

# inhabit

architecture today

New houses: Hugh Strange Architects | Henning Stummel Architects  
Pricegore | Glazzard Architects | Bennetts Associates | Tectonics  
Sutherland Hussey Harris | Belsize Architects | Madoc Architecture

Summer 2016  
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# inhabit

Summer 2016

## Reinventing the home

From the urban loft conversion to the rural hill-top dwelling, the projects in this issue demonstrate how architects can bring creativity and freshness to some of the most familiar domestic typologies.

In London, Madoc Architecture explores a contemporary architectural language for ending a Victorian terrace; Henning Stummel infills a land-locked site with top-lit metal-clad pavilions; and Pricegore reworks an unprepossessing top-floor flat, creating a bold new identity and re-engaging with the local context. Moving out of the city, Sutherland Hussey Harris' wraps Edge Hill house in Northumberland with a finely detailed hardwood timber screen to maintain privacy and promote daylighting, while Glazzard Architects' hilltop house in Worcestershire balances the need for light and views with high levels of sustainability and self-sufficiency.

## Inhabit

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34 Pentonville Road, London N1 9HF  
T: 020 7837 0143  
Editorial: editorial@architecturetoday.co.uk  
Advertising: alan.i@architecturetoday.co.uk

Publishing editor: Ian Latham  
Editor: Chris Foges  
Managing editor: Susan Warlow  
Technical editor: John Ramshaw  
Commercial director: Mark Lewis  
Advertisement manager: Alan Irvine  
Finance assistant: Isolde Brampton-Greene

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# SUTHERLAND HUSSEY HARRIS EDGE HILL

Edge Hill by Sutherland Hussey Harris occupies a deep linear plot at the edge of the exclusive Darras Hall Estate in Ponteland, Northumberland. The estate is 12 kilometres north-west of Newcastle upon Tyne, its confines limited and set by land granted in trust to the Darras Hall Committee. Plot sizes and ratios are strictly controlled, with by-laws preserving open spaces

and forbidding industry or commercial buildings within the village. As a result, most residents live in an original 1960s or 70s house, or have bought a plot, demolished the existing dwelling, and built a new house. The Edge Hill site was previously occupied by a poor quality post-war bungalow, and was chosen for redevelopment for its privacy and mature garden. ▸

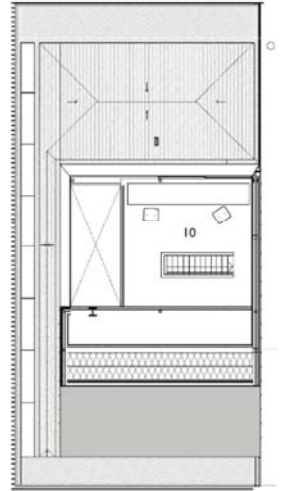
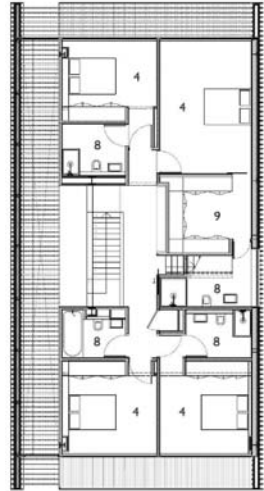
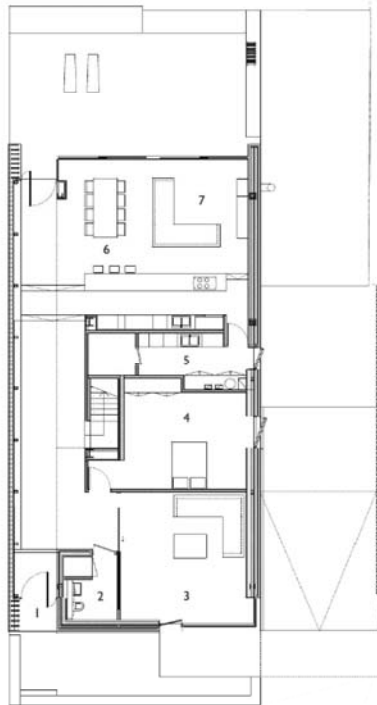


▽ Front elevation. Shielded from solar gain by an external FSC-certified hardwood timber screen, full-height windows and rooflights provide good levels of daylight throughout the plan.





