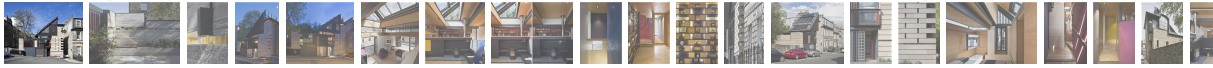


# Murphy House at Hart Street, Edinburgh

RICHARD MURPHY ARCHITECTS



Main Elevation

This is a house designed for Richard Murphy himself. It occupies approximately half of an existing garden in the open space between the back of houses on Forth Street and the gable end of houses on Hart St in the New Town of Edinburgh. The junction between these two streets is clearly an unplanned part of the New Town sitting at the point of contact where two estates that developed simultaneously met. In addition, an extra floor added at some time in the twentieth century to the west side of Hart Street has resulted in an unsightly gable end.

The house sets out to achieve a number of architectural ambitions. Firstly it acts as a 'bookend' to the above mentioned gable, hiding as much of it as possible. The elevational treatment continues the pattern set up by the Hart Street houses of an indented ashlar base, string courses and a significant cornice which is now terminated by becoming the roof edge of a dramatic sloping roof. This roof made mostly of glass with inset photovoltaic cells is designed both to ensure daylight to the adjacent basement flat on Forth Street and also to act as a major collector of solar energy. Inside the roof are a number of insulated shutters which are capable of closing when the roof is in net heat loss mode and opening when there is a net heat gain. In addition the photovoltaic cells power an industrial fan which draws air from the very top of the house to the semi basement to both counter the stack effect but also to store heat in a rock store placed in the solum for night time heating. The external form of the house is completed by a garage with a small roof terrace above.

Internally an interlocking section places the living/dining and kitchen on the first floor with the master bedroom at the apex of the section capable of opening up and closing to the living space. A study sits between entrance hall and living room and a bedroom is placed on the ground floor and a further bedroom in a semi basement.

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Work began on site in July 2012 with completion in December 2014.

In 2016 the house won an RIBA National Award.

Richard Murphy wrote this piece "The Road to Hart Street" about the house for his exhibit in the Royal Scottish Academy exhibition "Home" in April 2016.

## Other Details

Architects Richard Murphy, Gareth Jones, James Falconer, Tersius Maass  
Engineers Create Engineering  
Client Richard Murphy

## Awards

2015 Saltire Society Housing Design Award  
2016 RIBA Award  
2016 Architects' Journal UK House of the Year  
2016 RIBA / Channel 4 House of the Year  
2016 Civic Trust National Award  
2016 EAA Building of the Year



## Press

August 2017	Murphy House in Edinburgh	Der Spiegel
August 2017	Seriality in Architecture	Tripod Magazine
27 February 2017	Streamlining your home by getting built-in furniture	Daily Telegraph
1 July 2016	An Award Laden Approach	Construction Industry News
23 June 2016	Three Scottish Buildings listed among best in the UK	BBC News
23 June 2016	RIBA Awards 2016	Architects' Journal

23 June 2016	RIBA House of the Year 2016 Award Longlist - Best New Homes Britain	Dezeen.com
3 May 2016	Kenny Farquharson, Notebook: "House of Wonder"	The Times
22 November 2015	Building Study: Hart Street House by Richard Murphy Architects	Architects Journal
September/October 2015	Murphy's Law	Homes & Interiors Scotland
01 June 2015	Treasure Chest	Architecture Today
13 May 2015	Murphy House in Hart Street	e-architect
07 May 2015	Saltire Society Housing Design Awards - 2015 Shortlist	Saltire Society
01/05/2015	Homage Vs Heritage	I-Build Magazine
April 2015	Tight Squeeze	Urban Realm
September 2012	A New Heritage	Premier Living - ESPC Magazine
November 2008	Wilson's Weekly Wrap: You Can't Keep A Good Man Down	Prospect Issue 133
10 Oct 2008	Murphy's Law Prevails As Council Overturns Refusal	Building Design
2 Oct 2008	Architect Amazed After "Bookend" Home Wins Go-ahead	The Scotsman
October 2008	Hart And Minds	Prospect Issue 132
4 August 2008	Plan Poised To Get Knocked Back	Evening News

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