

Take a closer look at our concrete



The terrific techno giveaway
See website for details



Readymix with versatility

Lafarge Extensia™ offers high compressive and flexural strength with low shrinkage. As well as big environmental benefits compared to traditional concrete.

Visit www.ourconcrete.co.uk
Text **CONCRETE** to 60777*

* Standard network charges apply



FRIDAY 28/09/2012
WWW.BDONLINE.CO.UK

14

TECHNICAL TIMBER STRUCTURES

PROJECT →

Regent's Park Open Air Theatre



The theatre's backstage building seen from inner circle.

modation more as a series of protective screens, hedges and fences than buildings, such that over time they blend with the neighbouring trees into the parkland setting.

Externally the buildings are clad in rough-sawn, untreated FSC larch boarding, either unstained or stained black and at times spaced to form screens. Timber fins mask the windows and, shutter-like, create a lively play of protective kernel and revealed interior.

PROJECT TEAM

- Structural engineer**
Price & Myers
- Services engineer**
Skelly & Couch
- Quantity surveyor**
Bristow Johnson & Partners
- Project manager**
Bollingbrook
- Landscape architect**
Camlin Lonsdale Landscape Architects
- Main contractor**
Ashe Construction
- CLT sub-contractor**
Eurban

Architect
Haworth Tompkins Architects
Location
London
Completed
April 2012

permanent grounding, the seating at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre comprised informal deck chairs set among the park's trees.

In the latest phase of its 12-year involvement with the theatre, Haworth Tompkins has, as at the Young Vic, sought to maintain the relaxed, rough-and-ready feel of HKP&A's work, while substantially upgrading the facilities, all the while trying to maintain

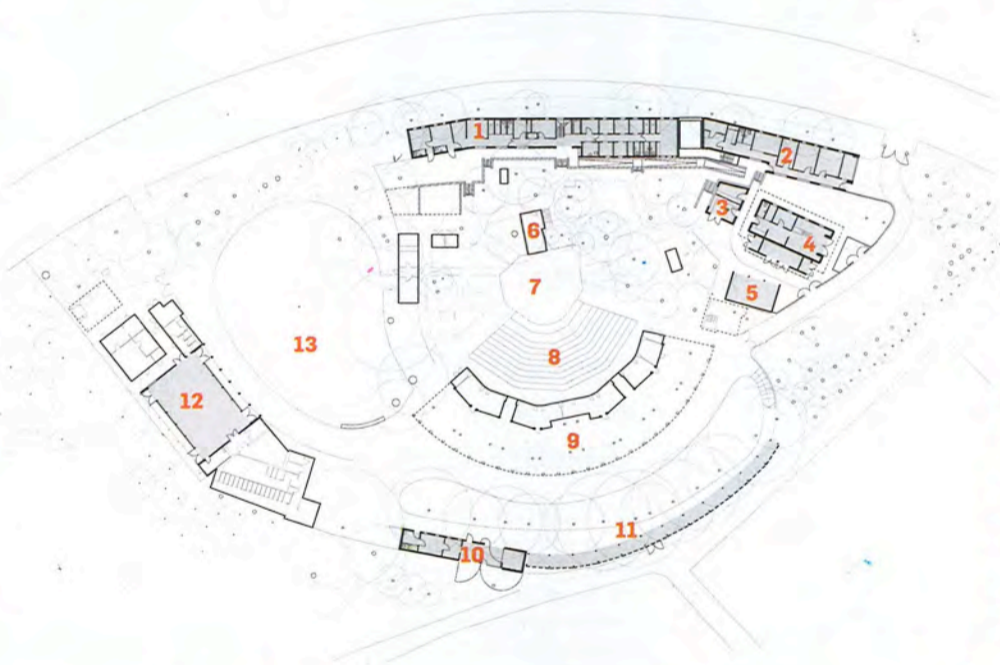
some of the original charm and discretion of those deck chairs.

This was not an easy task as there were numerous trees to be retained and the new works are substantial: relocating the offices to the site, rebuilding the dressing rooms, wardrobe and workshops, and creating a new box office and sheltered seating canopy.

