



CARING WOOD

Winning RIBA House of the Year Award 2017, Caring Wood is a residential property built for multiple generations in Kent, the 'garden of England'.

Reflecting the location and heritage, the property was designed in homage to the traditional oast houses, agricultural buildings for kilning hops, that are found across the Kent countryside. With four unique towers at varying roof pitches, its unique design and style meant it needed suitably unique rooflights by The Rooflight Co.

The project was praised for the way it successfully revived local building crafts and traditions including locally sourced handmade peg clay tiles, quarried ragstone and coppiced chestnut cladding.

The dedicated design team at The Rooflight Co, were on hand to develop the design of the five Plateau Rooflights, with their hybrid design, combining the traditional baseplate of The Conservation Plateau, with the sleek, edge to edge

glazing of The Neo Rooflight. These five Plateau Rooflights, combined with one Neo Rooflight created the complete top lighting requirements for the site, which included a solution for the Estate Cottage separate to the main residence.

The five Plateau Rooflights included laminated inner glazing panes, as standard for any flat roof product provided by The Rooflight Co, within triple glazed units, along with a unique Anodized Brown frame specific to the project's design specification. The signature baseplate of the Plateau Rooflight slotted over each 150mm wide insulated kerb, overlapping the kerb with a 100mm overhang, and sandwiching the roofing membrane for a watertight finish.

Internally, the rooflights sit gracefully alongside white renders walls. The timber lining provided with the rooflights marry up to the interior plasterboard, creating an even, flush interior finish.

The Neo Rooflight had a matching installation process for consistency

across all interior walls. Meanwhile, externally, The Neo Rooflight, with its formed steel baseplate, integrated alongside the clay tiles, fitting directly to the rafters.

All rooflights across the property were electrically operated to 250-350mm opening distances and connected to the central building management system for centralised control.

The final result, a home to multi-generational family, which is accessible to all ages. The look and feel of the property is both striking yet sympathetic to the surroundings through the considered use of quality materials. Internally, an abundance of natural light and ventilation fills the home as the family congregate and generations merge.

Architect:

Rural Office for Architecture,
MacDonald Wright Architects

Contractor:

Cardy Construction Limited

Awards:

RIBA South East Award 2017
RIBA South East Sustainability Award
2017 - sponsored by Geberit
RIBA National Award 2017
Long-listed for Stirling Prize 'House of the Year' 2017

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