

Curriculum Vitae

Alex Giles - BA(Hons) MArch PGDip ARB RIBA

GILES ARCHITECTS

An accomplished design and delivery architect specialising in managing projects from inception through to completion, passionate about great design and strive for excellence in all aspects of practice. Experience in navigating through complex planning processes and consulting a range of stakeholders and communities to develop narrative-led contextual designs that enhance their surroundings. Looking to implement sustainable technologies and reduce the environmental impact of design and construction. An early advocate and pioneer of Building Information modelling (BIM), with experience in managing the design, coordination and delivery of small scale residential projects to multi-million pound mixed-use schemes efficiently and successfully.

Personal Qualities

- Excellent communication skills both written and verbal
- Approachable and understanding
- Accomplished team leader
- Collaborative working approach

Technical Skills

- Managing design and delivery of complex mixed-use projects at all work stages
- A passion to understand what constitutes good design
- Advanced knowledge of Revit and BIM design, coordination and construction
- Presenting design proposals to multi-stakeholder client bodies, planning authorities and design review panels
- Thorough understanding of UK Building Regulations and British Technical Standards

Professional Experience

2020 - Present : Giles Architects. Established a small architectural practice in Winchester. We pride ourselves on delivering an outstanding service for all of our clients. We strive for design excellence and promote sustainable construction.

2011-2020 : DLA Architecture. Joining the small London studio as a part two architectural assistant I was lucky enough to work in the Education, Residential and Commercial teams. Over my time at DLA I helped grow the studio from 10 to 30 people, becoming an integral part of the structure. I was trusted to run large complex projects immediately after qualifying as an architect.

2010 : Landscape Design and construction. Together with a friend I founded and ran a small landscape design and construction business targeting residential gardens around our rural area in Hampshire.

2008 – 2009 : Haddon Few Montuschi. A small firm of Architects in Soho, London. I worked mainly on drawings, ranging from feasibility studies, to working drawings, and planning proposals. Part 1 Year Placement.

2005 - 2007 : Coleman Building Company. Working on and off site for a family construction company gave me a real insight into the building industry.

Education

University of Westminster - PGDip - Post Graduate Diploma - RIBA Part 3

University of Brighton - MArch - Masters in Architecture - RIBA Part 2

University of Plymouth - BA(Hons) - Degree in Architecture - RIBA Part 1

Peter Symonds College Winchester - A-Levels - Graphic Design and Technology, Business Studies, IT

King's School Winchester - GCSEs x 10

King's School Winchester - GNVQ in Art and Design

Personal Interests

Guitar, Piano, Football, Golf, Skiing, Cooking, Travelling (before children).

Professional Experience

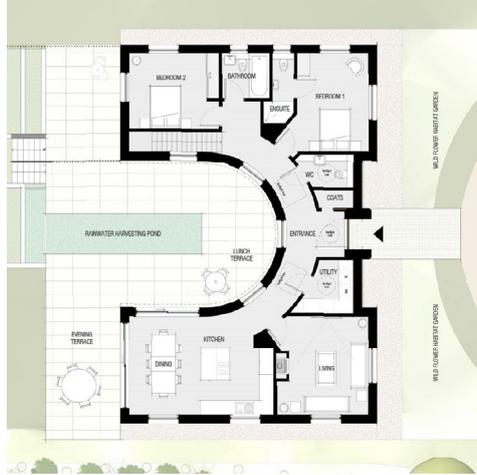
Project : Mole Cottage

Architect : Giles Architects

Location : Old Bursledon Special Policy Conservation Area

Project Stage : On Site

Contract Value : £1m



Project Description : This unique and highly-sustainable replacement dwelling was granted planning approval at committee in 2021. Working within the constraints of local planning policy the scheme features a sunken courtyard and third bedroom to minimise the impact of the development on the landscape and the conservation area.

The design approach reinterprets traditional features of the local area in a contemporary manner, positively responding to its context. The design features high-levels of insulation and airtightness, renewable energy systems and a rainwater harvesting infinity pond. The scheme was positively received by the design review panel and described by members of the planning committee as a model for new development within Old Bursledon.

Professional Experience

Project : The Spring

Architect : Giles Architects

Location : Waltham Chase

Project Stage : Complete

Contract Value : £75,000



Project Description : An elevated oak frame and glazed studio space overlooking the grounds of this country house in Waltham Chase. The space was designed to sit harmoniously on the site with a focus on solar orientation to minimise solar gain and frame the views out across the fields.

Professional Experience

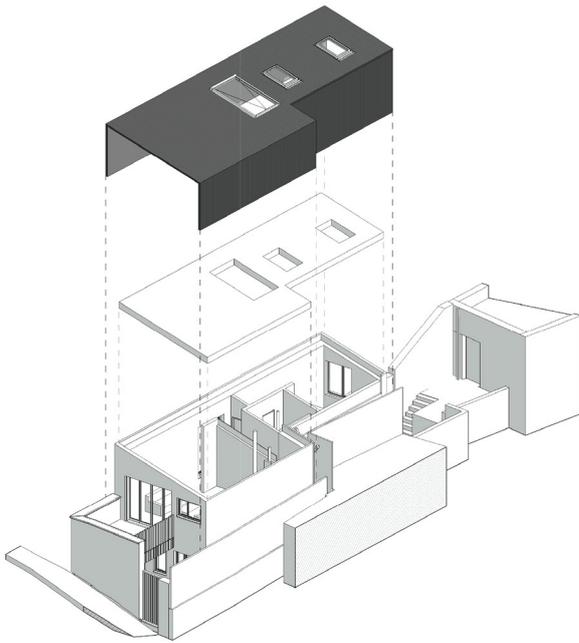
Project : Ventnor House

Architect : Giles Architects

Location : Isle of Wight

Project Stage : Complete

Contract Value : £600,000



Project Description : Planning approval was achieved by Snug architects for this new-build contemporary home on a tight site located on the Isle of Wight. Giles Architects took the project on from the beginning of RIBA Stage 4 through technical design and delivery. The dwelling is sunk into the hillside through part basement construction, and the zinc wrapped roof and façades provide a contemporary aesthetic contrasting to the natural stone context of the conservation area.

