We design modern, beautiful, sustainable, and inspirational spaces for people.
Expertise

Architecture

We believe that good buildings are more than the sum of their parts. We believe that good buildings come from a deep and wide ranging synthesis of the various elements that go into them: the structure that holds them up, the engineering services that run through them, the materials and colours used in them, the play of light and shadows, their relationship to their surroundings, their ecology and their ability to raise a smile and our spirit, and put a spring in our step.

To achieve this synthesis we are involved in the design of our buildings from inception to completion. We provide full architectural services for our clients and can tailor the services we offer to suit each project. At our core we are architects, we design, detail and manage on site the entire process of turning an idea into reality.

Urban Design & Connectivity

We believe that how buildings sit within their surroundings, how they relate to one another and how they relate to the city, is critical to the creation of a positive urban public realm. The way a building relates to its context is key for us. Context is what connects it to the world and creates a link between outside and in, between public and private spaces.

Sustainability & Ecosystem Health

It is clear to us that climate change and damage to our ecosystems present an existential challenge to the world. We must all take resolute action to combat this threat. To that end we deliver sustainable, net zero carbon, ecosystem positive designs for our clients. Through such designs, we encourage and help our clients live and work with those designs in a way that guarantees the long term well-being of the global ecosystem.

We take an holistic approach to design, we focus on a simple, straightforward and clear approach to form, siting and orientation, material selection and construction to minimise waste, maximise the use of daylight and sunlight and achieve an elegant and responsible and truly sustainable solution for our clients.

Our experience includes designing and delivering top rated LEED projects in the USA, and BREEAM and net zero buildings in the UK.

International & Diverse

We have wide experience working across all sectors, both in the UK and internationally, bringing best in class practice and design to each project and a busy studio of architects from Europe, America, India and Asia.

Because we have a diverse team and have worked on so many different building types, from single family homes to major hospitals, from office interiors to major cultural projects and from sports venues to interiors and master plans, we are able to bring a wealth of experience to our projects.

Defining the Brief

We have established processes that allow us to work closely with our clients to define what is needed and to assess the design against the brief.

The breadth and depth of our experience allows us to work closely with our clients to define clearly their brief. By developing and testing this, through workshops, seminars, informal reviews and formal document submissions, we are able to describe a key set of criteria/objectives that must be achieved for each project. We work to understand our clients and their requirements fully so that the brief accurately reflects what is best for them.
Crafted Materiality

We carefully select the right materials for each project and detail them beautifully to produce something unique, long lasting and sustainable. We care deeply about the materials; how they are detailed and made and the methods used for construction. We maximise off-site production, use samples, mock-ups and prototypes to test and refine our designs, and we work with the best craftsmen and specialists to deliver our designs. We understand the construction process and produce working drawings that contractors can use and that communicate clearly and succinctly.

We also use this approach to design objects for our clients; from baths and sinks to chairs, lights, tables, and built-in furniture. We work with specialist craftsmen and have extensive experience designing unique products and multiples for fabrication, and are able to create something exceptional for our clients. We understand the manufacturing process, can produce workshop-ready fabrication drawings, and we work with specialists to review shop drawings, samples, mock-ups and prototypes.

Stakeholders & Community

We work with all stakeholders to explain, inform, improve, and gather support. We have extensive experience presenting to, working with, and developing design through consultations with internal and local stakeholder groups, residents’ associations, local authorities and conservation bodies such as English Heritage and Historic England. We understand and enjoy the consultative process and have developed multiple ways of interacting positively with all groups ranging from open days and seminars, to presentations and workshops. We have extensive experience of design review processes both informal and formal. We also have detailed experience of working in dense city centres with multiple local historic buildings issues on complex projects involving multiple stakeholders.

Technology & Modelling

We use the most sophisticated software to deliver fully co-ordinated, testable, digital models for our clients. We can extract fully rendered views and print 3D models of projects to communicate clearly the design being produced. Full 3D and Building Information Model (BIM) capabilities mean we can manage projects from the smallest to the largest, delivering full digital co-ordination, rapid prototyping, clash detection and other pre-construction digital testing and review functions to reduce errors, maximise coordination, reduce waste, reduce site construction time and allow follow on Facilities Management functions (using COBie data) to work seamlessly on handover.

Design Management

We manage the whole design team and design process to deliver a co-ordinated and innovative design on time and budget. We normally act as the architect and design team leader on our projects; we organise the team to deliver on time and on budget and we use established management and review processes to ensure this is achieved. By working with the very best consultant teams we have developed simple but powerful processes and systems including issue analysis, action tracking, design programming and workshops to ensure that micro and major milestones are met and that each project is delivered on time and on budget.
Midland Metropolitan Hospital
Sandwell
Birmingham, UK

An impressive brand new state-of-the-art acute hospital in Sandwell, west of Birmingham, to provide under one roof cutting edge technologies in medicine in a beautiful environment.

The site is located in Smethwick and measures approximately 520 metres from the north to the south, and 150m from west to east, totalling 6.76 hectares / 16.7 acres in area.

Analysis of the brief produced a natural stacking of functions with wards at the top with clinical areas in the middle and the car park at the bottom, a unique arrangement for a building of this type. A clear and logical stacking of floors and functions maximises usable floor area, provides direct patterns of use and achieves desired clinical adjacencies internally. The result is a classical tripartite arrangement of a base, a middle and a top, fronted by a landscaped park to the south.

