, is a vital concept in the future of Architectural Technology. Sam shows clear enthusiasm in inspiring the younger assistants and is currently helping them to apply for student membership; it would be true to say that he has become quite an ambassador for CIAT!

Sam does not just encourage new starters at P+HS, he is also passionate about inspiring the younger generation to consider a career in Architectural Technology and volunteers to attend school events to promote the profession to students.

Although Sam's experience may be shorter than many, I think what he has already accomplished in the first 40 months as a now qualified Architectural Technologist is outstanding. Sam is a real asset to P+HS Architects, not only playing an active role within project delivery, but also in being at the forefront of BIM development and a role model to the younger members of staff. ■



# From Aarhus to London: AT Awards 2022

Words by Márton Fehér & Jonathan Skov, VIA University

As students at VIA University College in Aarhus, Denmark, studying on the CIAT-Accredited Programme, Architectural Technology and Construction Management, we had the pleasure of attending this year's AT Awards at Village Underground in London, where we had the honour of not just representing CIAT Europe Centre as its student members, but also representing our university as one of six Finalists in the Student Award for Excellence in Architectural Technology | Project category with our second semester project, titled "PSV7 – A Sustainable Single Family House."

Entering a prestigious competition at such an early stage in our education meant that we were not expecting more, other than having the opportunity of getting our project assessed by Chartered Architectural Technologists. This was key for us, especially after exploring the work of previous Finalists and Winners of the Student Awards, all of whom have demonstrated a deep understanding of the discipline and designed extraordinary constructions.

Despite our low expectations, we decided to produce the necessary materials to enter the competition. This meant that after creating posters that displayed the project's design as well as its technical resolution and detailing along with a project summary, we were ready to submit.



PSV7 – A Sustainable Single Family House

To our surprise, our project, a single-family house with a bio-based superstructure and a basement constructed from a modular wall system, landed us as Finalists! According to

the feedback we received from a member of the Judging Panel, it was due to the innovative design solutions that were implemented to achieve a more sustainable construction and the detailing of the the project which made critical junctions easy to understand, and demonstrated our focus on developing buildable solutions.

Fast forward to 21 October 2022 – the day of the AT Awards was here. As we arrived at the Village Underground in Shoreditch, London, the location of the event, our series of surprises continued. We were both overwhelmed by how welcoming and inclusive the AT community is in the UK. It was a surreal experience, being students in Denmark, to chat about our project as well as topics like sustainability with other Architectural Technology professionals, students and graduates.

We also discussed the differences in practices widely used in the construction industry in the UK and Denmark, as well as how the industry is heading towards a more sustainable future. There was also debate about how legislation is necessary to encourage innovation in order to reduce emissions and waste produced by the construction sector.

We were both overwhelmed by how welcoming and inclusive the AT Community is in the UK

Once the presentations of the Awards began, we were hugely impressed by all the Finalists and especially the Winners, all of whom created extraordinary projects. Seeing all these remarkable pieces of work inevitably provides great motivation to strive for more and develop our skills and knowledge further. After all the Winners had been announced, all the participants were encouraged to continue networking, where we once again had the chance to discuss the winning projects and reports, the Finalists and several other interesting matters as well as make valuable connections within the industry.

This year, the AT Awards were back live and in-person after the lockdowns in 2020 and 2021, and we flew to London to be a part of the event. As both of us have been to London before, we were not expecting it to be such a pivotal experience, but once again we realised how significant an influence education has on the way we perceive our surroundings. Since we started studying Architectural Technology and Construction Management at VIA, we often realise that we look at buildings not just with admiration towards their design but also the technical solutions that were implemented.



Márton and Jonathan view their shortlisted project at the AT Awards 2022

After the event, we took the opportunity to see the impressive architecture of Central London. It was intriguing to see how these structures can influence not just the way a city looks, but also the way it functions.

As a student, one of the best feelings is being acknowledged for the work you do, especially when you spend a lot of hours working on a project. Even though we did not leave the AT Awards with a prize in our hands, we left the evening full of memories and inspirations. ■

See a summary of Márton and Jonathan's Project PSV7 – A Sustainable Single Family Home on page 10 or visit [architecturaltechnology.com/awards.html](https://architecturaltechnology.com/awards.html)



# How entering the AT Awards changed my life

Words by Harvey Hale ACIAT

Being part of a driven and experienced team that deliver large-scale prestigious projects in an incredibly fast-paced environment, where cutting edge design and technical excellence are at the forefront was no more than an aspiration of mine this time last year.