The architect's strategy has been to imagine the new accom-

By Hugh Strange

Until 1976, when Howell, Killick, Partridge & Amis's new raked auditoriums established a more



Site plan

- 1 Dressing rooms
- 2 Administration
- 3 Annexe
- 4 Offices
- 5 Workshop
- 6 Backstage building
- 7 Stage
- 8 Amphitheatre
- 9 Bar
- 10 Box office
- 11 Canopy
- 12 Studio
- 13 Lawn

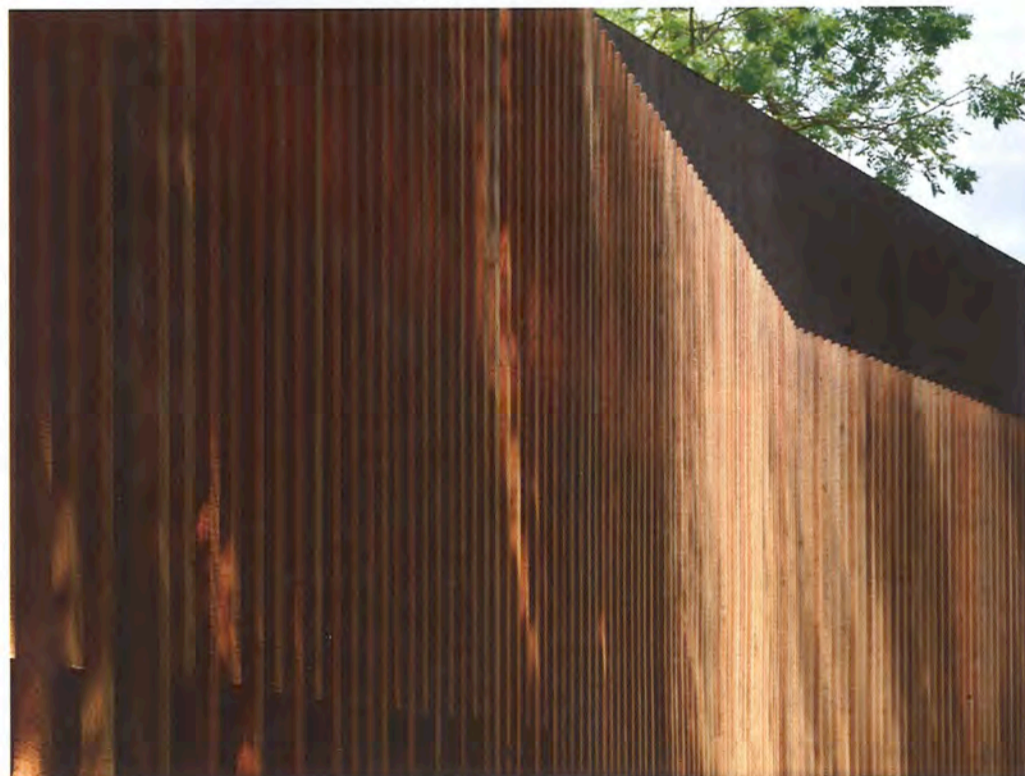
FOUNDATIONS & TREES

The building's walls and roof are constructed using cross-laminated timber (CLT) panels, manufactured by Stora Enso Building Solutions and engineered and erected by Eurban.

In addition to allowing a fast construction that would fit between theatre seasons, the lightness of the panels reduced the loadings on the foundations, assisting in creating a solution that would allow the architects to build remarkably close to the surrounding canopy while preserving the existing tree-root systems.

Central to this strategy was the use of piled foundations that minimised the extent of excavation required and allowed earth movement without affecting the overall structural stability.

A slightly thickened slab allowed the building to cantilever beyond the line of the piles closer to the tree canopy and gave a certain



amount of flexibility to the final positioning of the piles following the excavation of trial pits.

A void former below the slab will allow ground movement caused by clay heave and tree growth.

Timber screen wall to backstage building.



Pilkington Planar™ If you have the vision, we'll help you create the views.

At the home of the Northern Ballet in Leeds, Pilkington Planar™ was used to dramatic effect. The show stopping six-storey entrance and interior glass balconies were built using Pilkington Planar™ frameless glazing system. With its unrivalled stability and safety, this innovative product allows you to build entire structures out of glass, offering exceptional performance and allowing for maximum design flexibility and creativity.

To ensure nothing gets in the way of your vision, visit www.pilkington.co.uk/planar, email Pilkington@respond.uk.com or call 01744 692000 quoting 21380.





