

# The Individual House Award

Entry Pack



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**Architecture**

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**Today**

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**Test of Time**

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**Awards**

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**2026**

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# The Individual House Award

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This award reflects the perennial interest in one-of-a-kind dwellings among both architects and judges. Projects will be assessed on contextual sensitivity, appropriate use of materials, spatial richness, and long-term sustainability.

Entries range from prototypes designed to test specific materials, technologies or ideas and often intended to be replicable at scale – to bespoke projects tailored to the idiosyncrasies, lifestyles and tastes of the client. The strongest presentations tend to include insights from the resident/client.

**“For me, it’s about final recognition. It’s taken 26 years to get to this point. It’s really nice to be recognised for a building that’s very relevant now in its use of biomaterials but was way ahead of its time back in 1997”**

*David Sheppard,  
David Sheppard Architects*

*Left: 2025 Individual House Award winners,  
6 Wood Lane, Highgate, London, by Mike  
Russum (of Birds Portchmouth Russum  
Architects)*



# About the awards

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We launched our awards as a direct riposte to the prevalent awards culture. Instead of focussing on what's new, what's fresh, what's perfect, what's pristine, we look at what has endured, what's flexible, what's adaptable, what works, what performs. Submitting an entry isn't about salesmanship or showmanship. It's about engaging with this discussion; revisiting projects with the benefit of hindsight and reflecting on lessons learnt.

The aim is not to hold an annual beauty parade, but to establish a canon; an archive of projects that represent best practice and have demonstrated their worth. And to demonstrate the long-term value of projects that stand the test of time. Crucially, these awards exist to make the long-term value of architecture visible: to show that flexibility, longevity, and performance are not secondary virtues, but the most meaningful measure of success.

Isabel Allen  
**Editor, Architecture Today**



# Previous winners

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**6 Wood Lane, Highgate, London, by Mike Russum of Birds Portsmouth Russum**

“Eccentric, inventive and experimental, this house marks a departure from the traditional notion of the house in almost every respect. Virtually unchanged since its completion almost a decade ago, it remains perfectly tailored to its occupants’ personalities and needs.”

[Find out more](#)



**Hollick & Bucknall House, Haddenham, Buckinghamshire, by Proctor and Matthews Architects**

“Simultaneously ancient and contemporary, Hollick & Bucknall House stands as a timeless – and apparently effortless – response to the exquisite landscape in which it sits. While the garden has evolved and developed as a three-decade work in progress, the houses have remained largely unaltered, save for the life – and the stories – that have seeped into nooks, crannies, alcoves and walls.”

[Find out more](#)



**Westlake Brake, South Devon, by David Sheppard Architects**

“A fantastically individual home that took the jury entirely by surprise. Built from the land on which it sits, the project uses extracted clay soil to create walls of rammed earth. A triumphant expression of a construction method that is simultaneously ancient and primitive, and refreshingly new.”

[Find out more](#)

**“I found the process of these awards far more useful and satisfying than any other. It genuinely made me reflect, which in this industry is no small thing”**

*Robert Prewett,  
Prewett Bizley Architects*





# Why enter?

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- Demonstrate your ability to produce work that delivers long-term value over time.
- Showcase your expertise in this sector to a wide audience of judges, collaborators and clients
- Reconnect with clients and collaborators and reflect on lessons learned
- High-profile media exposure with all shortlisted projects announced on *Architecture Today's* website and social media channels
- All winning projects covered extensively on *Architecture Today's* website and in a **special awards issue of *Architecture Today***
- All winning projects are rephotographed by leading architectural photographer Timothy Soar
- Teams behind the winning projects record a **presentation** on their scheme, which is widely promoted through *AT's* media channels and forms part of an archive of best-in-field projects that have stood the test of time

**“For me, the greatest reward an architect can receive is history itself — and these awards capture exactly that. They celebrate the enduring relationships we build with our clients long after a project is complete”**

*Dav Bansal,  
Howells*



# Process

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All entries are thoroughly reviewed by our Awards Panel, who typically select three finalists in each category. The teams behind the shortlisted projects are invited to present their project to our expert jury at the Live Finals, a day of live crits which will take place on 16<sup>th</sup> July at The Society Building in central London.

We work with the successful entrants to record their presentations for the AT archive of outstanding buildings that have stood the test of time, a free-to-access resource for academia, practice and clients.

The winning project in each category is rephotographed by Timothy Soar and published on AT's website and in a **special awards issue of *Architecture Today***.

**“These awards have real integrity”**

*Paul Monaghan,  
Allford Hall Monaghan Morris*





# Jury

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**Isabel Allen**  
Editor, Architecture Today

**Dav Bansal**  
Partner, Howells

**Peter Bishop**  
Professor in Urban Design, The  
Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL

**Catherine Burd**  
Director, Burd Haward Architects

**Andy Downey**  
Director, Elliott Wood

**Jonathan Falkingham,**  
Founder & Creative Director,  
Urban Splash

**Johanna Gibbons**  
Partner, J & L Gibbons,

**Lee Mallett**  
Director, Urbik

**Selina Mason**  
Director of Masterplanning &  
Strategic Design, Lendlease

**Paul Monaghan**  
Executive Director, Head of  
Design Studio, AHMM

**Gerry O'Brien**  
Design Director, Co-Founder,  
Agentia Design Engineering

**Roger Madelin**  
Joint Head, British Land

**Sunand Prasad**  
Principal, Perkins&Will

**Neil Thomas**  
Founder and Director, Atelier One

**Kimberly Tryba**  
Managing Principal, LILA Studio

**Charlotte Walker**  
Senior Planner, Lichfields

**Cindy Walters**  
Director, Walters & Cohen Architects

**Keith Williams**  
Founder + Director of Design, Keith  
Williams Architects



# Winners' Party

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The winners will be announced at an awards party on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 76 Southbank, a Grade II listed building designed for IBM by Sir Denys Lasdun and completed in 1983, and recently refurbished and extended by Allford Hall Monaghan Morris for Wolfe Commercial Properties.

**“This is a critically important award, particularly in the era we live in, where responsibility is increasingly central to architectural practice. This is not about designing something wonderful and then disappearing; it’s about standing by your decisions and a powerful way of reflecting on those responsibilities, and reminding ourselves what they really mean”**

*Peter Bishop,  
The Bartlett School of  
Architecture, UCL*





# Entry criteria

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The Test of Time Awards are designed to showcase, celebrate and share knowledge about buildings that have stood the test of time.

Projects will only be considered if they have been in use for at least three years and can demonstrate a strong track record for delivering on their environmental, functional, community and cultural ambitions.

Each category is open to new-build and retrofit projects. Projects can be of any scale or typology and in any part of the world, but must have been completed before April 1st 2023 to be eligible for entry.

You do not have to be a registered architect to submit a project. We actively encourage submissions from consultants, clients, charities, residents and community groups.

Group submissions are particularly welcome. Some of the strongest submissions and presentations have been made by a designer in tandem with a collaborator or client.

**“I want to congratulate Architecture Today for doing what many of us have dreamed of happening for a long time. To reward buildings, not out of fashion the day they’ve finished, not because of the way they look, but how they actually work out in practice, and how they stand the test of time”**

*Sunand Prasad  
Perkins&Will*



# Start your entry today

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## Deadline for entries

19th June 2026

## Live Finals

16th July 2026

## Awards Party

12th November 2026

## Single entry

£395 + VAT

## Multiple entries

£295 + VAT

## Entries enquiries

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**“These awards are a  
breath of fresh air. This  
kind of conversation was  
way overdue”**

*Hanif Kara,  
AKT II*





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