Sir James Stirling, 1926 – 1992
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- 1926-1992
- British architect, critic
- WWII, studied architecture at University of Liverpool, 1945-1950, with Colin Rowe as tutor
- After 1970s – shifted to very large projects, labeled post-modernism
1981 – awarded Pritzker Prize
1992 – Stirling awarded Knighthood
Engineering Building, Leicester, Stirling & Gowan, 1959-1963
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Engineering Building, Leicester, Stirling & Gowan, 1959-1963
History Faculty Building, Cambridge, Stirling & Gowan, 1968
History Faculty Building, Cambridge, Stirling & Gowan, 1968
History Faculty Building, Cambridge, Stirling & Gowan, 1968
Reyner Banham’s friendship
History Faculty Building, Cambridge, Stirling & Gowan, 1968
History Faculty Building, Cambridge, Stirling & Gowan, 1968
Florey Building, Oxford, 1971
74 dorms; top level double height grad dorms, ground level dining hall
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ISOMETRIC STIRLING

AN EXHIBITION OF THE WORK OF JAMES STIRLING IS SHOWING AT THE RIBA'S HEINZ GALLERY, LONDON, UNTIL 21 JUNE. SHOWN HERE IS A SELECTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Whether it is right or not to describe James Stirling as the best architect of his generation, his practice has produced some of the most remarkable architectural projections of this century. The drawings that have come from his office have been consistently beautiful and deeply imaginative.

The RIBA exhibition includes sixty line drawings, montages and models, completed schemes, un-built projects and competition entries covering James Stirling’s entire career.

At the same time RIBA Publications is launching a catalogue, ‘James Stirling’ (£2.50), covering much of the important work.

The drawings include roughs, plans, artist’s impressions (if these are the right words in a much abused context), sections, elevations, elevation-cum-artist’s impressions, isometric drawings, and working drawings. It is an amazing, dazzling display.

We show here some of the isometric drawings and one or two of the artist’s impressions. Among the most brilliant, and disturbing isometric drawings are those from underneath the buildings illustrated. We show two of them, one dated 1953 and the other 1973. Not shown here, but in the exhibition, there is also a fine drawing of the underside of the Florey Building. Since these drawings are essentially non-orientating, it is not always easy to grasp their purpose - Stirling’s own descriptions merely add to the mystery. But as technical drawings, and as an exposure of his own plastic attitudes, they are wonderfully illuminating.

School assembly hall in Camberwell 1958/61: the plan divided into quarters, two parts for the hall (sub-divisible) one for kitchen, one for service rooms

House in North London, 1953; first-floor a single habitable area, the ground floor, with exception of garage, considered as one space

Under side view of the art/ administrative building, Sheffield University 1953

Competition, indicating several of building (usage) elements which were put together in differing ways in projects which came after
LEON KRIER

RES PUBLICA
CLASSICAL

MONUMENTS
WITHOUT
STREETS OR SQUARES

RES ECONOMICA
VERNACULAR

STREETS AND SQUARES
WITHOUT MONUMENTS

THE TRUE CITY
Tate Gallery, 1986, London

Neue Staatsgalerie, 1977-1984

No 1 Poultry, London, 1997