



Architectural Design Vol XLIII 7/1973

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Convertible roofs envisaged by Patrick Duncan.  
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### Summaries/French

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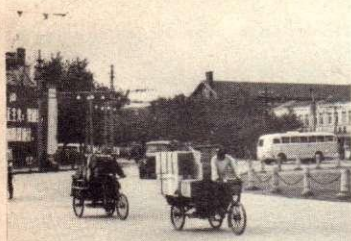
### Cosmorama

Primetime TV. Grow your own furniture. Organic structures. Empire State back on top. New membrane. Urban landscaping. Yona teaches the kids. Under the motorway.

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### Planning in China

Graham Towers, who was recently in China, bases his article on discussions held with city planners in Sian and Shanghai, and on general observations from a tour which included visits to Tsinan, Peking, Nanking and Wusi.



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### Books

Product guide: this feature has been discontinued.

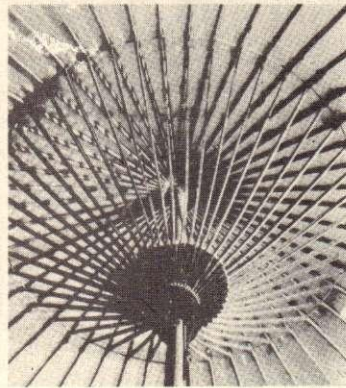
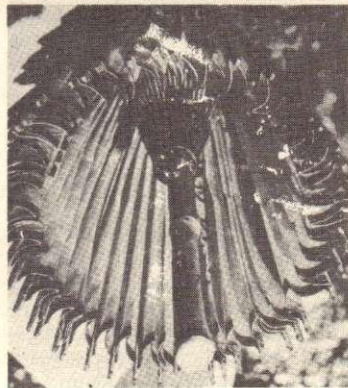
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### Convertible roofs

The idea of movable roofs is not a new one. The first example was the Assyrian umbrella of the 13th century BC, and the Romans used *vela* or sun awnings over their

theatres etc.

But in the 20th century, the idea did not build up until the fifties when Frei Otto and Mitchell led the way.



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### Map guide: Britain and London

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### Briefing

John Weeks states how hospitals, like everything else, must be designed for change. A few examples in the US and UK take account of this. He describes two general models for indeterminate expandable hospital design, one at Northwich Park, one at Greenwich (both in London). Whereas American hospitals are mostly monumental, the new British hospitals are informal low buildings, expandable and cheap, amenable to change.

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### Round up

China tour. Gold medal. Muthesius' mutilation. Church property. British Museum. Jim Stirling's architecture. Precast cladding. Wates' new town. Small towns study. South-East Study monitored. Channel Bridge. How dead is the West Cross Route? Squatters setback. Birthrate down. Magazine spotlight. Exhibitions. Art.

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### Next month

No-income housing: reports from various parts of the world. Hadrian's Wall and Lou Kahn by Alison Smithson.

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