

MONUMENT

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

RESIDENTIAL SPECIAL 2008

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DENMARK'S PRINCIPAL port city of Aarhus is staging a revival of its dockland district. JDS/Julien de Smedt Architects and CEBRA in collaboration with Louis Paillard and SeArch won a competition to build the mixed-use Iceberg development. The 25,000 square metres of housing will have 200 apartments in buildings with jagged roofs resembling icebergs. It's expected the development will convert the decommissioned container terminal into a socially sustainable living city quarter with cultural and social venues, work places and diverse housing options. A main obstacle to the ambitious plan is its density of

development, with desired square metres and ocean views conflicting with height restrictions of the site. The Iceberg design negotiates the problem by steering clear of maximum heights at certain points and emerging above the dotted line at others. The resulting peaks and canyons not only lend strength to the form, they allow generous natural lighting and water views into the apartments. "With the Iceberg we get unique housing qualities as well as an architectural expression of the highest quality for the city," says Danish Architecture Centre spokesman Kent Martinussen. Completion is expected around mid 2010.



A FOOTBRIDGE ALLOWING pedestrians to ride it while it opens and closes for river traffic has been given the green light for construction in Hull, in north-east England. McDowell+Benedetti's competition-winning design includes a 16-metre diameter circular node, housing a bistro, at the western end that rotates as the bridge opens. From this drum, a 35-metre-long cantilever steel spine arches up and over the river, allowing smaller vessels to pass under the bridge without the need to open. The bridge can be fully opened if required by an electrical drive mechanism. The bridge will link the east bank of the River Hull and the city centre and its design signature—a sleek dorsal fin skylight—is a stark contrast to the river's industrial character. Two

pedestrian routes and a series of viewing platforms are planned for the bridge. Piling work should commence in 2009, though off-site construction of the bridge will begin shortly. Due for completion in late 2009, the project involves bridge engineers Quater Hall, structural engineers Alan Baxter & Associates, civil contractor Piers Contracting and lighting designers Sutton Vane Associates.

