



RESONANT
ARCHITECTURE

About Resonant Architecture

Resonant Architecture is an Oxford-based architecture and urbanism practice, specialising in low-carbon residential, education, workplace and heritage design. Our work is rooted in the belief that great design does not have to damage the world in which we live. As architects and designers we devote our time to understanding the needs and aspirations of our clients, and delivering beyond expectations.

Resonant Architecture is headed by architect and lecturer Tom Dawson. Tom graduated from the University of Cambridge and the Royal College of Art in 2003. In his early career Tom worked with a number of leading architects in architecture and urbanism as well as conducting research into zero-carbon design.

Tom is a passionate advocate of sustainable design and its ability to

transform both places and communities. Alongside practice, Tom teaches the Architecture BA programme at Oxford Brookes University.

Based at the heart of East Oxford Resonant Architecture works both locally and nationally. Current projects range from North Oxford and Cowley to South Oxfordshire, Cambridge and London.

To find out more, read on or visit www.resonant-architecture.com via the link or QR code below.

To get in touch email us at:
info@resonant-architecture.com

Or telephone:
01865 726360



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1. Housing, Homes & Mixed Use



West End Housing: elevation
Image credit: AB+C Architects

West End Housing

Glasgow

A social housing scheme designed for a prominent corner site in Glasgow's West End. The brief for this project required a low-cost, high-density development on a challenging site adjacent to listed tenements.

Commercial space, car parking, and a combined heat and power plant occupy the ground floor, with 1, 2 and 3 bedroom flats occupying the upper five floors.

In order to maximise build quality and minimise costs, the scheme was designed for a high level of pre-fabrication. To complement the character of the surrounding historic architecture, the building is clad in natural stone and facing brick, with windows that follow the generous proportions of the Victorian tenements. A higher section at the street corner creates further space, while providing a formal urban focus at an important crossroads.

Project undertaken by Tom Dawson with AB+C Architects

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West End Housing: detail of stone-clad facade

Image credit: AB+C Architects



West End Housing: entrance to offices
Image credit: AB+C Architects



West End Housing: view from Argyle Street
Image credit: AB+C Architects



West End Housing: stone facade
Image credit: AB+C Architects

Beach Houses

Cornwall

Located at the head of one of Cornwall's most iconic beaches, this development of 17 holiday homes was conceived in the spirit of the beach houses nestled among the dunes here forming one of Europe's most unique communities.

Landscaping is central to the design, and was used to bring a sense of dune-landscape and Cornish field into the site. The houses are integrated into the landscape to reduce their visual impact and make use of the site's natural contours to provide privacy.

The houses are designed in six different types from 96 to 134 square metres and are single storey, with the larger types also providing further accommodation in a mezzanine level. The buildings are constructed from and clad in wood, lessening their environmental impact and softening their appearance.

Project undertaken by Tom Dawson with BGS Architects



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Beach Houses, Gwithian: before and during construction of the new houses



Beach Houses, Gwithian
Image credit: P. Chapman Construction



Beach Houses, Gwithian
Image credit: P. Chapman Construction



Beach Houses, Gwithian
Image credit: Three Mile Beach

Zero carbon home

Scottish Highlands

Situated amongst the Atlantic oak woods of Ardnamurchan, this new home is carbon neutral ('zero carbon') from the point of view of embodied energy.

The building's cladding is milled from renewable timber sources within 8km of the site. Its foundations support legs that lift the building away from the ground and reduce concrete volumes.

In use, electrical power is derived from on-site photovoltaic panels and supplemented by local hydroelectric sources. The house is super-insulated and designed to maximise winter solar gain and minimise heat loss, with heating provided by a single 5kW wood-fired stove. Fuel for the stove is supplied from the same local renewable larch forests as used for the cladding.

The house provides two bedroom living accommodation together with a covered car-port and garage.



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Zero carbon home: view from garden



Zero carbon home: main living space



Zero carbon home

Victorian Villa

Cambridgeshire

Nestled amongst the poplar trees and fields of the Cambridgeshire fens, this two-storey extension and refurbishment is bathed in light.

The site lies within a conservation area, as a result of which tight planning conditions were imposed on the design. The ground floor of the house like many of its type suffered from a lack of daylight and cell-like layout. The solution created an open-plan kitchen dining area benefitting from a fully glazed extension that links the interior with the garden. The extension is constructed using a bespoke oak structure infilled with creamy Cambridgeshire brick and minimally-framed glazing.

On the first floor a new bedroom and shower room were created over the kitchen, matching the existing house in style and material.



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Victorian villa: the extension exterior



Victorian villa: extension interior



Victorian villa: view from extension



Victorian villa: the completed extension

The House of Garnett

Oxford

The conversion and extension of a former office building on Oxford's Iffley Road. Located opposite Magdalen College School and brick-built over four storeys, the building exudes the ambition of its era, complete with original stonework, joinery and metalwork. Its position geographically has evolved over the century since its construction; suburban when originally built, the area is now more characterised by the institutions that mark the start of the city's centre.

Used as an office for many decades, layers of decoration and alteration will be stripped back to reveal the building's original finishes and layout. At ground floor and basement level the building will be extended to provide generous living spaces with views to a garden reclaimed from car parking, while painting and photography studios are provided above.



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The House of Garnett: concept sketch



The House of Garnett: view
of extension from rear



The House of Garnett: Proposed section



The House of Garnett: view
of extension from rear

2 .Learning & Leisure



Redhall: main entrance
Image credit: AB+C Architects

Redhall School

Edinburgh

A new Primary and Nursery School for children with complex long term additional support needs, primarily associated with learning disability.

The school accommodates 80 pupils across 8 classbases. The design is based on a series of 'pods' containing clusters of classrooms, which are arranged around courtyard play spaces. The pods are linked by glazed colonnades overlooking the play spaces and landscape beyond. Movable walls, shared facilities and activity spaces provide for flexible teaching and group work within each classroom cluster.

The project also includes a separate new sports hall and dance studio linked to the school via a covered walkway, for use by Redhall and the wider community.

Project undertaken by Tom Dawson with AB+C Architects



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Redhall: typical classbase
Image credit: AB+C Architects



Redhall: link canopy and playground
Image credit: AB+C Architects



Redhall: community sports building
Image credit: AB+C Architects

The Black Bull Inn

Cambridgeshire

This Grade II listed inn at the centre of Balsham in Cambridgeshire required a unique approach to restore and upgrade an 18th century hall adjoined to the main building.

Badly mistreated over the years, the hall was on the point of collapse. A programme of rebuilding the structure from the original clunch-block walls upwards was carried out, carefully preserving the original materials.

A new roof structure was designed based on contemporary engineering principles and referencing the methods and types of construction seen in the eighteenth century.

The renewed hall is now a key space in the village and breathes new life into an important historic inn.



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The Black Bull on site



The Black Bull, the completed interior



The Black Bulk exterior
and patio space



The Black Bull: detail of
new roof structure

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