A number of courtyards draw natural light into the deep plan podium and provide views out. A large Winter Garden at level 5 provides a flexible covered external space for use all year round. It is a significant volume around which hospital activities are organised, providing multiple opportunities for use ranging from people spilling out of the café and servery area through to the holding of exhibitions, presentations, parties and events.

This building is unique in providing fully covered car park and drop off for taxis, buses, patient transport and private cars. We have developed, uniquely, a single standard grid of 7.8m x 7.8m that works efficiently and flexibly to accommodate car park, clinical, and ward layouts throughout the building.

The building is a large area of accommodation, approximately 80,000sqm. By breaking down the functions into separate but related parts, with significant set-backs at levels 2 and 5, we have reduced the scale of the building so that a suitable, human, scale is achieved.

A simple palette of materials is proposed for the external envelope. The materials palette includes terracotta, timber, glazing, ETFE pillows, concrete, painted metal cores and metal louvres. Controlled use of colour within the façade will also be applied to aid wayfinding.

The façade materials are organised by vertical elements to break up the mass of the building and reflect the rhythm of the structural grid. Structure and servicing requirements are allowed to inform the architectural language, resulting in a building that is inviting, legible and expressive.

“...The building shows a classical tripartite arrangement of a base, a middle and a top, fronted by a landscaped park to the south...”
Selected Projects

MIDLAND METROPOLITAN HOSPITAL
SANDWELL, BIRMINGHAM, UK

Canal view
Selected Projects

MIDLAND METROPOLITAN HOSPITAL
SANDWELL, BIRMINGHAM, UK

Winter Garden view
UCLH Phase 4 and Proton Beam Therapy Unit
London, UK

This project is for the first major proton beam therapy unit in the UK, much of the building is underground with patient beds above and all arranged around a central courtyard building and full height day-lit atrium.

The planning application was approved by Camden Council in March 2014: the project is now under construction. Designed by Edward Williams Architects in association with Scott Tallon Walker Architects the 34,500 sq.m. building on the corner of Tottenham Court Road and Grafton Way, in central London, will allow UCLH’s advanced cancer services to be delivered from the Trust’s campus where it enjoys a close collaboration with UCL on groundbreaking research projects. The site has direct access to UCLH’s existing radiotherapy department and is immediately north of the new University College Hospital Macmillan Cancer Centre.

The main building perimeter completes the urban block in which it sits and is arranged around an L-shaped full height atrium that separates it from a lower central courtyard building and brings daylight into the heart of the building. The building consists of a series of elegant bays in elevation that relate directly to the roof-scape; the use of ceramic rods for the external shading and screening elements along with clear, un-tinted glass and with user control of the sun shades themselves creates an elegant and sophisticated composition that responds to the daily rhythm of the building’s use. The ground level is colonnaded and glazed which allows for an active street frontage that encourages visual and physical connections to the street.

The reduced height central courtyard building provides roof gardens for use as does the roof of the atrium and this creates a stepped series of south facing gardens in the centre of the urban block that provides good views for the residents of the adjacent flats that look into the site. As well as the proton beam therapy unit, with 4 treatment bays, the project will provide up to 120 inpatient beds for those receiving long term cancer care. The building will be designed to achieve at least BREEAM Excellent rating.

“The building consists of a series of elegant bays in elevation.”
Dusk view from Tottenham Court Road
Selected Projects

UCLH PHASE 4 AND PROTON BEAM THERAPY UNIT - LONDON, UK

Model

View from Grafton Way

www.edwardwilliamsarchitects.com +44 20 7985 0540
"The project will provide up to 120 in patient beds for those receiving long term cancer care."
The existing building, located on a quaint and picturesque mix-use mews in the heart of Paddington, was a shell of external brick walls with an internal steel and timber frame structure. A modern industrial aesthetic is the result of adapting the fabric of the existing building, and selecting materials to suit the ethos of the client; a private fund investing in sustainable agriculture using timber as a natural, carbon-negative, renewable resource. Driven by the vision for an honest expression of the building’s structure and detailing, the design retains and carefully restores as much as possible of the existing building fabric to achieve an economy of materials and a sense of place.

A specialist contractor carried out careful restoration to the damaged brickwork. At roof level, the mansard roof steel frame was repaired and painted before new oak joists were installed to replace the existing rotting timber structure on all floors. The upper floors are fitted out with offices for 3 or 4 desks, and the ground floor with a 3.4m high ceiling height will provide a spacious reception, communal eating area, conference room and WC facilities. A double set of folding garage-style doors allows natural light to flood the interiors and may be fully opened on warm summer days.

The new offices derive their character from the restored brickwork, extensive use of oak, and grey-painted steel structure. Through simple, honest and elegant detailing, Edward Williams Architects has created a workplace with a contemporary, yet timeless, atmosphere for the client whose family business will occupy this building for many years to come.
Selected Projects

BOUTIQUE OFFICE
LONDON, UK

Second floor view

New steel and timber structure and existing brick wall

Timber boarder internal ground floor corridor
Exterior view at dusk

Ground floor kitchen

Bespoke steel and timber stair with integrated desk
Chobham Road
London, UK

New homes offering a variety of units types on a constrained site transforms a carpark into a beautiful, liveable community.

Planning has been granted by Newham Borough Council for an 800 sq m residential scheme inserting four new buildings into the car parking area of an existing development of 39 homes, to create a landscaped, mews-style development.

