

# Houses and Housing

## Sector Review 2006

### Open End, London W5

The project centred on the design of a substantial extension to the rear of an Edwardian detached house. While the form of the building envelope was defined as a neutral rectilinear container, the elevations and roof plan were carefully composed, so as to make abstracted reference to the existing building.

A sense of spatial continuity is heightened by the correlation of external and internal floor levels at the threshold. Conversely, changes in internal floor and ceiling levels define the boundaries between different zones of the open plan space. In order to evoke the open-ended character of a building in construction,

the articulation of the external doors gives the appearance of the absence of a component of the building.

The scheme also encompassed significant refurbishment throughout the remainder of the house and these elements are treated as displaced parts of a notional whole project, of which the extension is the predominant manifestation.

The architect has to date concentrated on private houses, which can be seen as the basic unit of architectural endeavour. The experiments undertaken in this genre will be extended into new-build projects of a diversity of scales and typologies.

Architect:  
**WILLIAM TOZER**  
 architecture & design

Client:  
 Private

Main Contractor:  
 Galower Builders Ltd  
*See our advert p44*



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