

GJON GURAZIU ARB

M: +44 (0) 7449230003

E: studio@arquestarchitecture.com

A highly skilled architect with extensive experience in delivering comprehensive design solutions and proactive project oversight across both residential and commercial sectors. Proven ability to ensure efficient, high-value outcomes for clients.

Profile

My approach as a Director centers on a deep understanding of client needs and a commitment to delivering outstanding architectural solutions. I thrive on understanding the unique challenges of each project and collaborating to deliver memorable places that exceed expectations.

Qualifications

Professional Qualification (University of Westminster 2017)

Master degree in architecture (University of Trieste 2014)

Recent work history

Arquest Architecture

2023 - present

Director

Leading all aspects of architectural practice, including client acquisition, project direction, and team management. Successfully overseeing a diverse portfolio of residential projects, such as home renovations in Surrey, a rear extension in Dulwich, loft conversions in Tooting and Peckham, and a new build house concept in Arequipa, Peru.

Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands

2019 - 2022

Architect

Contributed to the design and development of large-scale mixed-use and residential projects, gaining valuable experience in masterplanning and coordinating with multidisciplinary teams.

5plus architects

2015 - 2018

Architect

Played a key role in the planning stages of various residential and commercial projects.

Previous work history

Early on, I juggled architectural aspirations with a stint as a radio host, showcasing my favorite tunes. Later, my architectural journey took me to Albania for on-site work on a mixed-use development and Italy for contributing to a museum's tender package. A year in Germany saw me involved in the design of a substantial mixed-use building.

Waitrose West Ealing - Mixed Use Scheme, London

- architect: Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands
- client: John Lewis and Partners
- Mixed Use
- stages 1 to 3
- 428 dwellings

Residential-led mixed-use redevelopment, encompassing 428 new homes with exclusive access to 1,208 sqm of amenity space; a large Waitrose Supermarket with 133 car parking spaces; a café and other commercial units. Key role in the residential element of this mixed-use development, focusing on optimizing flat layouts and ensuring seamless coordination between structural, service, and facade design. Effectively collaborated with external consultants to deliver a cohesive design solution.



1. A new street market is proposed next to the large scale residential scheme



2. Waitrose Entrance



3. Residential Entrance

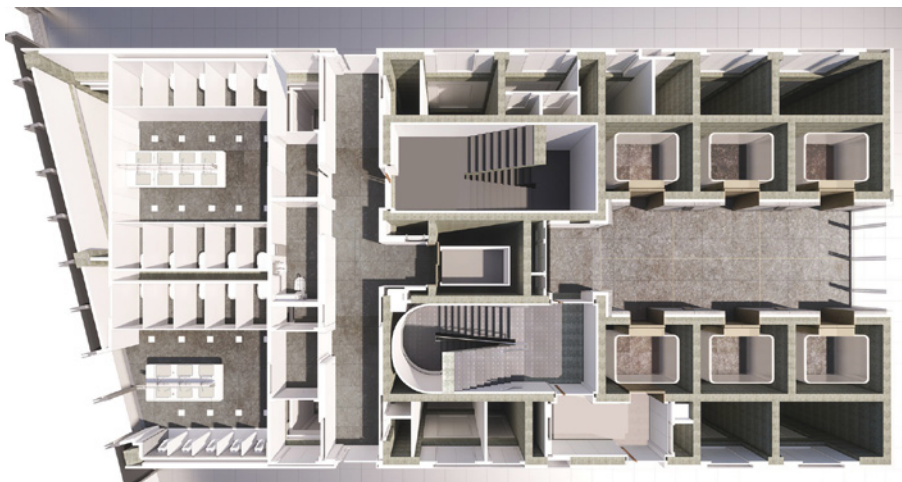
33 Charterhouse Street - Office Building, London

- architect: Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands
- client: Ashby Capital + Helical
- office
- stage 3
- c.20,000 sqm

33 Charterhouse Street is an office building near Farringdon station. I worked throughout stage 3 on the lightwell, reception, core, and bathrooms design.



1. Facade close-up. The upper levels are set back to avoid interference with the view corridor between Parliament Hill and St. Paul. This provides the opportunity to create highly valued outdoor amenity space.



2. Building Core Design



3. Lift lobby

Edmonton Green - Mixed Use Masterplan, London

- architect: Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands
- client: Crosstree
- masterplan, commercial + residential
- stage 2
- 295 homes, c.26,820 sqm GEA

Edmonton Green is a residential-led mixed-use masterplan (1,713 homes) in and around an existing shopping mall in North London. I worked on the urban realm articulated by capacity/massing studies, managing layout iterations, solar studies.