It has now been six months since my wife and I moved to Dubai from the UK, and we are still pinching ourselves that this is where we now call home.

Whilst working in a medium-size practice in Cambridgeshire, I often imagined what it would be like to work on a super high-rise building or a luxury high-end development. In fact, during my second year of my foundation degree, a very good tutor of mine said to me: "You never know where you may end up; you could be designing skyscrapers around the world in a few years time", a comment that my naive self simply disregarded. I mean, I had two years' experience and the biggest project I had delivered to date was a two-storey residential extension! Which I was and still am extremely proud of, I must add.

Four years later, I was on the verge of completing my dissertation and finally completing my six years of part-time study toward my degree. I had put my all into my final project as I saw it as a great opportunity for design freedom and to put some of my own theories into practice – without the constraints that come with repetitive speculative development, which was what I was working on in practice at the time.

A very good tutor of mine said to me: "You never know where you may end up: you could be designing skyscrapers around the world in a few years time"

In the lead up to the final submission and presentation of our final project, CIAT's AT Awards, and the Student Awards in particular, were discussed throughout our lectures and amongst my fellow peers at university. As an Associate member aspiring to be Chartered, becoming a Finalist would strengthen my application. The application process was really simple and the team at CIAT Central Office were on hand to answer any questions I had.



Harvey with then President Eddie Weir PPCIAT MCIAT (left) and Matt Allwright (right) at the AT Awards 2021



Harvey's Highly Commended Project, The Home Office



Harvey's Highly Commended Project, The Home Office

To my absolute astonishment, a few weeks later I received a letter confirming I had been shortlisted as a Finalist, something I never thought I would achieve. The event in London was a real privilege to be a part of, celebrating the fantastic people and work within the AT world. But having your name and work announced as Highly Commended in the Student Award for Excellence in Architectural Technology | Project category is a moment I don't think I will ever forget. At that particular time, I did not know how much it would change my life.

A few weeks after the Awards, I was approached by BSBG, a Dubai-based practice with additional offices in London and Saudi Arabia. BSBG had seen my work through the AT Awards and after being invited to interview, I was offered a job. My tutor was right, you really never know where you may end up!

Working and living in Dubai is indescribable, in comparison to where I was previously. My career path, opportunities and progression changed overnight and it is all thanks to the AT Awards. Moving countries was not something my wife and I had even thought about, but all things considered we are both extremely grateful for our life here now and moreover, thankful for the AT Awards for providing the platform that exhibited and recognised my work, changing my career and life for the better. ■

Harvey's project *The Home Office* was Highly Commended in the Student Award for Excellence in Architectural Technology | Project at the AT Awards 2021





## Developing future talent

**Whittam Cox Architects have again been crowned as the top employer of Chartered Architectural Technologists in 2022. Here, they provide insight on the mechanisms they have in place to nurture and develop the next generation of aspiring professionals into Architectural Technology.**

### **Why does Whittam Cox Architects take on work experience students?**

We believe that work experience, no matter the length of the placement, can provide an individual with a valuable insight into what it is really like in a real-world working environment. Without taking this step, it can be hard to know what you really want to do when you're older. In some instances, it can prove that what you thought you wanted to pursue maybe isn't for you, which isn't necessarily a bad thing.

### **What age range are the opportunities offered to?**

We offer placements for Year 9/10 students (typically aged 14 and 15) up to university age (typically aged 18-21). Although there is nothing to say we wouldn't offer a placement to a mature student studying a relevant subject.

### **How many placement requests per year do you get and how many are you usually able to facilitate?**

We get quite a lot of requests each year! These tend to peak at certain times, with summer being the busiest time for us. However, we only commit to offering a maximum of two technical placements at any one time. We do also offer work experience placements throughout the rest of the practice and in different disciplines across our interiors team and support services.

**We believe that work experience, no matter the length of the placement, can provide an individual with a valuable insight into what it is really like in a real-world working environment**

### **What duration of work experience opportunities do you offer?**

We offer a minimum of one week work experience in order to ensure an individual has a thorough understanding of the job and what it entails. We have a few set projects that we work through, and these are based on one- or two-week duration. We also offer summer placements (6-8 weeks).

### **Do students apply directly or is it arranged via their school/college/university?**

Both. Sometimes we get requests from schools/course leaders, but ultimately it's the student's responsibility to set up the arrangements themselves.

