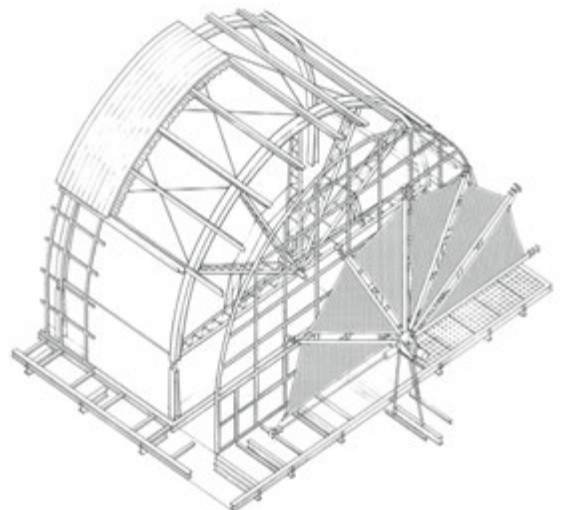




Thames Wharf Studios

London, UK





Place
London, UK

Date
1984 - 1989

Client
Marco Goldschmied,
Richard Rogers,
John Young

Architect
Richard Rogers
Partnership

Structural Engineer
Anthony Hunt Associates/
Ove Arup and Partners

Services Engineer
Rosser and Russell/Ove
Arup and Partners

Quantity Surveyor
GA Hanscomb
Partnership

Roof Extension
with Lifschutz Davidson
Ltd

Landscape Architect
Georgie Wolton

Planning Consultant
Montagu Evans

Main Contractor
Woolf Construction Ltd/
Tarmac Cubitts

The conversion of the warehouses is unfussy and economical, with existing features retained wherever possible and new elements designed to a frankly industrial aesthetic and painted in primary colours

Awards

1994
RIBA Regional Award

1989
Civic Trust Award — Commendation

1984
Structural Steel Design Award, Certificate of Merit

The relocation of the Richard Rogers Partnership offices to Thames Wharf in Hammersmith, west London in 1984, was significant in several ways – as a gesture towards the regeneration of London’s riverside and as evidence of the practice’s commitment to the re-use of worthwhile old buildings. The site was a redundant industrial complex, containing some good early 20th-century warehouses but cluttered with oil tanks and other temporary structures, and completely inaccessible to the public.

The strategy was to divide the site between a new-build residential scheme and a development of offices, studios and light-industrial space housed in the existing warehouses, one block of which was earmarked as office space for the practice. The garden courtyard forms the centrepiece of

the scheme – an attractive public space linked to a riverside walkway. The River Café, founded by Rogers’ wife Ruth and her late partner Rose Gray, enjoys views across the garden to the river beyond.

The building occupied by the practice until 2015 dates from the 1950s – it has been extended upwards with a spectacular lightweight rooftop structure designed by the practice in association with architects Lifschutz Davidson. A double-height entrance lobby is an other key intervention, creating an informal gallery for key architectural models. A recent addition has been a new mezzanine kitchen above the reception area – providing home-made lunches for the RRP staff and popular as an informal meeting place throughout the day.