



I am pleased to present just 3 (of many) projects that I have recently prepared, working with different clients adapting my skills and experience to respond to their varying requirements in terms of plot type and their varied design expectations.

As an independent architectural consultant I seek to work with clients on projects that will engage and challenge me whilst helping you to achieve your goal.

Architecture plus was created to provide accessible architectural design input that is flexible in approach, I seek to provide an architectural design service for individual clients and tailor my services accordingly. There are many people who can draw plans but fewer who can *'design'* homes.

If you have a dream or a perfect plot that is challenging you or you are sitting on a plot and want to realize the potential, then these and many more are reasons to contact Architecture Plus!

Building In Your Own Back Yard - Architecture Plus

This award winning house design was built on the steeply sloping side garden of the house to the left. To obtain planning, our client who owned the original house and has built the new one for themselves had to agree to provide parking in a tandem garage (the one on the left) in order to get planning approval.

What they have achieved with a little compromise is a stunning 4 bedroom home with extensive sea views hence the nautical feel of the design.

We worked closely with the client to achieve a simple functionality in internal design. However, to achieve the desired simplicity, technical solutions had to be found to hold up a building with minimal cross walls especially as we wanted no piers in the length of the walls or returns to the windows.

The curved fin walls, stainless cabled handrail and Iroko and Cedar timber elements combine to create a stylish contribution to the street scene confirmed by the Award.



KEY POINTS

- Are you sitting on a plot, does it seem to have insurmountable problems? With careful selection of a designer, they can provide a fresh view of the limitations and opportunities of a plot.
- In the face of planning authority objection or concern - be patient, keep plugging away, keep up the dialogue and engage a designer who can communicate.
- If you have a particular design ideal or whether it is no down stand beams or piers, appoint a designer who is technically competent to produce the detail for construction.

If You Have A Dream, Go For It! - Architecture Plus



Our client found a 2 up 2 down rundown cottage with attached bakery and store set in a beautiful area that was part of an old quarry. Under planning rules of the local authority we were able to calculate floor area of the existing including 50% of existing loft room and add a further 50% of the total to create this 3000 sq ft farm house styled home.

The plot is south facing and sloping. By cutting and filling, we created a large flat terrace and side parking and garden areas. The brief for the house was to create a farm house style which we did by planning the house as if it were built in phases over a long period of time, which is reminiscent of the historical nature of the local economy. We therefore have some of the house built in stone with oak detailed lintels and other parts perhaps as if in less prosperous times, built in brickwork. We designed different roof pitches and levels to add to the character which internally has a mix of flat ceilings and raised rafters and king post trusses with all major rooms south facing.

Key points

- Consider demolition and rebuilding, but check local rules on extent of permissible expansion.
- Consider cutting and filling on sloping sites to minimize use of retaining walls and create versatile external landscaping.
- Consider drawing on the style of the area in which you are building reflecting it in both material and design.

If you have a particular style in mind, go for it, choosing a designer who can adapt and apply their skills to your particular taste without being so ingrained in one style that you are in danger of having a design they produce that is largely the same as the last one that they drew.

Perfect Plot, Difficult Site - Architecture Plus

Our client for this project found this site for location and view however they were restricted by planning to a single story. The site is wedge shaped and there is a fall from right to left.

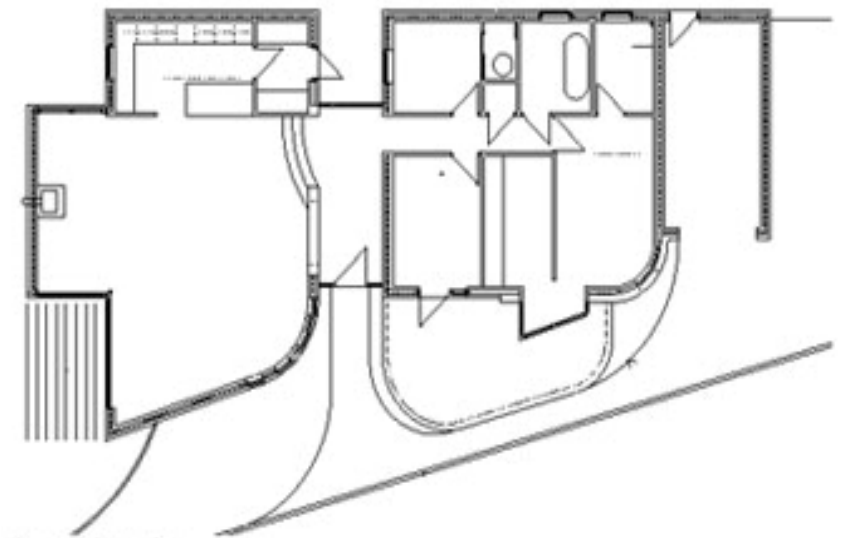
They also had an ambition to have a house that was different from the norm. They did not want an estate house squeezed on to the plot but an '*architecturally thought out*' design.

The work has just started on site to create this split level, 3 bedroom home with curved stone and rendered walls, raised soffit ceilings and exposed internal steel frame work.

This is a long way from an estate house. The walls are angled to the road and windows are positioned to maximise the sea views. There is a glazed entrance hall link which reduces the linear solidity of the building keeping it in scale with adjacent properties.



South elevation



Ground floor plan

KEY POINTS

- Difficult plots can create an interesting solution with creative design input.
- Consideration of key virtues of a plot - for example, a view can be designed in with interest.
- Use of a broad pallet of materials can create interest and character, the use of natural stone to create a semi ruin appearance to curved walls adds a touch which has both external and internal appeal.

Giving your designer a clear brief and freedom to design can result in a home which has not been born out of photographic like study of other properties but through an evolution of co-operative ideas resulting in a unique expression of '*home*'.

POST SCRIPT

These are just some of the projects that I have been involved with recently; I hope they have been of interest to you. They are a snapshot of the possibilities and examples of the way I work with my clients which I would be delighted to present to you personally if you would like to find out more.

Please do give me a call and I shall be pleased to offer a free 'no-obligation' initial chat about your envisaged project and how I can help you to achieve your goals.

Andrew Williams