### **Do you see this an investment in local communities and of social value?**

Yes, we are huge advocates of social value. We have some fantastic close relationships with local schools. Our work experience programme provides opportunities to people of all backgrounds, which in turn will help to shape a more diverse and inclusive industry. Our work on social value doesn't stop there – we work with our clients and contractors on project specific initiatives to support schools and universities in other areas.

### **How does Whittam Cox Architects benefit from this? What would you say are the main positives of having students on work experience placements?**

The main benefits for us as a practice are the continuity of talent. We have employees who came to us for work

experience who are now in university studying for their degree in Architectural Technology. Each time they come back to us for a further placement, they bring with them new skills, knowledge, and enthusiasm. It's great!

### **Are there any challenges with having work experience placements, and if so, how do you overcome these?**

The main challenge is resourcing. To overcome this, we limit our intake numbers to ensure that the students are fully supported for the duration of their placement with us. We assign each student with a mentor throughout their placement so they have a familiar point of contact and can build up a rapport. This is important for the school age students as they tend to need a bit more support.

### **Do you keep in contact with/track the students' progress/career post the placement opportunities?**

Yes, we do. A lot of them will keep in touch with their mentor and very often we see them again when they proceed onto university or contact us for a year out placement/graduate role.

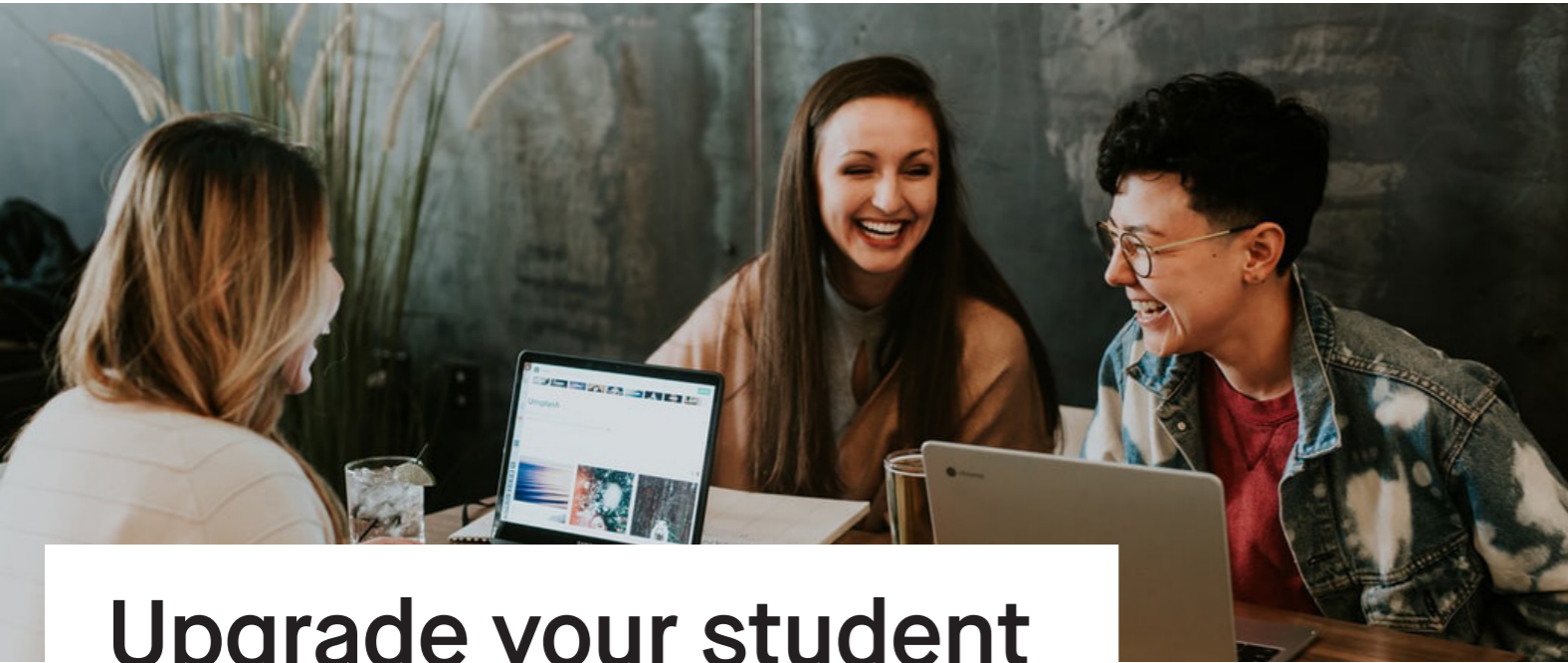
### **What would you say to other practices considering such an endeavour?**

