It is with great sadness that we report the death of David Saunders in Adelaide on 23 September 1986. David was without doubt a giant of the Australian conservation movement, a giant with a soft step, impeccable manners and amazing modesty. He was also an architect with an interest in old and new alike.

As a lecturer in architecture at the University of Melbourne, Power Professor of Fine Arts at the University of Sydney and Professor of Architecture at the University of Adelaide, he influenced and guided many people. That influence and guidance was of profound importance in ensuring that the Australian built environment was cared for and cared about.

He was an prominent architectural writer and his interest in new buildings saw him edit and write reviews of modern work, including a stint as the second editor of Cross Section. His design for his own house in Parkville (1959) is among Melbourne's best inner suburban infill designs.

Of particular significance to readers of this journal was his role as founding father to Australia ICOMOS and as past chairman. At the time of his death he was chairman of the Australian Society of Architectural Historians. These organisations will greatly miss his support, enthusiasm and presence.