- △ Open plan living space.
  - ▽ Site, ground, first- and second-floor plans.
- Key: 1 entrance, 2 cloakroom, 3 snug, 4 bedroom, 5 kitchen, 6 dining, 7 living, 8 bathroom, 9 dressing, 10 study.





The house is conceived as simple, rectilinear, precast concrete structure with large triple-glazed windows at the ends and a mono pitch zinc roof. An FSC-approved, thermally-treated hardwood timber screen wraps the exterior, allowing daylight into the heart of plan while enhancing privacy.

Articulated by a generous triple-height hall, the main living spaces are located on the ground floor. The floor plane steps down from front-to-back, gradually increasing the floor-to-ceiling height, and maximising the views from the main open-plan living space. Four double bedrooms are located on the first floor, each with access to full-width terraces at the front and rear. The side walls are blinkered by a continuation of the timber screen. An office space in the pitched roof attic provides views to the north and west across the sedum roof. The latter controls rain-water run-off while increasing biodiversity. □

- Architect Sutherland Hussey Harris structure Patrick Parsons contractor David Sparham sedum roof Baudler timber cladding Russwood concrete Border Concrete sliding glass doors IQ Glass kitchen Poggenpohl Kitchens photos Sutherland Hussey Harris.
- Floor area 360 sqm contract value £600,000.

# HUGH STRANGE ARCHITECTS LOWER CLAPTON HOUSE

Our project for a family in Lower Clapton, east London, completely transforms an existing two-bedroom house so that while the exterior appears either new or old, inside is a rich combination of the two, *writes Hugh Strange*.

The clients' original brief was to provide an additional bedroom and bathroom to accommodate an expanding family. The existing building was double-fronted, but shallow in depth and with little garden space to the rear. An initial feasibility study suggested the possibility of a larger scheme. By moving bedrooms to the ground floor, and placing the kitchen/living/dining room on the first floor, two additional bedrooms could be provided, as well as allowing better natural light to the living spaces. Planning approval was gained for this scheme and the client committed to the resulting budget uplift.

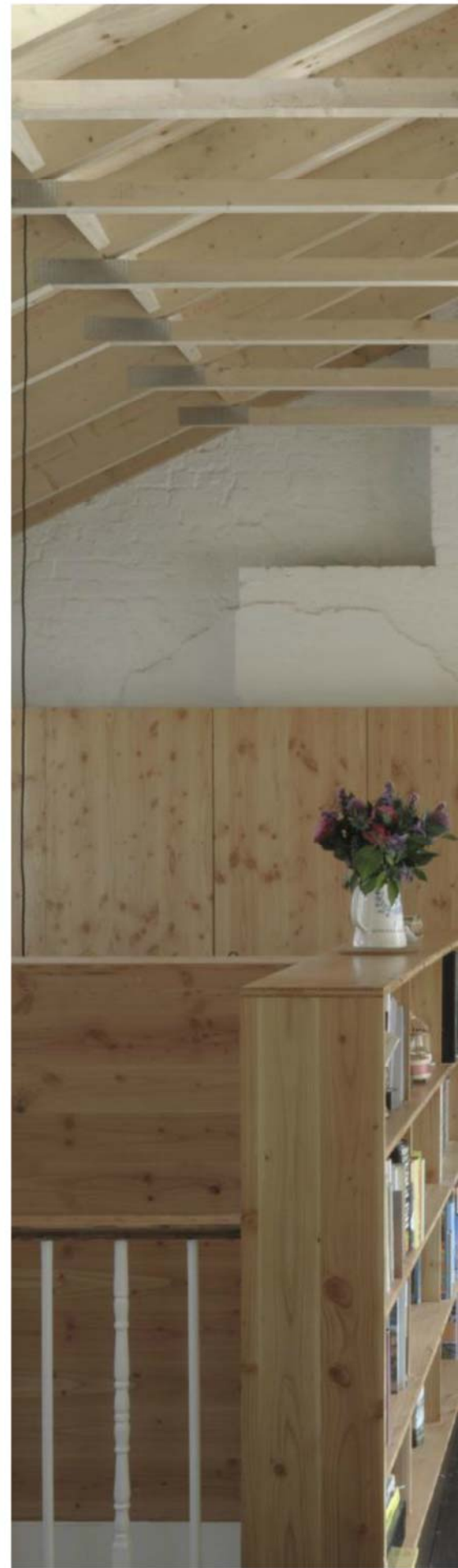
However, structural investigations revealed the property had suffered significant damage from a nearby bomb during the second world war, and had not been properly repaired, with the floor joists and roof trusses in particularly poor condition. This information led to a reconsideration

of what could be retained, and it was decided to remove and reconstruct the roof, the upper floors, and the entire rear elevation, retaining only the front elevation and the front two rooms of the ground floor, while still working within the existing party walls.