I'd say go for it, it's a really positive thing to do. It has given us as a practice early access to some of our most talented members of the team who hold the same values as we do. ■



Zoey Nutt MCIAT (right), Associate at Whittam Cox Architects, with work experience student Molly





# Upgrade your student membership with CIAT

Words by James Banks CMgr FCMI, Membership Director

If you have recently completed your studies, we want to demonstrate our ongoing support and commitment to your future career and professional development.

CIAT is here to support you in furthering your career and professional development after you graduate and begin the next part of your journey as an Architectural Technology professional.

We have collaborated with the recruiter Hays to create an **employability guide here** which provides helpful tips and information regarding creating your CV and developing your portfolio, how best to apply for jobs and prepare for interviews, as well as advice on being offered the job and building a successful career. In addition to this, CIAT has its own **AT|jobs board** and there are other recruitment agencies which can advise and support you.

Once you have graduated, we invite you to take your involvement with CIAT to the next level and upgrade to either Associate, ACIAT or affiliate status. Upgrading with CIAT will demonstrate to potential/future employers your commitment to your career progression.

Should you upgrade in the same year as programme completion, we offer a supportive two-year staggered subscription.

The 2022/23 rates are:

Year 1  
**£150 (instead of standard rate £305)**

Year 2  
**20% off standard full subscription rate**

To take advantage of this, you can upgrade online at [architecturaltechnology.com/joining.html](https://architecturaltechnology.com/joining.html)

A suite of films about the qualifying process can be viewed on our YouTube Channel at [youtube.com/CIATechnologist](https://youtube.com/CIATechnologist)

For any queries related to upgrading, registration or qualifying please do not hesitate to contact [membership@ciat.global](mailto:membership@ciat.global)

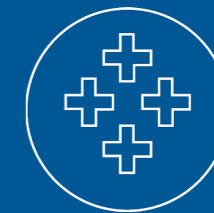
## 4 reasons to upgrade

### Accountability



Demonstrate your commitment to the highest professional and ethical standards in Architectural Technology.

### Support



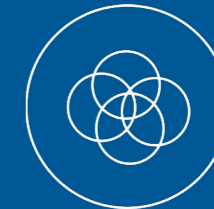
Dedicated support with professional progression and a range of information and resources.

### Development



Attend CPD events through our AT CPD Register and receive specialist support via MentorMatchMe and Technology Network.

### Networking



Engage with aspirATion, your peers and like-minded fellow professionals. Make new contacts, exchange ideas and expand your professional and social networks.

**Upgrade online at [architecturaltechnology.com/joining.html](https://architecturaltechnology.com/joining.html) and use code SA22 to receive your staggered subscription rate**





# AT Awards 2023 open on 6 February

Full details and application forms will be on the website.

The AT Awards are recognised as the premier accolades that demonstrate outstanding achievement in Architectural Technology globally and celebrate the technology of architecture.

The 2022 event was held on 21 October and was hosted by the President, Kevin Crawford PCIAT and Matt Allwright.

Details can be found in the AT Awards section on our website.



[architecturaltechnology.com/awards.html](https://architecturaltechnology.com/awards.html)  
#ATAwards

#### Headline sponsors



## Nominations for the John Newey Education Foundation are open

The John Newey<sup>1</sup> Education Foundation (JNEF) is designed to support students facing hardship which could affect their studies.

CIAT is able to fund two students facing difficulties each year by providing funds from JNEF up to the value of £500. This funding can be used to purchase necessary items such as books, equipment and materials or to contribute towards tuition fees.

#### Who is eligible?

Applicants must be members or affiliates of CIAT (but not Chartered Members), registered on a CIAT Approved/Accredited programme, and facing hardship.

#### How do you apply?

If you wish to be considered for a bursary, you should speak to a member of academic staff. The programme tutor must provide a supporting testimony about your circumstances in the form of an electronic letter, which is to be endorsed by a signature from the Head of Department or equivalent. Please note, only one submission per educational establishment is accepted.

