

Ian Potts – RIBA Architect

Founding Partner/Director of The Architects Design Group – now based at the new Studio 5-11 Building in the centre of Plymouth and working predominantly across the South of England.

With a career spanning 30-years, Ian is the founding Partner / Director of the Architects Design Group, based at Studio 5-11 in Plymouth and working predominantly across the South of England.

Ian is an award-winning architect, with designs including several prominent buildings in and around Plymouth, Devon and Cornwall.

Ian specialises in team leadership and client liaison, enjoying many long-term relationships within the property industry. He has an excellent track record in securing planning permissions often for complex, sensitive and constrained sites.

Ian's particular focus is on the development of architectural and urban design and their role in the regeneration of Plymouth and the towns and cities of Devon and Cornwall. He is currently working with Plymouth's private and public sector leadership to achieve the wider scale regeneration of the City's built environment.

Elected to the board of the Chamber of Commerce 7 years ago, Ian is a Deputy Vice Chair, member of the Operations Group and portfolio holder for regeneration. These positions offer the opportunity to work with the leadership of the private sector in partnership with the public and community sector leaders for the good of the City of Plymouth.

Ian specialises in:-

- team leadership and client liaison
- project and design team management
- lead consultant for regeneration projects
- securing planning permissions, often for complex and constrained sites
- detailed negotiations with Planning Authorities, Government Agencies and English Heritage
- initial concept and development appraisals for mixed/alternative uses on redundant/brownfield sites

Managing Director

Architects Design Group

1993 – Present (20 years)

Overall practice management

Design development, oversight and management of my project portfolio.

Director

Plymouth Chamber of Commerce

2002 – Present (11 years)

Ian is also a Director of the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce, Deputy Vice Chair and portfolio holder for regeneration. This offers the opportunity to work with the leadership of the private sector in partnership with the public and community sector leaders for the good of Plymouth and the cities and towns of Devon and Cornwall.

Past Projects

Studio 5-11

Ian's most recent project was the refurbishment of ADG's new offices – Studio 5-11. Formerly Durley House, this tired 1970's 5 storey building with no insulation overheated in the summer and was cold in winter, has been transformed into modern offices. The interior is completely remodelled and the building's carbon footprint has been vastly reduced through a range of energy efficiency measures.

ADG's directors joined with others to use their pension funds to purchase the existing property. ADG were the architects and Ian provided the project management for the development that included extensive value engineering to fit within the Government's pension rules. So ADG were their own clients, developers and now tenants.

This development now provides a modern 34,000 sqft business centre that is naturally ventilated with very low heating bills and utilises a 20kw PV system providing 70% of ADG's electricity.

Current projects

Current projects in design are Oceanique, which redevelops the SW corner of Plymouth City Centre to provide a £60million mixed use scheme including the creation of a 34-storey residential tower, and the former MOD Mt Wise development. Further a-field includes the master-planning and architecture for the £20million mixed use scheme at Portland in Dorset and the completed RYA headquarters for the British Olympic sailing squad

Other Past Projects

Local past projects include the Plymouth Fish-market in Sutton Harbour, the Sherwell Centre for the University of Plymouth, the Plymouth Foyer in Stonehouse and the Azure apartments on the Hoe.

Other past projects have included the Town Council's Business Units and New Cookery School in Padstow for the TV Chef Rick Stein, and the design to extend his hotel in the town. The Village at Watergate Bay includes sustainable apartments utilising a highly insulated, earth sheltered form of construction using natural materials wherever possible.

Honors & Awards

1987 - Council for the Protection of Rural England

Best Converted Building- Worthyvale Manor Mill

1995 - Abercrombie Design Award

Best New Building - Plymouth Fishmarket: Winner

1996 - Abercrombie Design Award

Best Refurbished Building - The Sherwell Centre, University of Plymouth: Winner.

1999 - Council for the Protection of Rural England

Best New Building - The Padstow Business Units: Winner.

1999 - FX International Design Awards

Best New Building - Rick Stein's Seafood Cookery School: Finalist.

2000 - Abercrombie Design Awards

Best Refurbishment - Plymouth Foyer: Winner.

2001 - RIBA Countryside Design Award

The Padstow Business Units: Winner.

2010 - CABE Building for Life Award

Silver Award - Evolution Cove, Plymouth - Winner.

2012- Green Business Award

Studio 5-11 Business Centre – Winner

Contact

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