The four new buildings comprise two blocks conjoined in ‘L’ shapes positioned carefully in the rear car park alongside the existing housing, creating two new courtyards. Together they provide nine apartments including four three-bedroom homes and two 1-bed semi-detached homes designed with a variety of tenants, their accessibility, and needs in mind.

The timber cladding complements the brick façades of the existing buildings and gives a warm, natural feel to the development. The pitched roofs are clad in zinc and oriented to allow daylight to penetrate the ground floors of the existing surrounding buildings.

The new landscaping and planting will provide a leafy green outlook for residents, while increasing privacy, absorbing rainwater run-off and enhancing biodiversity.
Selected Projects

MAGGIE’S PLACE
CONCEPT DESIGN

Plan
Maggie’s Place
Concept Design

A design for cancer charity Maggie’s, whose iconic Maggie’s Centres provide emotional and practical support for “anyone and everyone affected by cancer”.

Client: Maggie’s
Type: Public
Value: £2.45M
Date: 2017
Size: 700 sqm
Status: Concept Design

By enclosing a planted garden as part of the building, we have created a haven within.

The simple expressed timber structure with short spans can be erected anywhere, easily and quickly using simple mass concrete foundations. Unitised pre-fabricated wall, roof and floor panels allow a watertight envelope to be achieved quickly and efficiently. By enclosing a planted garden as part of the building, we have created a haven within, a peaceful and uplifting space for users and visitors alike. The open plan internal space is neatly divided by meeting and counselling rooms to create the perfect mix of public, open and intimate private spaces.

Designed on Passivhaus principles of high levels of insulation, minimal thermal breaks and summer solar shading and winter solar penetration this building is comfortable year round anywhere in the UK, and with very low energy consumption.

Our proposal shows how a welcoming and supportive environment in a beautiful building can also be affordable and sustainable.
Selected Projects

MAGGIE’S PLACE
CONCEPT DESIGN

Central living area
Maggie’s place, elevation

View from kitchen onto courtyard
Turham Primary School
London, UK

A large extension at roof level to provide additional facilities for the school’s expanding pupil numbers and benefits from views across the neighbourhood.

Turnham Primary School in Brockley needed to provide additional facilities on a tight site for their expanding pupil numbers. The zinc clad second floor extension, completed in early 2018, provides extra classrooms, special education needs (SEN) rooms, and a dance hall that can accommodating 300 pupils.

The dance hall features a deliberately expressed natural timber structure lined with birch ply timber panels. The hall is a warm, unimpeded space for assembly, dance and sports that is flooded with daylight from large windows running along its length. All of the new rooms in the extension are naturally ventilated using the Breathing Building system, a low energy hybrid ventilation solution which uses passive roof terminals in conjunction with operable windows to ventilate the spaces.

The school remained in operation during the construction programme with pupils temporarily accommodated in porta cabins in the school grounds. The design and construction teams worked very closely with the teachers to ensure that there was no disruption to the children and the teaching programme, including using simple timber technology for the structure to reduce programme length and noise.

Edward Williams Architects was appointed by the main contractor to develop the initial design by PTE Architects. The concept design was therefore developed by careful detailing and a series of proposals were implemented to add safety and material quality to the composition.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Client: Public</th>
<th>Type: Education</th>
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<tr>
<td>Value: £2.5 million</td>
<td>Date: 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Size: 700 sqm</td>
<td>Status: Completed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location: London, UK</td>
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Municipal Library
Klaipeda, Lithuania

Edward Williams Architects has designed a new municipal library for Klaipeda, a city in Lithuania.

The new public library will be located in the southern part of the city, an area with high population density and lacking public spaces for the community. The new Library will be an iconic public building and provide space for the community to gather.

In contrast to the massive Soviet apartment buildings, we proposed a transparent building, and circular form that makes a strong statement within the repetitive, perpendicular urban fabric. Our design positions the functional spaces around the perimeter of the library, so that visitors approaching from all directions see the activities taking place inside. This leaves flexible spaces at the core of the building for group activities.

The site is divided into three parts, the new library will be set to one end, leaving two thirds for open-air public use. With the car park stretched alongside the plot, the outdoor area will be tarmac-free landscape. At the centre of the site, facing the library’s conference hall will be a sunken amphitheatre, and at the opposite end of the library, a sports facility with an athletics track and two basketball courts.

By displacing the library building onto one side, space is prioritised for public realm; twice as much as the building’s footprint.

The building consists of four circular levels with varying degrees of quiet and animated spaces: on the ground floor is a flexible hall, an exhibition space, the lecture hall which looks over the outdoor amphitheatre, as well as a café. The library is located on the upper two levels, connected at the core by an atrium and three pockets of double-height hollows which allow a gentle hum to permeate and sight-lines between them. One floor up again, a glazed hexagon provides space for reading as if out in the open, encircled by a rooftop garden with space for reading outdoors as well as areas for events. The central atrium will be covered with a lattice timber roof supported on the 3 vertical cores.
Bellinzona Regional Hospital
Bellinzona, CH

Edward Williams Architects shortlisted for the design of a new operating theatre block.

Client: Public
Type: Healthcare
Value: £10+ million
Date: 2017
Status: Competition
Location: Bellinzona, CH

The Regional Bellinzona Hospital is located in a congested site on a mountain with beautiful views.