Find out more by visiting  
[architecturaltechnology.com/awards/jnef.html](https://architecturaltechnology.com/awards/jnef.html)



<sup>1</sup> John Newey was a founding member and was responsible for the implementation of its education structure within its formative years, which was the foundation for the structure that operates today.

Entries must be submitted to [education@ciat.global](mailto:education@ciat.global)  
by noon on Friday 10 February 2023



# Entering the industry after graduation

Words by Premleen Kaur Seera, Junior Architectural Technologist, Galliard Homes



Fig.1

Graduating from Coventry University in 2021 and receiving First Class Honours in Architectural Technology, I have been working in the industry for just over a year and have been involved in four developments within the cities of Birmingham and London.

The appeal of the built environment and Architectural Technology grew when gaining work experience with BAM Construction during the pandemic and my third year of university, where I received talks from design, site and project managers and the sustainability team. Experiencing and viewing the work of an Architectural Technology professional also allowed me to appreciate the role and expertise an AT brings to a project, such as their structural and technical knowledge by producing 3D and 2D visuals and GAs (general arrangement drawings) – which I currently do now.

My career in the industry began as a Trainee Design Co-ordinator for Galliard Homes, a property developer, in which I worked from RIBA stages 3 to 5. My first project, Soho Wharf, consisted of 650 apartments, 102 townhouses and three commercial units (Fig.1).

To describe my experience working on site; loud, lifelike and practical (Fig.2). Every graduate should be exposed to working on construction sites as this is where you learn the practicalities and collaboration of design and mechanical and electrical (M&E), in addition to real time problem solving. Being in consistent communication with the site team, Quantity Surveyors, M&E and design developed my knowledge of working in line with a programme, keeping and implementing a budget which leads to choosing sustainable yet cost-efficient materials, and identifying the necessary support for M&E services. My duties were mainly working with consultants and subcontractors, bringing to life the client requirements, for example the layout of kitchens and bathrooms, positioning of soil vent pipes (SVP), and sourcing information for planning conditions.

In addition, the other side I got to experience was document controlling which consisted of working and reviewing different communication platforms, and finding and distributing information and drawings to those working on the development. I also worked with Birmingham City Council on postal applications, which led to me naming the roads on the Soho Wharf project! This encouraged me to file, modify, and deliver information in a distinct and consistent manner.

My second development, Timber Yard, comprised of 379 apartments, where I experienced working through stages 5 to 7. This project taught me what takes place during and after completion (Fig.3). Assisting aftercare with handover, I produced homeowner packs for new residents, helping them understand their new appliances. Receiving and requesting certificates, for instance energy performance certificates (EPCs), helped me learn the grading and needs to energy efficiency and how the structural build up in walls, floors and roofs etc. all contribute to the rating, as well as the legal requirements.

With this building coming into its end stages, I had to be aware of the new building regulations amendments which would impact work on my next project. From my experience, property developers are applying standards beyond building regulations to improve the quality of life to residents and reduce CO2 emissions during construction. With occupants moving into their new homes, it was my duty to work with insurance to record each apartment to prove they were eligible to move into.

As a newly qualified graduate, it is important to learn and experience different elements and departments relevant to my degree and job. I am currently on the Galliard Graduate

scheme in which I rotate onto different departments such as architecture, M&E, sustainability, planning and interior design.

Working as a Junior Architectural Technologist, I have been creating and adapting 3D and 2D drawings using AutoCAD and Revit. Being a graduate, the team had acknowledged my skills and experience, and so I was given the chance to undertake Revit training to improve my skills and confidence using BIM. This eventually allowed me to work on my third development, Grafton Way, in which the main drive and focus is the use of BIM. Being in the industry, the use of emerging technology is increasing and therefore from my current experience, it is imperative we develop skills in design software, allowing for all departments to communicate in an effective way.

In contrast, my fourth development, Neptune Works, solely uses AutoCAD, which I am much more experienced in due to my time at university. Working on a variety of drawings such as strategies and floor plans has taught me aspects and shortcuts of AutoCAD and implementing certain architectural components to help with the structure and design of the building. Even smaller details we use every day but do not think about such as post boxes and fire alarm panels must be thoroughly thought out, as every element must fit like a 'jigsaw'.