From the front the completed house appears unchanged, its street elevation presenting a similar Edwardian facade to its neighbours. In contrast, the rear appears as a completely new building. Its simple masonry walls seem appropriate for its yard setting, while timber and steel cladding to the upper floor suggests the presence of something distinct within.

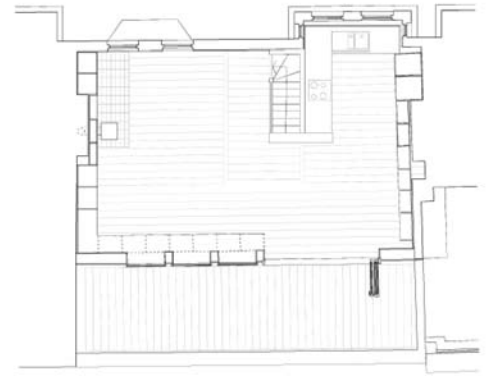
Inside the house, the relationship between the host structure and the remodelling works is decidedly more complex, each space a careful negotiation between old and new. The ground floor now provides four bedrooms, a shared bathroom and an en-suite. The walls, ceilings and floors here subtly distinguish old from new. ▶

- ▶ First-floor living/dining/kitchen space (all phs: David Grandorge).
- ◀ Rebuilt rear elevation and new first-floor terrace, facing onto a yard
- ▽ Cross-section through the extended, reroofed Edwardian house.







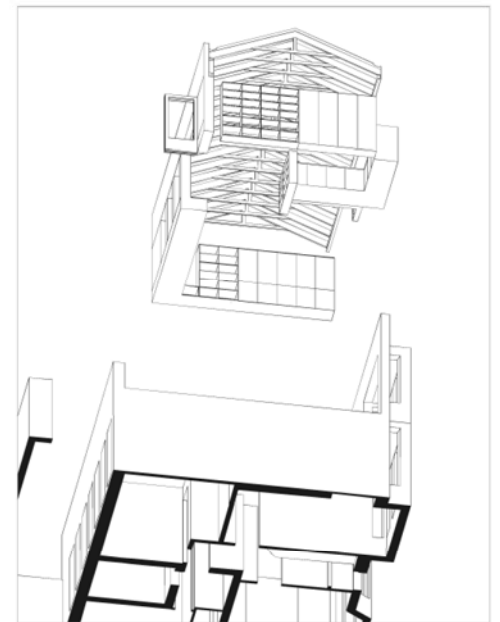


To the rear is a small courtyard garden, enclosed by new brick walls. The existing staircase was retained and leads up to the large open-plan living, kitchen and dining space. The building's double-fronted character, and the ability to open the roof structure, allowed a scale to this space that is unusual in London terrace houses.

Here the play between old and new is more richly articulated. The limited budget was embraced, and a clear construction strategy employed whereby off-the-shelf timber trusses and cheap plywood lining are used unaltered at high level for the roof construction, their standardised nature giving a robust character to the space. Below, Douglas fir joinery provides built-in furniture that lines the space, its rich tones giving the room a warm character. Steelwork, with standard primer finish, stiffens the existing front wall and supports the front edge of the roof, while Douglas fir inlays within the floor describe the historic room divisions. □



- △ Deep cill to windows onto terrace; ground and first floor plans.
- △ Location plan.
- ▷ Axonometric of roof construction, which uses off-the-shelf trusses.
- Architect Hugh Strange Architects structural engineer Price & Myers main contractor Hanover Joinery client private
- Brick FreshField Lane Selected Dark roof tiles Marley Eternit rooflight Velux rainwater goods Lindab wall insulation Kingspan Kooltherm K8 timber Douglas fir/Triboard by Tilly storage carcasses IKEA radiators Stelrad bathroom fittings Ideal Standard
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# PRICEGORE DOCTORS' FLAT

Loft conversions in London terrace houses are typically generic building projects that rarely yield much in the way of architectural interest. But in extending a top-floor flat in south London, architect Pricegore has exploited its unusual situation to maximise views and lend a distinctive identity to both the interior and exterior, as well as adding living space.

