



| PDG Architects Ltd
| Community

| New Annexe
| Oundle Road Baptist Church

Brief

The practice was first approached in 2000 to investigate the feasibility of gaining planning permission for two new houses on the rear of the site, with a view to constructing a new annexe to provide a church hall and ancillary facilities. An outline planning approval was obtained in August 2001.

However, the church members decided to retain the land and raise the funding for the new annexe in other ways. In 2007 they were in a position to proceed with the detailed design of the annexe.

The existing church was built in 1935 and is a landmark building of very distinctive design with a front façade that shows art-deco influences. It stands in a prominent location on Oundle Road, one of the major routes into Peterborough city centre. The previous church hall to the rear of the site was demolished in the 1990s as it was in a poor state of repair. Since the demolition of the hall the church has lacked suitable facilities to serve the needs of the local community.

Solution

The annexe was designed as a separate volume, in order not to detract from the strong Art Deco form of the existing church and to limit the loss of natural light into the existing church. The church and hall are joined by a low-level entrance facility with a shallow pitched turned stainless steel roof. There are two pedestrian entrances, one on the principal level of the church and hall and a secondary entrance at the rear to the lower ground floor level. These are linked by a staircase that rises alongside the former external wall of the church.

The front elevation of the annexe incorporates high level vertical strip windows echoing the strong sense of verticality clearly expressed on the façade of the existing church. The brick was chosen to complement the existing church brickwork and the main roof has a concrete plain tiled roof in contrast to the low level roofs to the front, side and rear.

The foyer area at the front incorporates areas of full height glazing which act as a 'shop window' for the church and speak to the community on what the church represents and has to offer.

Project details

Client: Oundle Road Baptist Church
Address: Oundle Road, Peterborough
Completion: Due November 2009
Project Cost: £ 560,000
Project Team: Paul T.D. Hutchings & Marzena Zajaczkowska

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