I hope to continue and grow my career path as an Architectural Technology professional, learning and understanding different departments' functions and their connection to design, as well as applying the skills and knowledge from my rotations. I also aspire to soon begin my application for Chartered Architectural Technologist, MCIAT status. ■



Fig.2



Fig.3





Stephen inside Castletown Mill

# The opportunities Architectural Technology has given me

Words by Stephen Smith ACIAT

A few years ago, I would never have thought I would be working on some of the most exciting projects in Scotland. Architectural Technology has afforded me that opportunity.

Going back not too long ago, I was preparing to leave school with few qualifications and no idea of the career options available. From the outside, the architecture industry seemed unachievable, especially with my grades at the time. That was until I learned of the Modern Apprenticeship scheme (in Scotland). A two-year programme, encompassing education and practical experience, gave me the foundation of knowledge to progress forward in a career previously unforeseen.

Training to be an Architectural Technologist through a Modern Apprenticeship, I studied a HNC in Architectural Technology and SVQ Level 3 in Built Environment and Design. In practice, I specialised in construction detailing, energy efficiency, sustainability, and air tightness. This broad, yet focused education set me up to further my career and studies.



Stephen Smith ACIAT

Being a technically minded person I wanted to learn as many facets of the industry as possible, to become an all-rounded construction professional. With that thought in mind, I knew learning design whilst practising in technology, would give the best result overall.

After my Modern Apprenticeship, I continued my education to study for a Bachelor of Architecture (BArch) at the Mackintosh School of Architecture, the Glasgow School of Art. When starting university, I worked in residential practice part-time, working exclusively with homeowners on extensions and alterations, taking projects from concept through to building warrant.

Since completing my first three years of the Architecture course, I am currently on my Professional Practice Year Out (PPYO) with Organic Architects in Helensburgh, Scotland. Working with the practice has opened doors into specialisms within the industry. Practising mainly in the commercial sector, Organic Architects focuses on distilleries; design, layout, and construction.

Recently, one of my main responsibilities has been co-ordinating the Building Warrant and Tender packages for Castledown Mill Distillery, on the North Coast of Scotland. The 200+ year-old mill ruin is being transformed into a craft whisky distillery, once again becoming an integral part of the community, producing great products in Castletown, Thurso. It is a project of balance, between new-build and conservation, to allow a new lease of life in a building with a completely different set of requirements and purpose.

In contrast to the conservation of Castletown Mill, I have also been working as part of the design team on a new distillery in Portavadie. Using the precedent of a Scottish coastal village, each building in the cluster has a different purpose; the use, aesthetics, and technical detailing all reflect its individual intention. The outcome is a cohesive and efficient distillery layout showcasing architecture, scenery, and distilling. Having just received planning permission, it's exciting to look forward to the future of the project.

As an avid whisky fan, being able to work on distilleries has become a milestone in my career. Used as not only production spaces but also visitor experiences, restaurants, and retail spaces, to name a few. They become more than just commercial buildings but rather integral parts of communities. It is exciting to play a part in the process of a brand and their story. I look forward to the proud day of standing in a distillery I have worked on, with a whisky in hand saying 'Sláinte'.

As of 2022, I have become an Associate member of CIAT. Gaining this achievement has been a personal goal for a while and attaining this has allowed me to set my sights on what the future holds. Next year, I will be returning to university to complete my honours year, then continuing on to the fifth and final year of the course.

Recently, I had a full circle moment attending a school careers fayre with Organic Architects. Being on a stand, surrounded by high school students who are in the same position I was in a few years ago, brought on some reflection of the past, present and future. Looking back, it has been an exciting journey, learning and practising, allowing me to be where I am today. Looking ahead, I am capturing as many opportunities to gain knowledge and share experiences as well as pursuing my goal of becoming an all-rounded, Chartered construction professional. ■



Render of Portavadie Distillery



Render of Portavadie Distillery

All photos/renders are used with permission from the copyright holder: 'Organic Architects'.

Renders were produced by 'Float Digital' for Organic Architects





The Coodo, Yanko Design

# How prefabricated structures are the future of sustainable building construction

Words by Murassa Khanam, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Dubai

Wouldn't it be great if we constructed fully functional buildings by just assembling together components and not experiencing the hassle of a traditional construction site? Well, that's just where prefabricated structures come into place. This is a review of the advantages prefabrication has over conventional building construction and its apparent rise in popularity today and in the future.



Prefabricated structures are buildings with components that are manufactured offsite in a controlled environment and transported onsite where they are assembled to form a finished building. Prefabrication has been a part of the construction culture for nearly 400 years, with panelised wood houses being shipped from England to Massachusetts. However, it has now become more popular due to its many advantages over conventional construction methods.



