

IBM Building

Havant, Hampshire, for IBM United Kingdom Ltd.

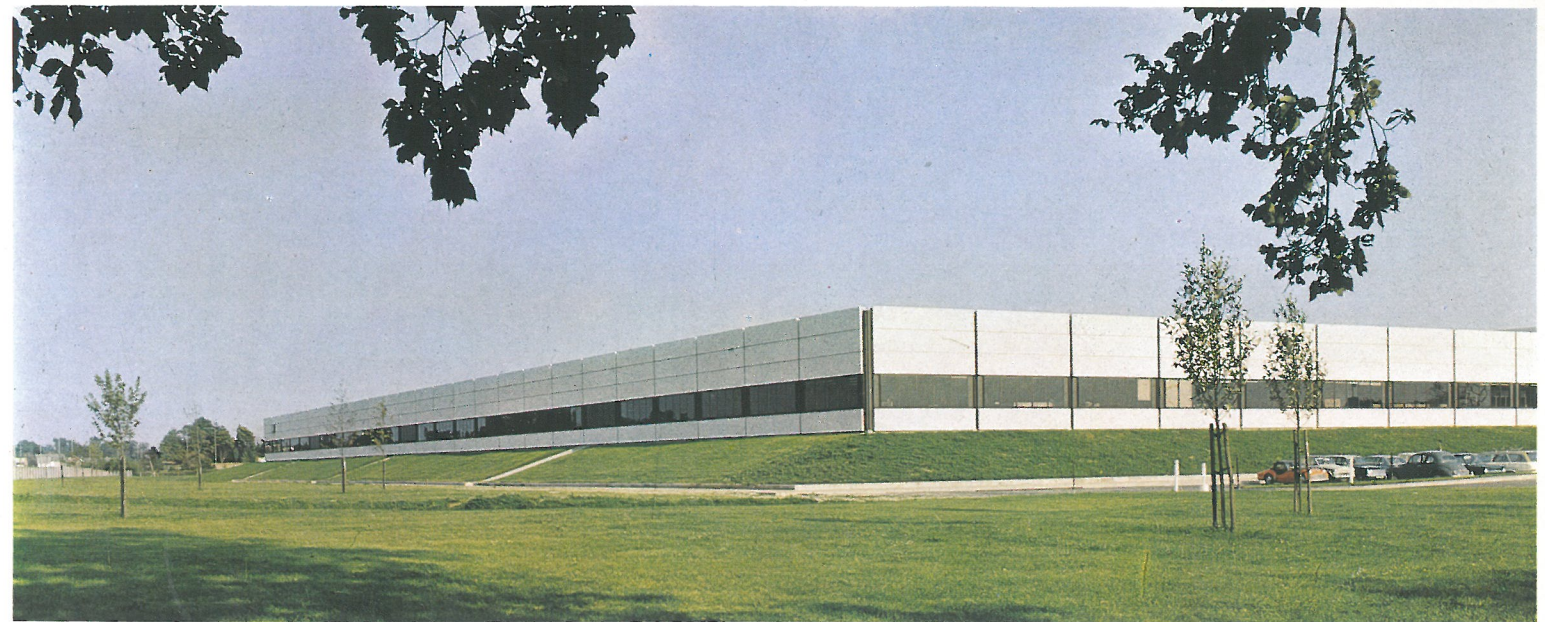
ARCHITECTS
Arup Associates

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS
Arup Associates

STEELWORK CONTRACTORS
Rubery Owen & Co. Ltd.
Modern Engineering (Bristol) Ltd.
Robert Stevenson (Structural) Ltd

Judges' Comments

A combined factory and office building using structural steelwork for economy, speed of erection and adaptability. Effectiveness of design and attention to clean details allow exposed steelwork to become an architectural feature of the building.



The plan has been developed to accommodate rapid growth and change and thus reflects the nature of the computer industry which it serves. The development was originally expected to grow to a maximum of 425,000 sq ft of which the computer centre and manufacturing building are illustrated whilst the materials distribution centre and offices were to be built in the future.

Large areas of adaptable space are created by controlling the relationship of permanent elements within a principal discipline of primary and secondary routes. Related to this principal discipline is a planning grid within which the structure, services, ceilings and partitions are developed and, although in some areas the initial installation is minimal, control is thus established for incorporating future additions and amendments.

The construction is principally steel frame clad with white exposed aggregate pre-cast concrete panels and bronze tinted glass in bronze anodized aluminium frames. Internally permanent walls are of fair-faced brickwork whilst partitioning is demountable.

Purpose-designed steel trusses have been used for all the manufacturing buildings and steel beams have been used for the cafeteria and power house. The cladding system has been designed so that either windows, or concrete cladding panels, or both, can be fixed direct to the outer exposed steel frame. The early com-

pletion of roof and external wall have enabled the finishes and services to start on site at an earlier stage in the construction programme. Extension of the buildings has been achieved by unbolting the cladding and adding further standard structural bays.

Attention has also been paid to all aspects of the detailing of the steelwork which has been left exposed both internally and externally in all buildings except the computer centre.

The computer centre is a specialized building for a large installation and was designed as a separate building linked to the main entrance. It consists of a computer room occupying the whole of the principal floor, served from a plant floor below and an office floor above.

The manufacturing building was constructed in two phases and completed in 1970. Two further phases are under construction. Others are contemplated and are the subject of further master planning studies for an extended site.

Opposite: Attention has been given to the landscaping as can be seen in this view where the strong lines of the buildings contrast well with nature.

Above: Clean lines of the exterior of the manufacturing building.

Right: The entrance foyer and a corner of the computer centre.