We proposed a simple compact volume to house the six new operating theatres and their annex spaces on a single level, with additional staff and store areas in two lower levels. The building’s green roof offers a beautiful landscaped terrace directly accessible from the entrance and café. The new glazed pavilion is the gateway to a garden walkway where a panoramic view of the Magadino valley can be enjoyed. The building’s compact setting is designed to minimize the impact on the existing hospital and its garden while improving the main entrance and its connection to the garden.

The internal distribution of the new block is simple and regular for optimal functionality and cost efficiency. The building is modular and designed to be built from prefabricated sustainable cross laminated timber. This approach met the client’s requirements to minimize the construction programme, reduce noise and disruption to the hospital operations.
Bicester Airfield
Oxfordshire, UK

A competition entry for a new hotel and garages with accommodation for the Bicester Airfield Heritage Site.

The Bicester Airfield covers 348 acres and is located North-East of Bicester along the A4421. It is surrounded by a 2 mile perimeter track and has two full runways. Bicester Heritage purchased the RAF Bicester site in 2013 to provide motor enthusiasts with an inspiring location to complement their passion and sport. The site has been progressively refurbished since its purchase, in a manner respectful of the historic value and character.

As part of the development and improvements of the site, Bicester Heritage has launched the design of two projects:

1. A new independent hotel, housing a variety of associated facilities including a conference centre, a restaurant, spa and gym, and potentially separate cottage/lodge accommodation.

2. Garages with accommodation (GWA) detached, semi-detached or terraced properties which place the car or motorbike at the centre with ancillary accommodation designed around it.

The site is a significant piece of British military history and uniquely retains much of its original layout and fabric. Our approach is to provide contemporary, appropriate designs, tailored to the brief and to the site.

An hotel design inspired by the wings of an airplane to provide elevated views of the air field, in double stacked wings of accommodation floating above the landscape. The project provides an open plan arrangement at ground level for reception, restaurant, entertainment and events in a linear arrangement with support functions (a conference centre, spa and gym) tucked under at lower ground level. The geometry of the layout is configured with a gentle curve to embrace the airfield plan starting from the main front hangar line to its main axis, thus linking the new plan to the existing airfield buildings and reinforcing the detailing and language that is inspired by aircraft design.

The accommodation wings float above a raised ground floor ‘land form’. The structure is an elegant repeatable section with integrated building services. The structural material is an expressed, ‘flitched’ section (a composite of timber with a steel inner section). Combined with brise-soleil and glazing, the external fabric is a stressed skin structure of aluminium and timber. The building is simple and legible, with a clear structural expression which provides an elegant solution.

GWA’s, inspired by the elegance of detailing and design of classic cars. The GWA’s are designed to be modular, flexible, technical workshops with live-in accommodation centred around the art of automotive and aviation preservation, restoration and creation. The buildings are arranged on the plot around the existing landforms to create a hub or ‘village’ for like-minded enthusiasts to inhabit and exhibit.

The concept is of a linear workshop with accommodation above - a prefabricated living unit within the GWA unit. A moveable gantry allows vehicles and the accommodation to be moved, creating a flexible internal layout with semi-private and private courtyards to each end.

The GWA’s are made from a prefabricated ‘kit of parts’; we like to think of this like a vehicle made up of its parts.

"An hotel design inspired by the wings of an airplane to provide elevated views of the air field."
Site plan

Hotel elevation from airfield
Selected Projects

GWA first floor apartment

Bicester Airfield
Oxfordshire, UK
"The garage with apartments are inspired by the elegance of detailing and design of classic cars."
Wellcome Collection
London, UK

A feasibility study for the prestigious medical instrument collection and library of The Wellcome Trust, in central London.

Client: The Wellcome Trust
Type: Exhibition
Value: Confidential
Date: 2012
Size: Confidential
Status: Feasibility Study
Location: London, UK

The Wellcome Trust approached Edward Williams Architects to develop with them a feasibility study to upgrade the exhibition, club and library elements of the Wellcome Collection. The existing building showcases the Wellcome Collection; this is one of the most important medical libraries in the world and houses a large and significant collection of medical objects. The building houses temporary and permanent exhibition galleries, a library, a conference centre, a cafe, a bookshop and an education suite, offices and conservation studios.

Wellcome Collection explores the connections between medicine, life and art in the past, present and future.

More information on the building and Wellcome Collection can be found at www.wellcomecollection.org.
The café

“A feasibility study to upgrade the exhibition, club and library elements of the Wellcome Collection.”
Whitechapel Vision
London, UK

A vision and master plan for the Royal London Hospital site opposite Whitechapel underground station.

“An exemplary central urban development.”

Barts Health NHS Trust commissioned Edward Williams Architects to produce an architectural vision for the development of this site. We are continuing to work with the Trust to help realise this vision.

The proposal develops a series of public urban squares that allow a vibrant mixed-use development around, and in, them. Public urban spaces of different sizes and shapes are arranged with both object and background buildings to create a suitably dense urban form that encourages public interaction and provides opportunities for engagement and growth.

Client: Barts Health NHS Trust
Type: Mixed-use
Value: N/A
Date: 2013
Size: Approx. 100,000 sqm
Status: Feasibility Study
Location: London, UK
Site wide services, sustainable energy strategies and the proximity of the Underground and new Crossrail station will combine to make this an exemplary central urban development.

