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## Press Release

### FORM Design Architecture wins planning permission for alterations to well known London house

Planning permission has been granted for FORM Design Architecture's alteration and extension of an iconic concrete and glass contemporary house just off London's Brick Lane, built in the 1990s by architect William Russell as his family home, when he was working in partnership with David Adjaye.

FORM's scheme is a response to the new owner's requirements for increased upper level living space, linked to a new roof-top garden (to take advantage of the city skyline views). FORM has developed the plan in conjunction with landscape specialists Urban Roof Gardens.

FORM will keep changes to the principle elevations and form of the original house, with its striking cubic 'lighthouse' appearance, to a minimum. The key features are:

- The enclosure of a 1<sup>st</sup> floor rear lightwell area with a retractable glass roof.
- The partial enclosure of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor terrace, overlooking the principle double-height living space, creating an internal mezzanine area.
- The extension of the concrete stair up into a roof top owner's study and terrace garden, set well back behind the existing parapet.

FORM will continue the existing palette of solid, clear glass, and etched glass panels and has exploited these to manipulate natural lighting, outlook and privacy requirements.

Because there is limited capacity for further loading on the original foundations, FORM's solution has carefully considered lightweight construction solutions where possible rather than a simple continuation of the existing in situ concrete structure.

With a building characterised by such large areas of glazing, achieving satisfactory energy calculations for the extension has also proved challenging. FORM has divided the house into zones for assessment purposes and will make use of offsets to balance under and over performing areas. These include replacing the glazing originally proposed for the less visible rear elevations (north and west) with highly insulated solid construction.

- Ends -

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## About FORM Design Architecture

FORM Design Architecture is a growing practice based in Bermondsey, London. Directors Jeremy Lingard and Malcolm Crayton established the practice in 1998, after working together at The Bartlett. Since then the practice has designed a wide range of projects for both private and commercial clients including residential, leisure, commercial, exhibitions and mixed developments. The practice is skilled at both new build and renovation, working with sensitive sites and with significant technical challenges.

FORM Design Architecture aims to create places that can be inhabited and experienced by people in a natural and instinctive way. Places with an apparent sense of simplicity which belies their underlying complexity.

For more see: [www.form-architecture.co.uk](http://www.form-architecture.co.uk)