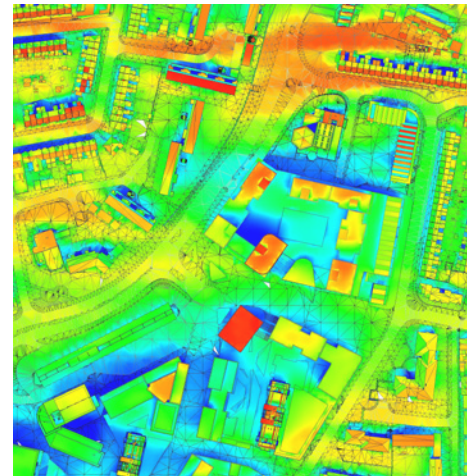
1. Aerial view



2. Edmonton Green Masterplan



3. Example of design development massing study



4. Example of solar exposure study (blue = 0 hours of direct sunlight; red = 12 hours)

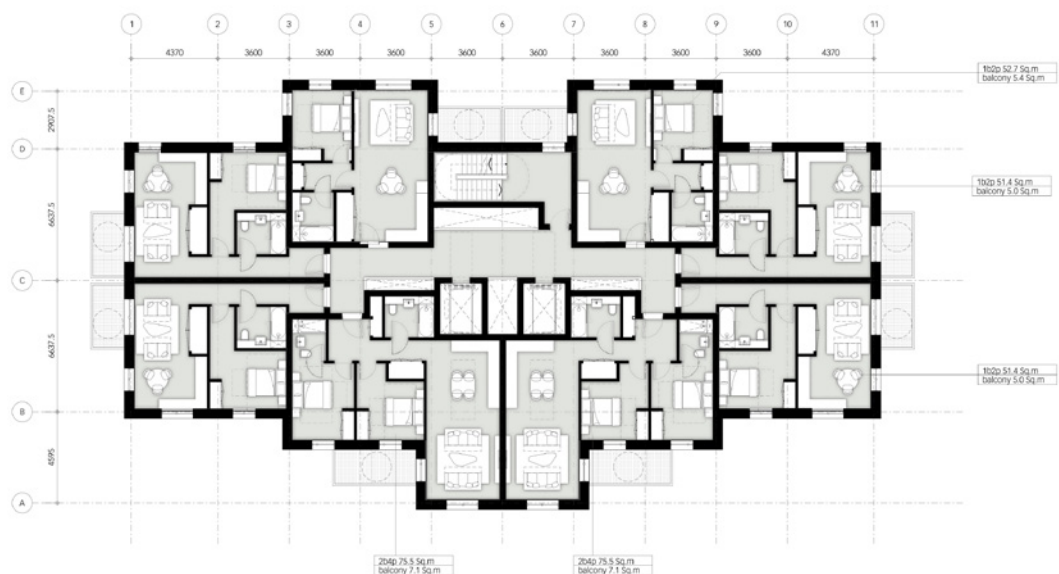
Woodberry Down - Residential Masterplan, London

- architect: Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands
- client: Berkeley Homes
- masterplan, residential
- stage 2
- 484 built-to-rent homes, c.50,000 sqm GEA

I was in charge of the plans of phase 4 within the wider Woodberry Down masterplan. I developed layout iterations to work with the client's unit mix, ensured compliance with building regulations and the client's own standards, and showed versions of the scheme in both traditional and modern construction methods.



1. Aerial view of the proposed massing



2. Mansion block - typical plan

Joist House - House Renovation, Surrey

- architect: Arquest Architecture
- client: private
- residential
- from inception to completion
- c.100 sqm

This Surrey house underwent a comprehensive structural remodel to transform an eccentric layout into a spacious, bright open-plan living area, achieved by merging rooms and strategically using steel frames. Key interventions included innovative ceiling treatments to maximize space and light, relocating and integrating storage into a newly designed plywood staircase, and removing obstructive chimney breasts to enhance natural illumination.



1. Combined kitchen / dining, with new kitchen window, glazed door to backyard, new skylight, increased floor to ceiling height



2. Vaulted ceiling master bedroom with full width wardrobe



3. Relocated staircase with storage underneath

Two Portals - Rear Extension, Dulwich

- architect: Arquest Architecture
- client: private
- residential
- planning (in progress)
- c.95sqm