The buildings are designed to be flexible and will accommodate a variety of uses from apartments, to offices and research laboratories to ground floor retail and entertainment activities.

“The buildings are designed to be flexible and will accommodate a variety of uses.”
Selected Projects

BLACK COUNTRY LIVING MUSEUM
DUDLEY, UK

3D printed model, section through exhibition space
Black Country Living Museum
Dudley, UK

Our shortlisted design for the visitor centre of an outdoor museum in an industrial landscape takes the form of a simple shed, reminiscent of the great age of tram, bus and train transport in this country.

Client: Black Country Living Museum Trust
Type: Museum
Value: £500K-10 Million
Date: 2017
Size: 1000-10,000 sqm
Status: Competition
Location: Dudley, UK

The single elegant building with clear views in and out creates a sense of suspense and anticipation for the arriving visitor, and sits at the high point of the falling site to maximise the views. The column free internal entrance level space provides un-obstructed connection through the entire space and out towards the rest of the Black Country Living Museum.

We have proposed a series of structural brick piers in two lines that frame the entrance to the building and which support flying steel trusses across the space in between. This creates a simple diagram where the main central, open, flexible space can accommodate big exhibitions, functions and a large number of visitors and creates a very adaptable building.

At the sides, along the length of the building, we proposed a series of smaller subsidiary spaces within the structural piers that can accommodate areas such as private offices, kitchen and servery, WC’s and changing areas.

“A simple diagram where the main central, open, flexible space can accommodate big exhibitions, functions and a large number of visitors.”
International Telecommunications Union Headquarters
Geneva, CH

A new mixed-use headquarters building for the ITU with public exhibitions areas and cafes.

The brief called for a building that would express the functional, urban, environmental and construction requirements of the international telecommunications organisation and its international outlook.

Our proposal breaks the overall mass of the building into individually expressed sub-units. This approach optimises the performance of the building, reduces its visual mass and makes it legible to users and visitors.

A large atrium links the functional parts of the new building with the existing, Montbrillant building. The main volumes above ground are separated by a linear atrium that provides natural light, ventilation, and a visual connection between all floors. Bridges between the old and the new allow easy orientation for visitors, link activity throughout the building and encourages interaction formally and informally by users.

Offices and meetings rooms are grouped in two blocks and connected across the central atrium via bridges. To create open plan, column-free spaces that provide maximum flexibility for offices, engineering is integrated with the architecture to provide a clear arrangement of vertical circulation and services in cores.

Conference facilities are located at basement level with direct access from the main entrance, and an exhibition area and cafeteria are accessed from reception via a double helical staircase connecting all levels. To the north, the main entrance level rises with the large stair to Level 1 and links directly to the Montbrillant building.

Our design proposes a positive relationship with the ground level on all facades, by providing arcades and entrances where required to establish a human scale on approach, and a clear relationship to the Rue de Varembé. A new landscape strategy incorporates the existing car parking and buildings across the site above and below ground level with enhanced pedestrian connections.

“Our design provides arcades and entrances to establish a human scale on approach.”
Entrance, reception, and main atrium

Montbrillant atrium link

Aerial view
Guggenheim Museum Competition Entry
Helsinki, Finland

A stunning new approach to museum design for the Guggenheim and City of Helsinki.

Client: Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation
Type: Cultural
Value: N/A
Date: 2014
Size: 12,000 sqm
Status: Competition
Location: Helsinki, FI

Art can effect change by extending our intellectual landscape; the sea also offers such a potential though the physical exploration of other lands and cultures. Our design places timber vessels on the quayside that provide a container for the intellectual journey on which art can take us and by doing so fuses the experience of great architecture with contemporary art and reaffirms the idea that art has the potential to effect change. These vessels sit under a publicly accessible, landscaped roof within a glazed public concourse that allows views in, out, between and through. This openness reflects the ideal of a democratic, inclusive, society.

The main exhibition spaces/vessel are linear and extend out from under the roof to provide a focal point for the museum with a tower at one end (with high level dining and view points) signalling the museum’s intent both to the arriving sea traveller and city dweller. This creates both an exemplary museum and an internationally recognized symbol of Helsinki.

A simple palette of materials (clear glass, natural/charcoal timber, painted steel and granite) reinforces the link with the historical maritime location and the tradition of timber use in Finland.

Edward Williams Architects created separate recognizable volumes/vessels for the key functions and provided a large roof under which to put these vessels and a large internal public concourse to enclose the volumes.

"An exemplary museum and an internationally recognized symbol of Helsinki."
Selected Projects

ONE UB PLAZA
ULAANBAATAR, MONGOLIA

Aerial view
One UB Plaza
Ulaanbaatar
Mongolia

An iconic world-class multi-storey tower in the central business district of the city of Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia.

Client: Trephoil
Type: Mixed-use
Value: Confidential
Date: N/A
Size: 70 Storeys
Status: Ongoing
Location: Ulanbataar, Mongolia

One UB Plaza will be an iconic world-class multi-storey tower in the central business district of the city of Ulaanbaatar, the capital of Mongolia, one of the world’s fastest growing economies.

The current plan envisages the construction of a pioneering mixed-use tower complex, which will comprise premium residential, office, hotel, retail and parking space and a large enclosed leisure and recreational area.