The brief from the clients – a pair of doctors with children – was to enlarge the second-floor flat by constructing a large dormer on the house's main pitched roof, and extending out over the flat roof of the back-rigger to create a split-level third storey. As the flat sits within a terrace of houses that backs not onto other houses, but onto a long, narrow and somewhat

neglected park, Pricegore opted to 'reorient' it to the rear, at the same time introducing "a civic quality to this ambiguous urban landscape". The dormer and balcony – both features commonly added to Victorian houses – are made "deliberately architectural, open and outward looking", says the architect, which has also won planning permission for a similar project on the adjacent property and suggests that others on the street could follow suit.

"Our design aims to find a balance between the pleasure in ordinariness and everyday things and a sincere enquiry into the nature of architectural form, typology and expression", says Pricegore. "The materials are commonly available, low-cost and simple to work".

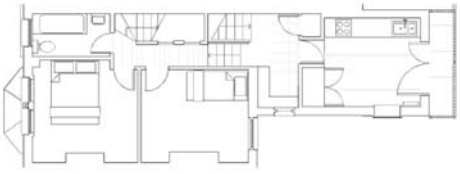
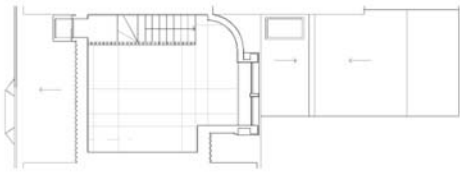
The structure is steel infilled with insulated timber-framed walls, and a hard dark brown brick is used on the most visible side elevation while elsewhere the walls are rendered. Interior walls, floors, joinery and fittings are made of oiled and painted plywood, plastic-coated plywood and painted softwood.

"The dormer window and the balcony share a basic language of vertical and horizontal elements", suggests Pricegore. "The painted plywood dormer is the cruder of the two elements and alludes to archaic buildings in the landscape. The balcony is more refined, recalling the loggia of an urban villa, and overlooks the park to give the back of the building a public face and a connection to the city". □

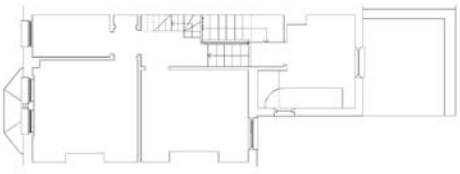


- △ Existing building, backing onto a small park (all phs: Pricegore).
- ▷ New dormer construction and extension over back-rigger with balcony facing the park.
- ◁ View from dormer window in third-floor living space.





Remodelled second and third floors

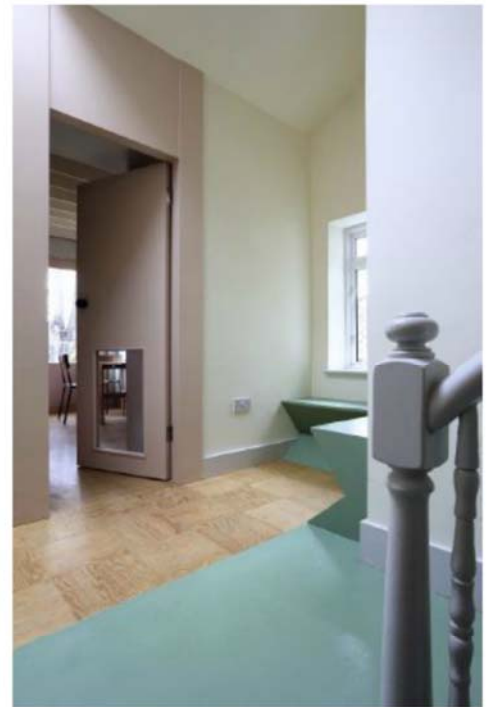
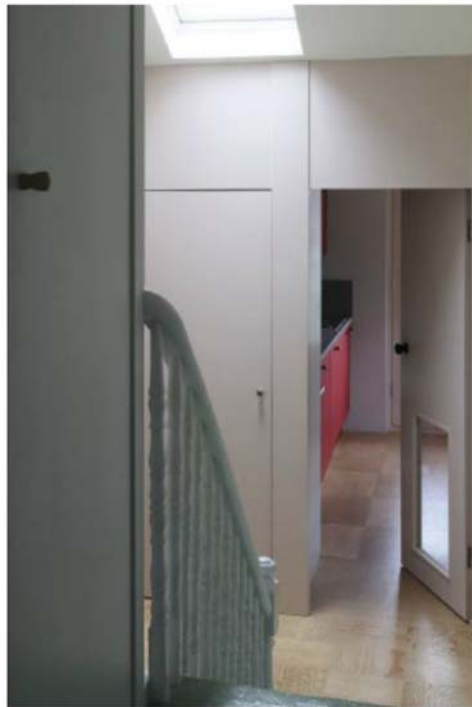


