

A contemporary dwelling with a responsive architectural form

The use of traditional stone building materials and the simple form of this new house both accord well with the vernacular style of the traditional, neighbouring buildings.

The design approach was to employ two distinct visual languages unified by a simple and strong enveloping form. This clarity of design expression produces a building of today which respects a setting created over centuries.

LOCATION AND CONTEXT

This dwelling is situated within the Timbered Plateau Farmlands landscape type and the new house responds well to its local landscape context. Visually it is associated with the nearby cluster of farm and domestic buildings which are characteristic of the dispersed settlement pattern found in the area. Its long linear form mirrors the line of the hedgerows above it and enables the house to sit comfortably in the open, sloping topography.

The new woodland planting above the dwelling is also linear in form, reflecting the pattern and shape of other woodlands found in this landscape type and supporting the movement of wildlife by connecting to an existing wood.



The horizontal line of the development parallels the existing line of the traditional buildings in the foreground, respecting the contours of the site, without breaching the skyline. Trees have been planted on the slopes to provide a wooded backdrop that will also enhance local landscape character.



The visual complexity of entranceways, garages and car parking is hidden from view behind the extended curtain wall, presenting a simple continuous façade to the main viewpoint.



The use of traditional stone to the most visible elevations is contrasted with the cool contemporary precision of the rendered hillside elevations.



The green roofs to the buildings present a continuation of landscape through appropriate plant selection and simple planar treatment.