An experienced international design team based in the UK and led by Edward Williams Architects will be supported by an accomplished team of consultants and by local Mongolian engineers, architects and agents to deliver this project via a dedicated project office in Ulaanbaatar.

The 1.8 hectare site is located in the rapidly evolving central Sukhbaatar District and is developed by owners with Trephoil with the full support of the Mongolian authorities. The 5 year plan envisions the construction of 180,000 sq. mt. over 60 stories.

“An iconic world-class multi-storey tower in the central business district of the city of Ulaanbaatar.”

View from Sukhbaatar Square

High-level sky gardens throughout the building
Selected Projects

CA’ NOVA
BRIENNO, LAKE COMO, ITALY

View of Ca’Nova from the lake

Double height living room

Terrace and infinity pool
Ca’ Nova
Brienno, Lake Como Italy

A new six floor single family house in the heart of a charming medieval lakeside village.

Client: Private
Type: Residential
Value: Confidential
Date: 2016
Size: 400 sqm
Status: Under Construction
Location: Brienno, Lake Como, IT

Ca’ Nova is a newly built beautifully detailed lakeside townhouse carefully designed to fit into the ancient medieval context in which it lies. The top three floors are dedicated to the living areas with a spacious double height reception room over an entire floor, a dining room facing onto a loggia overlooking the lake and a kitchen with a separate pantry/utility room.

The architectural challenge was to create a contemporary house, over multiple storeys with its feet in the lake in a restricted site in the middle of an Italian medieval village. By careful arrangement of rooms, collecting all of the sleeping areas at the quieter lower levels, and placing the more public entrance, living and kitchen/dining areas at the upper levels we have created an ideal arrangement for the family to enjoy. The roof top loggia linked directly to the kitchen and dining room provides stunning views of the lake, and the double height entrance and living room a dramatic experience on arrival.

With elegant materials from a simple palette used throughout, a full under-floor heating system, and the use of the lake water for cooling we will achieve the highest sustainability rating in Italy - A+.

Ca’ Nova is located in the centre of the medieval village of Brienno on the western shores of Lake Como, just a few miles from the highly sought after towns of Cernobbio and Laglio. The South-facing property is right by the water with unrestricted views over the lake, next to the ancient church of S. Anna and it backs onto the quiet Via Regina, Brienno’s high street.
Frog by Adam Handling
London, UK

An exciting new restaurant concept for the young celebrity chef Adam Handling in Covent Garden, London.

The Frog is the new flagship restaurant for the young celebrity chef, Adam Handling. In a fully refurbished building the heart of Covent Garden, Adam and his team now have a spectacular space in which to create his world class cuisine.

We led the team to refurbish the entirety of the new restaurant so as to provide an open exhibition kitchen on the ground floor, which forms a stunning backdrop for the diners. We also provided a secondary entrance to access the lower ground floor where Adam’s new bar, “Eve” is located, as well as a private dining room.

Existing features were retained where possible. We worked sensitively with the original structure to draw out the elegance of the space, whilst retaining and enhancing original features such as the structural cast iron columns. The result is a powerful combination of the old and new which creates an elegant, yet contemporary dining experience. A clean elegant space, designed with rich natural materials and an organic palette also makes for an atmospheric working environment for Adam to create his contemporary fusion dishes which combine “technical savvy with the best possible produce, and a lightly theatrical touch”.

Client: Private
Type: Leisure & Hospitality
Value: £700,000
Date: 2017
Size: 300 sqm
Status: Complete
Location: London, UK
Allen Mansions
London, UK

A significant refurbishment of the internal and external common parts of an old Kensington brewery converted into residential units.

Allen Mansions is a residential block converted from an old brick brewery just off High Street Kensington in central London. The block is articulated in a four storey front building and with two semi-detached two storey rear buildings sitting on a covered garage across a central court.

Edward Williams Architects, in collaboration with Tamiko Onozawa, improved the whole arrival and entry sequence by completely refurbishing main and secondary entrances from the street to create an accessible, light and open feel, while ensuring the central garage entrance fits into this new approach.

The works included a full modernisation of the three stair cores while keeping the character of the building together with new lighting, decoration and flooring throughout.

The garage roof on the first floor is used as an access court for the two rear blocks. The project turned a dull grey waterproofing expanse into an elegant landscaped garden while working with the stringent structural constraints. Beyond the modernisation of the common areas this project is the creation of a gifted new western zen garden courtyard.

The new courtyard is a delicate composition of decked walkways, green planted ground cover and potted plants in ornamental bark on three levels. The result is a beautiful contemporary courtyard landscape design that creates a valued tranquil space in the heart of Kensington and at the centre of the residential blocks.
Selected Projects

VILLA IN GENOVA
GENOVA QUARZO, ITALY

Bespoke integrated living room storage

View from kitchen and dining area toward living room
Villa in Genoa
Genova Quarto, Italy

A complete internal refurbishment of a ground floor apartment in an historic nineteenth century listed villa with its loggia and garden.

The nineteenth century villa with an original core dating back to the seventeen century includes a beautiful baroque chapel and has been family owned for centuries. The Villa sits in a large historic park and accessed from the Ligurian coast road.

The project involved the extensive refurbishment of the ground floor apartment and loggia located within the old stable wing of the villa. Refurbishment included ground works to form a new substructure and dry base for the apartment, the diversion of services from within the building to the garden, and the addition a new under-floor heating system, as well as the complete re-arrangement of the interior layout.