The construction industry is a massive consumer of natural resources and raw materials. According to the World Green Building Council, it generates 39% of the world's carbon emissions. Prefabrication improves the efficiency of the construction process and reduces the amount of waste and the environmental effects over a building's life cycle. In comparison to conventional construction, 15.6% of embodied carbon reductions and 3.2% of operational carbon reductions are achieved by prefabrication.



The elements or modules of a prefabricated building are prepared off-site in a controlled factory environment. This implies that there are fewer disruptions to the environment surrounding the construction site. There is also minimal waste of material resources and highly efficient use of energy.



Prefabrication also cuts down 25%-50% of the time needed for the construction of a building as significant on-site foundation works can take place simultaneously with the off-site preparation of the prefabricated modules. Consequently, financing costs are also reduced.



As large amounts of material resources are required for construction, prefabricated structures are generally constructed with recycled or recyclable materials. This means that although some parts of a building cannot be made from recyclable materials, those parts can still be reused over and over without suffering much damage.



Conventional construction exposes construction workers to certain risk factors like outdoor working conditions, working in the presence of machinery and height. This makes prefabrication in an offsite facility much safer and more efficient in terms of working conditions.



Prefabrication is not only an environmentally friendly building construction process, but these buildings can easily be dismantled and reassembled at a new location, making them recyclable in and of themselves. This also does not disturb the surrounding environment of the building with dust, debris, noise, and other pollutants.



The global pandemic (COVID-19) necessitated a rise in the prefabrication industry, and social distance norms and other restrictions on site provided an additional advantage over conventional construction techniques. Offsite construction with machinery is much faster and requires less manpower and allows workers to work in a safe factory environment. The healthcare sector experienced large benefits from this prefab technology providing large numbers of emergency modular isolation units.



Additionally, prefabrication appears to play a significant role in providing affordable housing because of the growing population and the need for better living conditions.

In conclusion, prefabrication presents itself as an exciting lead that has the potential to bring significant changes to the construction industry in terms of social, economic, and environmental sustainability. It is inevitable that this method will become more common as technology advances. ■



# The Access Project – Volunteer as a tutor to tackle inequality

Words by The Access Project

The Access Project are looking for volunteers to tutor disadvantaged young people aged 14 to 18, for one hour a week.

Volunteers benefit from a comprehensive training programme, with ongoing support enabling them to grow in confidence, skills and experience whilst making a valuable contribution to the development of a young person.

- **Support a young person** in a school subject to achieve the GCSE or A level grades they deserve and to fulfil their full potential
- **Inspire, motivate and enable** next steps towards further education and the world of work

Students supported by The Access Project typically **achieve a grade higher at GCSE** and are **twice as likely as their peers to progress** to a top-third ranked university.



Jakaria gained 5 A\* at A level and is now in his first year of medicine at UCL

Jakaria said: "The last four years have enabled me to be **more ambitious and aim for the top grades** that The Access Project believed I could achieve. When I signed up, I just thought we would receive tutoring, but **it's so much more.**"

As a registered charity, The Access Project is dedicated to helping young people from disadvantaged backgrounds access top universities.

Only four in 100 disadvantaged young people secure a place at a top university. The Access Project's mission is to level the playing field at top universities. They do this through recruiting, training and supporting volunteers to work with 14 to 18 year-olds. As a tutor, you will volunteer an hour a week in a subject that you choose.

This, coupled with the ongoing support of in-school mentors, helps their young people secure places at top universities. Students on The Access Project are more than twice as

likely to attend top universities as similarly disadvantaged students, according to UCAS.

As a volunteer, you will help facilitate the academic learning of students, collaboratively problem solve and help reinforce young people's knowledge.

Young people on The Access Project's programme come from London, the East and West Midlands, West Yorkshire, Bradford and the North West. 93% of the young people we work with come from the most disadvantaged backgrounds.

All tutoring is done online, through a purpose-built platform. As an online volunteer, you will deliver sessions from wherever you are comfortable. You will benefit from access to an extensive resource library, professional support from staff and insights into tutoring best practice through on-demand resources. You also have the opportunity to join a nationwide community of tutors, from across the professional, higher education and working world.

Tutorials typically take place after school hours, starting no later than 18:00, and can be arranged to fit your schedule with flexibility to accommodate changing work and personal needs.

