

# Area of interest

Three chosen finalists have each proposed a design for a £750,000 visitor centre at Acle Bridge on the Norfolk Broads

The architects at Feilden + Mawson describe their submission as a design that “will be familiar; a barn, a boathouse but relevant to its immediate environment, a provider of education, fun, pride and joy, it must also have a light touch to the riverbank. It should be timeless”

The brief to design a dynamic world-class visitor centre at Acle Bridge in Norfolk was the starting point for the 95 architect firms who entered an anonymous competition set by the Broads Authority. The final three shortlisted practices – Mills Power Architecture, Feilden + Mawson and Mole Architects – will now go through to the final stage with a winner being announced this summer. The brief was to create a space to inspire school children from the surrounding counties and to educate them about the importance of the Norfolk Broads, while promoting architectural innovation. Facilities for passing boaters and walkers needed to be incorporated creatively into the space, while keeping the footprint contained in the restricted space on the bank of the River Bure. There is a clear common thread running through the finalist’s submissions; they have all chosen to respond to the surrounding flat landscape by creating a bold structure that projects dramatically from the outstretched Norfolk terrain. Look out for the announcement of the winning design online at [enkimagazine.com](http://enkimagazine.com)

# "ACHIEVING A SUSTAINABLE, ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE INTERVENTION INTO THE LANDSCAPE"

John Packman, chief executive of the Broads Authority



Watercolour sketch and site model | Mills Power Architecture, Large model | Katherine Fawcett

**Above and right** Reflecting traditional local vernacular, The Periscope by Mills Power Architecture has a laminated timber-frame structure that the architects describe as a "vertical gesture in this flat landscape"



**Left and below**

The Large White by Mole Architects features a terrace for boats to moor alongside and a board walk path that visitor's enter on, over a newly created wetland habitat. The building has tall triangular forms that stand out against the flat horizon