Sectional perspective

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|------------------|
| 1 Sealed cross-laminated timber ceiling | 7 Pipework and conduit | 14 Sealed cross-laminated timber wall | 18 RC slab |
| 2 Timber window | 8 Ventilation ducts | 15 Plywood worktop with linoleum topping | 19 Void former |
| 3 Luminaire | 9 Main services run | 16 Screed | 20 Sand blinding |
| 4 Plywood shelf | 10 Pinboard | 17 Insulation | 21 Piles |
| 5 Radiator | 11 Mirror | | 22 Tree roots |
| 6 Acoustic raised timber floor | 12 Surface-mounted conduit | | |
| | 13 Power and data sockets | | |

INTERIORS

Internally, the buildings successfully balance the careful co-ordination of services and structural panels with a workaday, unprecious toughness. The panels are left unpainted throughout and are quite rough in finish (grade C), with knots left unfilled apart from at the front-of-house box office.

Services are generally surface mounted and finished in galvanised steel, with the main trunking routes hung

from the soffit of the spine corridor, and ductwork exposed within the changing rooms. In order to simplify site works, penetrations in the panels were pre-cut in the factory.

Fire protection has been achieved through a combination of over-sizing of panels to allow charring, the selective use of plasterboard to form compartments and the application of an unobtrusive fire retardant to the circulation areas.



Office (right) and changing room (below).



Take a closer look at our concrete

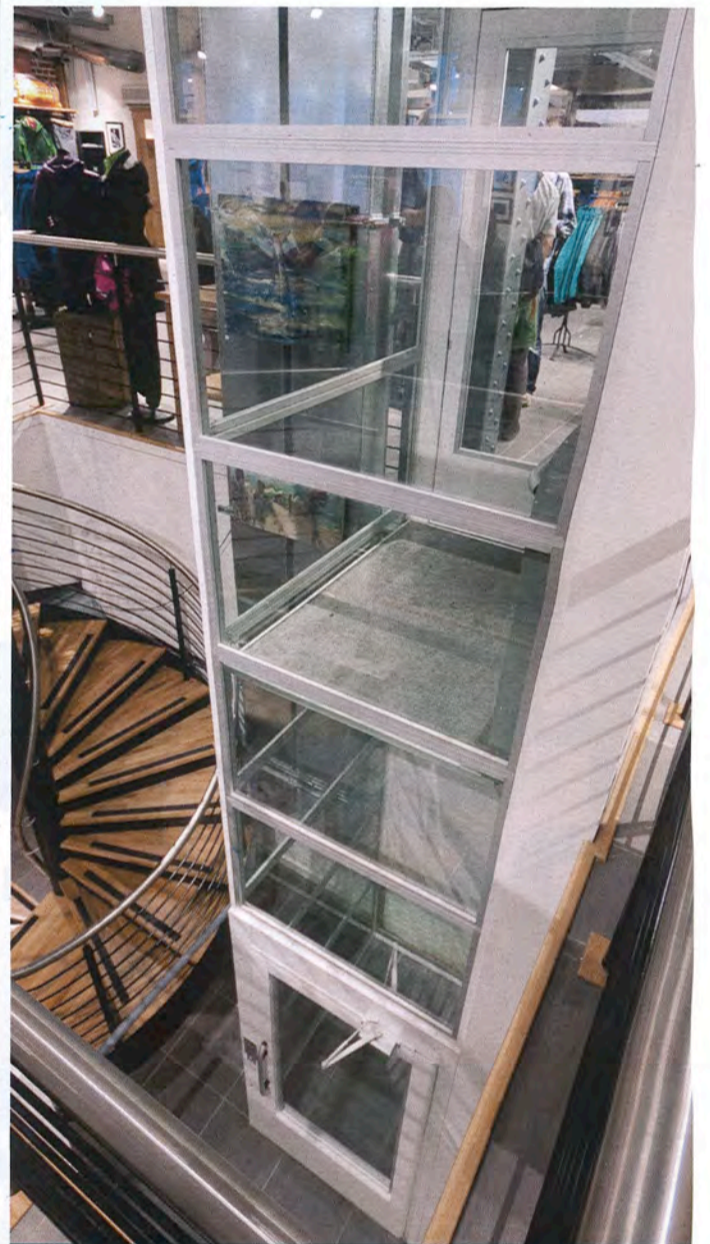
Hydromedia
Readymix with permeability

A concrete drainage solution that reduces stormwater run off and flood risks.

Visit www.ourconcrete.co.uk
Text **CONCRETE** to 60777*

* Standard network charges apply

LAFARGE
bringing materials to life™



As flexible as your imagination

Designed and manufactured in Sweden, a Prime Series Platform Lift is the most aesthetically and technically advanced available today.

Call **01296 397100** or visit www.gartec.com

GARTEC
An Aritco Group company

Leading the Platform Lift Industry