



# Matter of great suspense as engineers are honoured



Tom Jackson (right), president of the American Society of Civil engineers, unveiled the bronze plaques honouring the bridges of Stephenson and Telford with Robert Paxton, chairman of the Historic Engineering Works Panel

Picture: STACEY F

**FOUR landmark North Wales bridges yesterday earned accolades from across the Atlantic.**

US engineers were in town to honour the spectacular creations of two 19th century civil engineers, Robert Stephenson and Thomas Telford.

On a tour of British historic

engineering sites members of the American Society of Civil Engineers awarded their very own "Oscars".

The bronze plaques were awarded in recognition of Telford's masterpieces, the Menai and Conwy Suspension bridges and Stephenson's rail crossings of

the river Conwy and the Menai Strait, the waterway which separates Anglesey from the mainland.

A spokeswoman for the National Trust, which owns Conwy suspension bridge, said: "The plaques are the only ones presented during the ACSE's visit

to the UK and it is a considerable honour for the structures to be recognised in this way."

The plaques were also handed over to Network Rail, which has responsibility for Conwy's tubular bridge, and to the National Assembly, which looks after the two bridges over the Menai Strait.