Existing second and third floors



△ View from the painted steel balcony over the park.  
◻ New and existing second- and third-floor plans; interior isometric.  
▽ Interior views.

○ Architect Pricegore Design team Dingle Price, Alex Gore, Jonathan Woodward structural engineer Fluid Structures contractor Dydo Construction client Private metalwork TIM Fabrications insulation Kingspan Thermawall brick Carlton Brown Dragwire render Sto fibreglass roofing Cure It kitchen WISA-Multiwall supplied by Advanced Technical Panels floors Douglas fir plywood paint Dulux Trade, Farrow & Ball.





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## BELSIZE ARCHITECTS NUTLEY TERRACE

Nutley Terrace by Belsize Architects comprises two townhouses on a large brownfield site in a conservation area in Hampstead, north London. A stepped profile is designed to mediate between an adjacent six-storey residential block and neighbouring Edwardian houses. Intended to take advantage of southerly views across London, the living and entertaining spaces are located on

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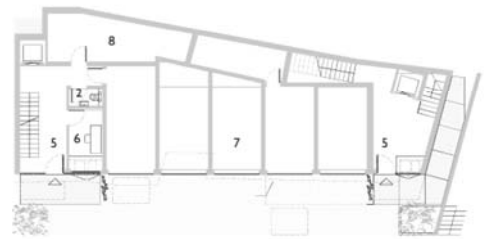
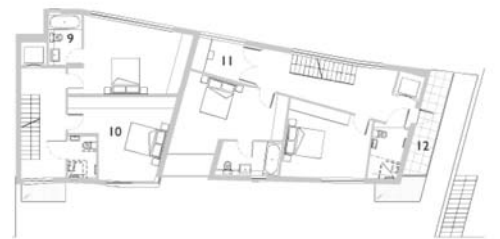
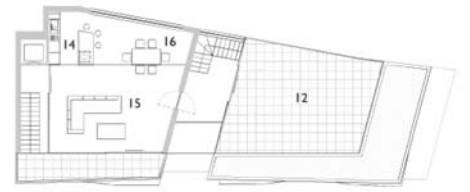
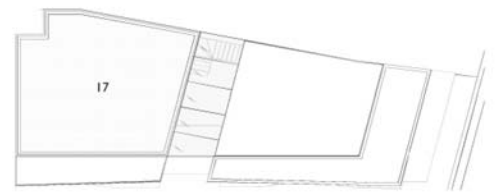
the upper floors, with the bedrooms and other private areas beneath.

The front elevation is primarily clad in Iroko timber at ground level. Bavarian Jura beige limestone with a sandblasted and brushed finish is employed on the upper floors. Laid vertically in three different lengths, the narrow stone slabs follow the building's gentle curves and provide

visual interest. Staffordshire blue brick is used on the rear elevation. The roofs are flat and include a green roof, as well as a terrace paved in light grey granite. Light grey coloured zinc cappings are used throughout.

