

**PRESS ENQUIRIES**

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TYPE

HERNE HILL HOUSE, LONDON

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Architectural studio TYPE has unveiled a distinct and characterful extension to an end-of-terrace, Victorian three-storey house in Herne Hill, south London. The airy and light-filled 45m² rear and side extension replaces a draughty and cold conservatory in the south-facing garden. It carefully defines three distinct ground-floor spaces for cooking, dining and relaxing within a single room. Key to the project is an elemental use of self-finished materials that are inherently beautiful and practical.

The homeowners approached TYPE after seeing a north London project designed by the architects. The brief called for a warm, inviting interior area and a connecting space to the large garden; a practical space for daily life, as well as providing flexible and spacious dining and entertaining space for hosting large gatherings. As a family with young children, robust, durable and easily maintained materials were important.

The resulting new kitchen reconfiguration and extension consists of three components, with the individual quality of the materials providing the backdrop. The architects use the structure to clearly define multiple functions in one space, and deploy unfinished, functional materials that reflect their inherent characteristics and reveal the construction. Concrete, lime plaster, quarry tiles and timber – Douglas fir and ash – have been used to express the function of each element of the space.

The first component is the structure – an expressed concrete frame and column which supports the existing house, opening up the existing space to the extension and defining the three new living areas.

The second component of the project is an ash-lined box containing the services and creating a threshold between the old house and new space.

The third component of the extension is a permeable and playful Douglas fir rear façade which is the threshold to the garden. The façade itself has three distinct elements: a picture window framing a view of the garden; timber shutters for ventilation; and a large pivot door for access. The façade also incorporates a large internal and external window seat, next to integrated bookshelves and a fold-out bench for the children. Douglas fir was chosen for its durability and strength, especially for the shutters and pivot door.

A large opening rooflight brings light and air into the kitchen and rear living room of the existing house. The remaining area of flat roof has been planted for biodiversity and insulation. Rainwater is directed from the roof of the house and extension via the expressed rear guttering into a trough, for use in the garden.



Internally, Douglas fir was used for the joists below the rooflight and ceiling panelling, which define the envelope of the new extension. The kitchen joinery, internal wall panelling and furniture are made from ash, chosen for its lighter tone and more consistent grain. The floor is distinguished by a Staffordshire red quarry tile.

As a studio, TYPE is conscious of the environmental impact of buildings, and in all of its projects seeks to minimise the consumption of energy and resources and enhance ecology. At Herne Hill House the architects have used natural materials with lower embodied carbon wherever possible, such as the quarry tiles, lime plaster and timber façade. The high embodied carbon of concrete is made up for by its durability and longevity, demanding little maintenance.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Site area:	25 acres
Gross internal area:	200m ²
Client:	Private client (confidential)
Construction cost:	Confidential
Architect:	TYPE
Project architect:	Ogi Ristic
Contractor:	MONO Urban Space Solutions Ltd
Structural engineer:	Blue Engineering
Joinery:	DJG Furniture
Schedule:	Appointment: Jan 2018 Design phase: Jan 2018 - Jan 2020 Start on site: July 2020 Completion: July 2021
Photographer:	© Lorenzo Zandri



TYPE is a London-based architecture practice founded in 2013 by directors Matt Cooper, Sam Nelson, Tom Powell and Ogi Ristic. The four founding directors met while studying, and have continued their collaboration ever since. The practice works throughout the UK and in Europe.

The name **TYPE** comes from 'building typology' – a way of categorising buildings by their function or form. Typology expresses the fundamental, universal characteristics of buildings, looking beneath the surface, beyond the superficial dressing of buildings, and alludes to the essence of building and construction.

One of the key drivers for **TYPE** is recognition of architecture's responsibility to the environment and the public. In all of its projects, **TYPE** seeks to minimise the consumption of energy and resources, enhance ecology, and strengthen the social value and inclusiveness of architecture.

TYPE aims to create an architecture which is expressive of its time and responsive to its environment, one which celebrates light, freedom and nature through simple and robust materials and a clarity of structure and form.

Redhill Barn was the practice's first significant project to complete; it has won RIBA National and RIBA South West Awards, AJ Project under £500k, and has been shortlisted for the 2021 RIBA House of the Year and the 2021 Manser Medal. Projects in development include: Victoria Cottage, Dorset, the renovation of a pair of cottages into one home with an extensive use of reclaimed materials; Hunter House in Somerset, a new-build, low-energy timber framed house; and Miraflores, a development of cross-laminated timber eco-tourism apartments in the mountains north of Madrid, bordering the Sierra de Guadarrama National Park.

TYPE features in The Architecture Foundation's New Architects 4 (2021) and is the emerging practice winner of the 2021 Excellence in Design Awards - AIA UK.

typestudio.co.uk



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