The central idea is to create a large open space within the apartment that connects to and uses the loggia as an external living room, responding to a contemporary style of Mediterranean living and the Italian love of cooking, entertaining, moving seamlessly from indoors to out.

The internal re-ordering focused on a complete rationalisation of the room layouts to provide bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, to maximize day light penetration by and shortening internal corridors and to use a limited palette of high quality natural materials throughout.

To connect the new living room to the loggia complex negotiations were required with the local historic listing and planning authorities. In addition select period features were retained and enhanced. Complemented by a limited palette of high quality natural materials and careful, elegant contemporary detailing throughout.

Client: Private
Type: Residential
Value: Confidential
Date: 2015
Size: 170 sqm
Status: Completed
Location: Genova Quarto, IT

Exterior view of loggia at dusk
View to kitchen
Exterior view
Loggia
Bespoke outdoor furniture range

Our first outdoor furniture range combines the elegance of Mediterranean living with beautiful materials and workmanship.

Made by a local metalworker this bespoke furniture range is engineered to be immovable but no larger than necessary, with slim elegant supports, and spray painted a subtle dark grey. Both tables and the sofa bases in the range are topped with substantial one-piece grey-veined white Carrara marble surfaces: elegant yet durable.

Edward and Laura, the practice Directors, were first inspired to bring the designs to life when undertaking the renovation of the Villa in Genova. They saw the covered outdoor space, or ‘loggia’, as an opportunity to extend the open plan living room outdoors. When the furniture was installed in the loggia, the range found a fitting name!

The external furniture “Loggia” series includes:
- Dining table 3000x1200
- Coffee table 2000x500
- Sofa 2000x900

The collection, designed to sit outside year-round, can be configured to different sizes.

Loggia, Bespoke outdoor furniture range

Client: Private
Type: Product design
Value: Confidential
Date: 2018
Size: N/A
Status: Completed
Location: Genova Quarto, IT
Dining table

Sofas and coffee table
Edward Williams
ARB, RIBA
Managing Director

Edward established Edward Williams Architects in 2010 to deliver contemporary, sustainable, architectural designs for exceptional clients. As Director, Edward leads on all significant projects and brings his design and project management expertise to private and public sector clients. Edward avoids being ‘pigeon-holed’ by industry sector or architectural style and achieves excellence for all projects. Whether small or large, all designs are developed from a detailed understanding of the brief and the end-users’ needs developed in close consultation with the client and their team. Creative structural and architectural solutions are achieved through collaborating with leading engineers and construction consultants. Fascinated by the honest expression and elegant detailing of beautiful materials leads naturally to innovative and authentic architecture and high quality environments.

For twenty years Edward worked at Hopkins Architects where he was an equity partner. Edward was involved with many of the award-winning buildings produced at the office during this time and led and managed internal architectural teams and external design teams for projects and clients in the UK, USA, Europe and the Middle East. Projects included Goodwood Racecourse Hospitality Tents, Ickworth House West Wing for the National Trust, Wellcome Collection for The Wellcome Trust, Cyprus Cultural Centre, Princeton University Frick Chemistry Laboratory, University College London Hospital Macmillan Cancer Centre, Hammersmith and Charing Cross Hospital master plan and Women’s Cancer Research Laboratory, Inland Revenue Centre, UCL Neuroscience Centre, Lady Sarah Cohen House, Wildscreen World and Glyndebourne Opera House.

Edward is a Partner of Trephoil, a design and finance lead real estate development, management and investment company based in the UK and with a broad international reach. Trephoil provides unique development solutions, tailored services and innovative partnership structures which create value to both site owners and financial investors. Edward is a graduate of Jesus College Cambridge and Oxford Brookes University and is active within the architectural profession. He has lectured on architecture and urbanism, been a visiting critic at The Bartlett and his designs have been published in the Architects’ Journal. As a Governor of Bedales Schools for 8 years, Edward was the Chair of the Buildings Committee and oversaw a successful re-development programme for the senior school. He is also a member of The Worshipful Company of Skinners and the United Oxford and Cambridge Club. Edward is a committed champion for better buildings, communities and the environment through his involvement in the Royal Institute of British Architects where he is a Board Director and Trustee. Edward supports the RIBA’s objective of providing the profession with the standards, training, support and recognition through his role as RIBA Honorary Librarian, member of the RIBA British Architectural Library committee and Board Member of the American Friends of the RIBA Architectural Library.

Edward speaks English and Spanish.
edward@edwardwilliamsarchitects.com

EDWARD WILLIAMS
Selected projects
CV
Edward Williams Architects
Since 2011

Macmillan Cancer Centre, UCLH, London, UK
2010, E C Harris on behalf of UCLH (Hopkins Architects)

Stadsfeetzal
2010, MDC (Hopkins Architects)

Frick Chemistry Laboratory, Princeton University, New Jersey, USA
2010, Princeton University (Hopkins Architects)

Cyprus Cultural Centre, Nicosia
2007, Cyprus Cultural Foundation (Hopkins Architects)

Wellcome Collection, London, UK
2007, The Wellcome Trust (Hopkins Architects)

Wigmore Hall Feasibility Study
2007, Wigmore Hall (Hopkins Architects)

Dubai World Trade Centre, United Arab Emirates
2006, Dubai World Trade Centre (Hopkins Architects)

West Wing Ickworth House, Suffolk, UK
2006, The National Trust (Hopkins Architects)

