

# prospects

100 YEARS  
RESEARCH + PRACTICE



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# Foreword

RANALD LAWRENCE + DANIEL GODOY-SHIMIZU

This publication and the symposium it accompanies are intended to celebrate the Department of Architecture's unique contribution to architectural research and its collaborative relationship with architectural practice on the occasion of the centenary of the school. We would like to take the opportunity to thank those who have kindly taken the time to prepare an article for this book, or agreed to speak at the symposium. We would also like to thank Professor Alan Short who was responsible for the application to the Roberts Fund in 2011, without which this would not have been possible.

The department at Cambridge continues to punch above its weight in seeking to reconcile research and practice in the face of a challenging economic climate for universities generally, and architectural education and research specifically. The department (through the Martin Centre) conducts research of a significant range and diversity, and its wider practical relevance to policy and design is confirmed by the close contact maintained with the wider profession by research groups and staff, as well as MPhil and PhD students.

In many ways the fortunes of our school have always reflected the wider fortunes of the profession; the 'golden age' of the school in the 1960's arguably corresponded with a 'golden age' of architecture in Britain, and 1966 saw the opening of the first of RIBA's regional offices in Cambridge. The title of this publication is intended to reflect these ever-changing prospects, but is also meant as an optimistic riposte to the current architectural climate: we hope that the best days of the school lie in the future, built upon foundations that are being laid today.