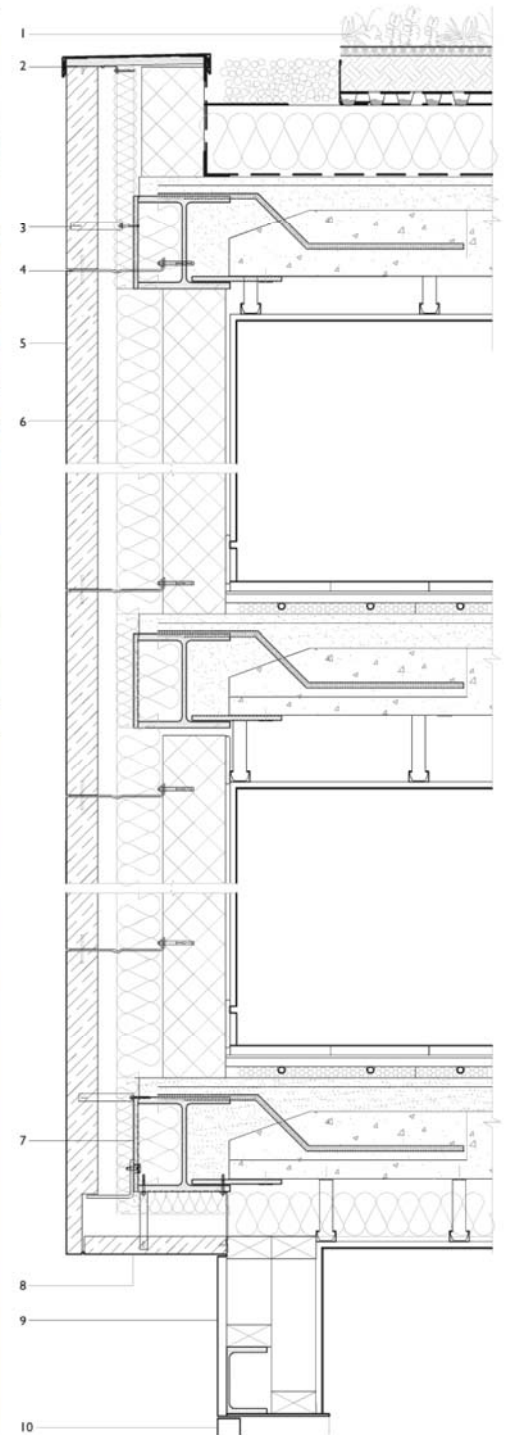
Financial viability was only possible by maximising the new building envelope, writes *Belsize Architects*. It was agreed therefore that the scheme





should not only sit as close to the adjacent apartment block as possible, but also include a habitable basement. Building so close to the apartment block presented structural design challenges, and the presence of a shallow railway tunnel only one-metre beneath the site required painstaking negotiation with Network Rail and a great deal of work by the structural engineer. ▷

△ Clad in Jura limestone and Iroko timber, the 760-square-metre scheme is located on a brownfield site that was previously occupied by six single-storey garages.  
▷ Section; basement, ground, first, second, third floor and roof plans. Key: 1 family/play room, 2 toilet, 3 kitchenette, 4 storage, 5 entrance hall, 6 office, 7 garage, 8 storage/ plant, 9 bathroom, 10 bedroom, 11 study, 12 terrace, 13 shower, 14 kitchen, 15 living, 16 dining, 17 green roof.



The resulting four-metre deep basement comprises a reinforced concrete box structure with perimeter contiguous piled walls and concrete slabs at basement and ground levels. The basement slab is a piled raft, and as there is the possibility of net heave, tension piles are provided to resist uplift. A waterproof tanking system lines the basement. The building structure comprises a steel frame with precast concrete floors. The scheme features a number sustainable

servicing technologies, including high-efficiency gas-fired condensing boilers incorporating variable speed pumps. System controls allow the time and temperature settings within each room to be individually adjusted to minimise heating requirements. Basement ventilation is provided by a supply and extract system incorporating heat exchangers. This enables around 90 per cent of the heat to be recovered from the outgoing exhaust air. □

- △ Detail section through front elevation. Key: 1 green roof, 2 polyester powder-coated flashing, 3 stainless steel bracket, 4 lime mortar to stone joints, 5 70mm limestone cladding, 6 100mm rigid insulation, 7 secondary structural support for stone cladding, 8 70mm limestone cladding to soffit, 9 Iroko timber cladding, 10 garage door.
- Architect Belize Architects structure FLUID Structural services Robert Liddle Associates qs McBains Cooper main contractor B&G Construction stone cladding Domus Facades brick Istock glazing Northolt Glass kitchen Poggenpohl garage doors Garage Door Company zinc cappings VM Zinc insulation Kingspan Thermawall windows Schueco photos Nick Kane.
- Floor area 761 sqm contract value £3.4m contract duration 24 months carbon dioxide emissions 13.08 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup> per annum.

