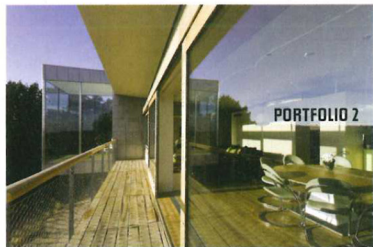


Light house

Not yet complete, but already an award winner, Hudson Architects' latest project has a host of simple but striking interior features

WORDS BY GARRY MASON



The Lighthouse, Hudson Architects' latest project, gazes out serenely over the Amber Valley in Derbyshire. The client had seen the practice's work on Baggy House in Cornwall and asked it to create her new home. The house is now virtually completed and already winning awards, including the British Interior Design Award for Bathroom of the Year 2005.

In addition to its impressive bathroom, the house has a series of striking design features, including a hanging glass cabinet with an exterior window which lets light through into the kitchen area. The focal point of the kitchen is a stainless steel drum suspended from the ceiling housing a custom-built double extractor. This echoes the circular opening in the roof over the entrance to the property, which is something of a focal point in itself, creating interesting shadows inside the house throughout the day. Light was an important consideration in the design of the house, with huge, glass, sliding doors framing the valley view from the south-facing living room.

The living space is all contained on the entrance level, with all the ancillary space on the floor below, reached by an oak spiral staircase, echoing the French oak flooring throughout.

According to project architect Dieter Kleiner, 'the difficult part was to keep everything looking simple and effortless. We were lucky to have a very engaged client who made a constructive contribution to meetings'.

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