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Feature: 6a architects

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- Features the work of 6a architects, founded by Tom Emerson and Stephanie Macdonald

a+u's August issue features the work of 6a architects, founded by Tom Emerson and Stephanie Macdonald in 2001 and based in London's historic Holborn district. Deeply immersed in the British art and design scene, and in the cohort of British architects who came of age in the post-high tech 1990s, 6a are at the forefront of a contemporary movement characterized by sensitivity to the environment, community, and context, while appearing to play down conventional signatures of style and theory. Divided among 4 chapters – "Repairing," "Gardening," "Shaping," "Walking" – 20 projects present themselves as invitations to distinct experiences. Each chapter opens with a statement by the protagonists and is brought to reflection by a friendly interlocutor, describing how the architects conscientiously "work with what is already there and understand time as part of that existing material," that "decay and maintenance are natural conditions of architecture." 6a's architecture becomes defined through "invisible mediums amid those things," like site, materials, tools, and participants.

Text in English and Japanese.

a+u - Architecture and Urbanism – is a monthly architectural magazine established in 1971 that highlights a broad range of the work and activities of top contemporary architects from around the world in a well-presented format.