You don't need any teaching experience to participate, as we provide comprehensive training, induction and onboarding support which includes lesson planning, topic guidance and resources from The Access Project.

This is a prime opportunity to help address educational disadvantage and make a meaningful impact on a young person's life, at a time where the divide is only growing and your help is needed more than ever. ■

**Find out more at:** [www.theaccessproject.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.theaccessproject.org.uk/volunteer)  
**Apply now:** [www.theaccessproject.org.uk/apply](http://www.theaccessproject.org.uk/apply)  
**Contact:** [volunteering@theaccessproject.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@theaccessproject.org.uk)



## Volunteering with The Access Project

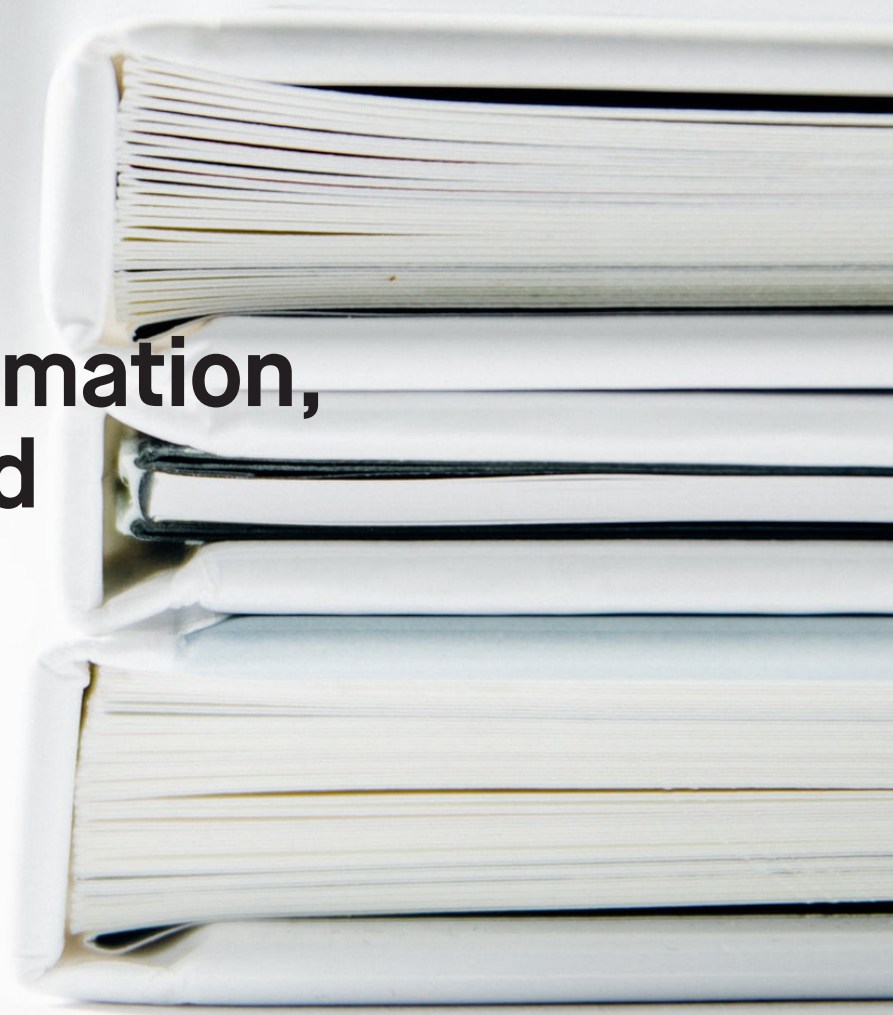
We work with bright students from disadvantaged backgrounds, providing in-school support and personalised tuition, to help them gain access to top universities.

Find out more and apply today at [theaccessproject.org.uk/volunteer](http://theaccessproject.org.uk/volunteer)





# Practice information, education and guidance



Is running your own Practice a career aspiration? Is it your goal to run your own business as a Chartered Architectural Technologist or in partnership or co-directorship with others?

To give you a flavour, we have produced some information on what it requires, what CIAT provides you as a practising Architectural Technology professional, and how you would establish your own CIAT Chartered Practice.

Please visit [architecturaltechnology.com](http://architecturaltechnology.com), log in to the My CIAT area and select *Practice information, education and guidance*.



# CIAT