Goodwood Race Course, Sussex, UK
2003, Goodwood Racecourse Ltd (Hopkins Architects)

Glydebourne Rehearsal Stage
2003, Glydebourne Productions (Hopkins Architects)

Wildscreen Bristol, Harbourside Bristol, UK
2000, At Bristol Ltd (Hopkins Architects)

Jubilee Campus, University of Nottingham, UK
1999, University of Nottingham (Hopkins Architects)

Greene King Brewery, Bury St Edmunds, UK
1999, Greene King plc (Hopkins Architects)

Glyndebourne Opera House, East Sussex, UK
1994, Glyndebourne Productions (Hopkins Architects)

UCLH Phase 4, dusk view from Tottenham Court Road

External detail, Wellfield Avenue
Laura Carrara-Cagni
ARB, RIBA
Director

Laura is a Partner at Edward Williams Architects with significant experience in winning, designing, managing and delivering large complex international public projects such as hospitals and university buildings. As a senior, experienced member of the practice, Laura manages both internal teams and multidisciplinary external design teams during design and construction phases, to completion and delivery.

She is a native Italian speaker and fluent in English, French and Spanish. She leads projects in Italy and the US and supports the direction and management of the London studio.

For fourteen years Laura worked at Hopkins Architects where she was an Associate Partner and was involved with some of the key buildings produced at the studio during this time for clients in the UK, USA, Europe and the Middle East. Projects included The Brent Civic Centre, ten new college buildings at Rice University in Texas, The Forum in Norwich, the Cyprus Cultural Centre, and twenty private villas in Dubai.

She also won and delivered in 2012 the 65,000sqm project for the New Hospital in La Spezia.

Other significant professional experience includes a two year collaboration with Laurent and Emmanuelle Architects in France on the extension to the Musée des Beaux Arts of Nancy, the Génie des Systèmes Industriels school, the refurbishment of Nancy Trade Fair as well as the André Malraux Museum in Le Havre. Laura has also worked on several private residential projects in Italy and the UK, collaborated with Tom Hurt Architect in Austin, Texas, and with Emma Serra Architect in Genoa, Italy.

Laura was selected the ILAUD, International Laboratory of Architecture and Design, in 1991, has been an ILAUD reviewer in 1996, published in the Space and Society magazine and lectured in Bury St Edmunds and Norwich in the UK and Bologna and Milan Universities in Italy. In 2014, she was a scholar in residence at Rice University in Houston, Texas.

Laura has international private company board level experience. As a non-executive board member of the family wine company Gancia Spa (one of the last privately owned international drinks companies in Italy), Laura helped develop its business strategy and profile to allow it to be sold successfully to an important foreign group, Russian Standard.

Laura is a graduate of the University of Genoa, a member of the Italian Professional Order of Architects of Genova, Italy, since 1993 and a UK chartered architect, member of the ARB and RIBA since 2004.

Laura speaks Italian, English, French and Spanish.

lcc@edwardwilliamsarchitects.com

“Laura manages both internal teams and multidisciplinary external design teams during design and construction phases, to completion and delivery.”
CV
Edward Williams Architects
Since 2012

Nuovo Ospedale della Spezia, Italy
2012, Liguria Region (Hopkins Architects)

Brent Civic Centre, London, UK
2012, Brent Community Council (Hopkins Architects)

New East Servery, Rice University, Houston, USA
2011, Rice University (Hopkins Architects)

Greenwich Town Centre, London, UK
2009, Greenwich Hospital (Hopkins Architects)

South Colleges, Rice University, Houston, USA
2010, Rice University (Hopkins Architects)

Cyprus Cultural Centre, Nicosia, Cyprus (unbuilt)
2007 project, Cyprus Cultural Foundation (Hopkins Architects)

Duncan and McMurtry Colleges, Rice University, Houston, USA
2009, Rice University (Hopkins Architects)

The Cattle Market Site, Bury St Edmunds, UK
2006, Centros Miller (Hopkins Architects)

Station Plaza, Hastings, UK (unbuilt)
2005, Seaspace (Hopkins Architects)

Emirates Hills Villas, Dubai, UAE
2003, Frayland (Hopkins Architects)

BBC East, The Forum, Norwich, UK
2002, the Forum trust (Hopkins Architects)

The Forum, Norwich Millennium Project, Norwich, UK
2001, the Forum Trust (Hopkins Architects)

Museum of Fine Arts (Extension), Nancy, France
2000, Nancy City Council (Laurent et Emanuelle Beaudouin)

Museum of Fine Arts “Andre Malraux” (Refurbishment), Le Havre, France
1998, Town of Le Havre (Laurent et Emanuelle Beaudouin)

Requalification of the Trade Show Park, Nancy, France
1997, Parc des Expositions de Nancy (Laurent et Emanuelle Beaudouin)

State Engineering University in Industrial Systems, Nancy, France
1997, District Urbain de Nancy (Laurent et Emanuelle Beaudouin)

201 El Paso Street Residence, Austin, Texas, USA
1997, Private Client (Tom Hurt Architect)

Villa Rocca Park, Chiavari, Italy
1997, City Council, Chiavari City Council (Emma Serra Architects)

Urban Planning, Niasca, Portofino, Italy
1996, Portofino Town Council (Emma Serra Architects)
If you would like to get in touch to discuss your project, please contact us at:

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