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PATRICK LEWIS ARCHITECTS

Style Transforming dark properties that have inconvenient layouts into inspiring, family-friendly homes by improving and extending. Artworks are commissioned to add a unique decorative touch.

Clients Clients from financial services, property, law and the creative industries, including gallery owners, artistic directors and fashion designers.

Cost A one-off loft conversion might start at £75,000, a ground-floor extension at £100,000 and a full-house refurbishment at £250,000, excluding Vat and professional fees.

Location Notting Hill, with projects spread over London and the home counties.

020 3178 3988, patricklewisarchitects.com

PAUL ARCHER DESIGN

Style Renovations, extensions and new-build houses — one of which is being filmed for Grand Designs at the moment — that are green without the hair-shirt look. Simple glass additions are blended harmoniously with historic buildings. Concentrates solely on residential work.

Clients A wide range, from celebrities to lawyers. Often people who are keen to get involved.

Cost Typically between £100,000 and £1m, excluding Vat and

professional fees, although the practice sometimes takes on smaller and larger schemes, based on their creative interest.

Location Based in London, they work all over Britain, but mainly within the M25.

020 3668 2668, paularcherdesign.co.uk

SIMON GILL

Style Specialises in opening up, extending and improving period properties with contemporary refurbishments, lofts, extensions and large basements, always respecting the history of the building. "We consider that a good scheme is like a poetic diagram of our clients' lives."

Clients Often upsizing families — "It's not uncommon for us to find ourselves racing against the timetable of expectant mothers!" Most clients work in finance, law, accountancy or property, but some of them are more exotic.

Cost Anything from £100,000 for a basic rear ground-floor extension to £700,000 for full refurbishment with a large basement, excluding Vat and professional fees.

Location Based in Fulham, the practice works mainly in west and southwest London, but it has done projects in Norfolk, Sussex and even Bulgaria.

020 7610 9344, simongillarchitects.co.uk



Trombé is favoured by architects adding glazed extensions

A WELL-DESIGNED PROJECT HAS INVISIBLE BENEFITS: IT MINIMISES BILLS AND PROMISES A DEGREE OF FUTURE-PROOF FLEXIBILITY

SNOOK

Style They call it "contextual modernism". Translation: despite being ardent modernists, they do a lot of work on listed buildings, and their designs are sensitive to their historic surroundings. The practice prides itself on listening closely to clients — and on keeping an eye on the budget.

Clients From middle-income families to the extremely rich and famous.

Cost Modest residential extensions start at £1,100 per sq metre, but prices can rise to more than £3,500 per sq metre for one-off residences. These prices don't include Vat or professional fees, which typically come in at between 7% and 10% of the construction cost.

Location Based in Liverpool; all sizes of project in the northwest of England are considered.

0151 707 0100, snookarchitects.com



Paul Archer does green homes without the hair-shirt feel

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