Professional Experience

Project : Hackney Gardens

Architect : DLA Architecture - Project Lead - Alex Giles

Location : Clapton Square Conservation Area

Awards : Housing Design Awards 2021 Winner

Project Stage : Complete

Contract Value : £18m



Project Description : A mixed-Use residential scheme providing 58 dwellings, including one and two bedroom apartments and family houses with private gardens. The community space provides flexible public space for the community to use throughout the year for a wide range of activities.

The proposed buildings are situated around a series of hard and soft landscaped squares and were carefully designed to respond to the urban fabric of the context. Views of the church open up as you approach the square leading to a new link through to Mare Street. The scheme aims to make a positive contribution to the local character by creating a group of high quality new buildings, set in attractive semi-public and communal spaces.

Professional Experience

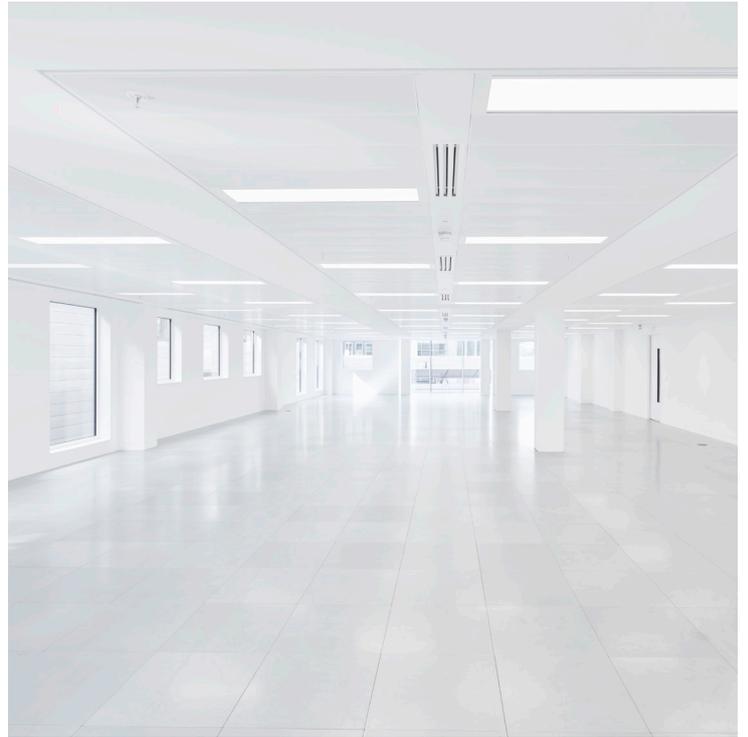
Project : 20 St. Andrew Street - Holborn Circus

Architect : DLA Architecture - Project Lead - Alex Giles

Location : City of London

Project Stage : Complete

Contract Value : £15m



Project Description : A comprehensive refurbishment and two storey roof-top extension of an existing building to provide 58,000 sq ft of high quality Cat A office space. The site is located near Fleet Street in the City and is in an area of prestigious new office developments.

The brief was to provide flexible office space behind a new façade, providing a BREEAM rating of 'Excellent' and refurbishing the building to a high standard to attract a new mould of tech-media tenant.

Professional Experience

Project : Orleans School

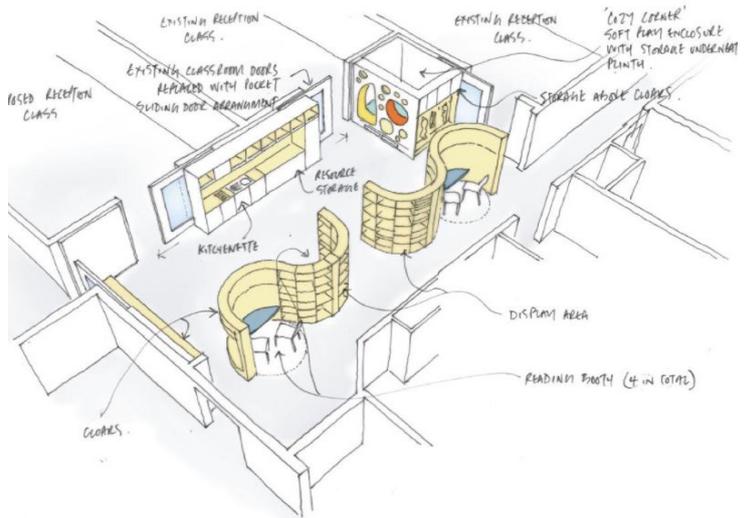
Architect : DLA Architecture - Alex Giles - RIBA Part 3 Project

Location : London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

Awards : Winner – British Council for School Environments : Excellence in Design for Teaching and Learning

Project Stage : Complete

Contract Value : £3m



Project Description : Extension and refurbishment to convert Orleans from 4 Form Entry Infant School arrangement to a 2 Form Entry Primary School. This included two new build blocks of four classrooms and a new small hall designed with light and airy internal spaces and large openings providing inside/outside relationship.

We designed sensitive but contemporary buildings with modern day teaching facilities. We had to work closely with the staff, governors and the Local Authority developing the proposals to suit the school's needs. The project met the BREEAM target of Very Good and provided a 20% reduction in CO2 by a combination of renewable technologies, Air Source Heat Pumps and Photovoltaic Panels.