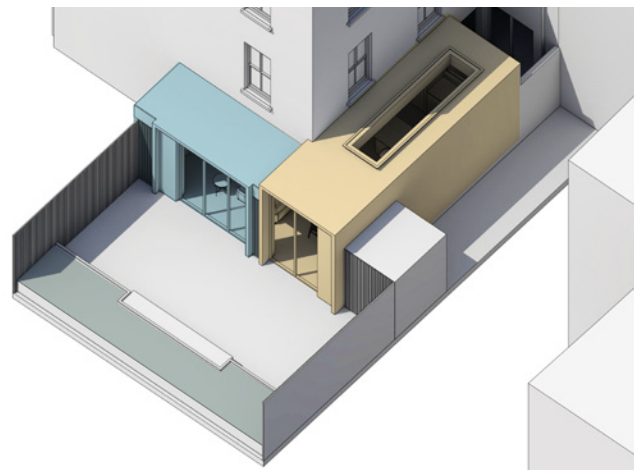
I empowered a private client to reimagine the interior layout of his flat and to design the side and rear extension. A key architectural concept involves two distinct portals, intentionally shaped to visually express the internal spatial qualities, such as the differing ceiling heights and the dynamic interplay with natural light.



1. View from garden



2. Preliminary Interior View



3. Diagrammatic View

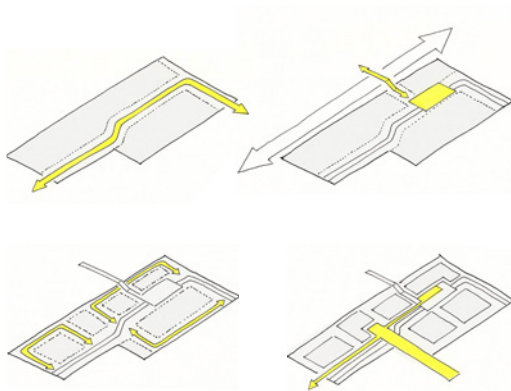
Brent Cross South - Mixed Use Masterplan, London

- architect: 5plus architects
- competition
- masterplan, commercial + residential
- stage 1
- 600 homes + 95,000 sqm workplace

Brent Cross South is the area around the railway station in the masterplan 'Brent Cross Cricklewood' by Allies and Morrison. The proposal articulates the building's massing around a new urban realm with a distinct town centre character. The ground plane is the starting point and the focus of the design, a celebration of public space connecting in a sequence three squares, a bridge, a garden, and a courtyard.



1. Street view sketch



2. A hierarchy and articulation of open spaces defines the plots



3. A number of piazzas, a boulevard and a linear park interconnect with public spaces at the ground floor of the proposed buildings.

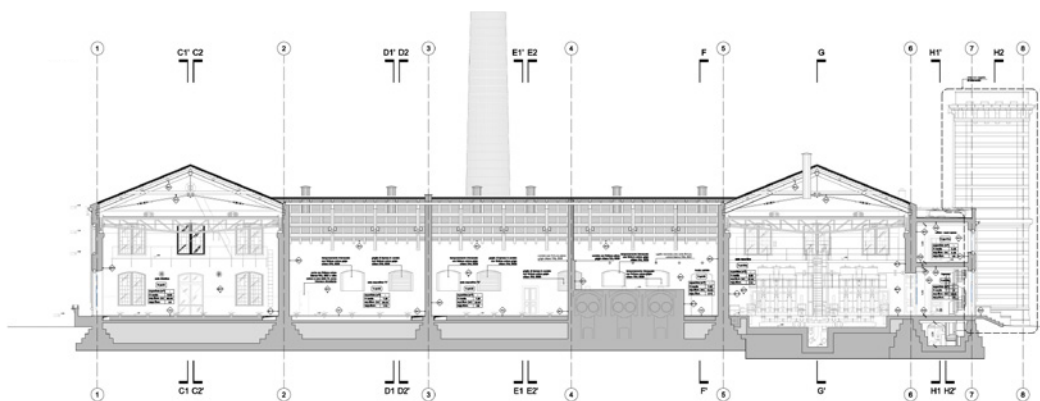
Centrale Idrodinamica - Historic Building Conversion, Italy

- architect: Giovanni Damiani
- client: public sector
- stage 4
- listed building
- refurbishment + extension

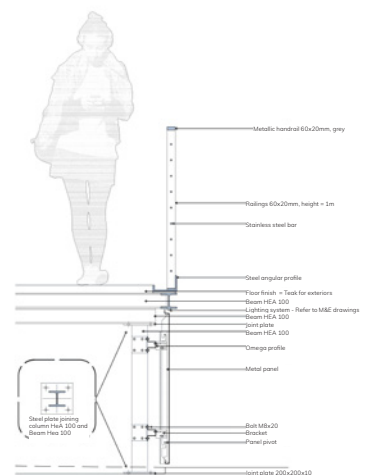
Centrale Idrodinamica is the power plant of what it used to be the main port of the Habsburg empire. I joined a small practice in my hometown for the tender drawings package. I worked alongside a senior architect on the interiors, the rear extension, and the front ramp and stairs.



1. The building after the renovation of the facades



2. Longitudinal section



3. Accessible ramp detail