

1987 GOOCH WARE TRAVELSTEAD



Architectural Fathers by Canary Wharf Father 1 Gooch Ware Travelstead Res Nova 16 January 1987

"Hot and flustered I scurried onto the boat and straight away I was confronted with my father. He was stood on deck outside the door smoking with Michel Von Clem. He didn't acknowledge me at first but nervously I went up to him, took out my invite and introduced myself, 'Hi, I'm your daughter Canary Wharf.' At this he burst into laughter and offered me his hand, as I shook it he giggled and shook his head from side to side. He then turned and shouted into the boat at my mother Edythe, 'Look I invited our daughter, Canary Wharf.' Mum made her way towards the door and after looking at me blankly, she shrugged her shoulders and rejoined the group she was talking with. This made my dad laugh even louder, I laughed at him laughing, and when my dad calmed down enough to talk he told me to go inside and fetch a drink from one of the waiters." And there it was, Canary's first meeting with her father Gooch Ware Travelstead on the Roux brother's floating restaurant Res Nova in 1987.

In this amazing first volume of her memoirs Canary takes us back to this difficult time. Describing in candid detail the hopes, disappointments and confusion that surrounded her first meeting with her father. Canary's vivid retelling of this lunch, which marked not only the end of Travelstead's involvement in Canary Wharf, but also of him taking any responsibility for his daughter, leaves us wondering if we are indeed reading about an important historical moment for British business or just an account of a woman being patronised and alienated from those she thought of as family.



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