London 11
Royal Institute of British Architects
Directory of Chartered Practices
A remodelling and extension to an Edwardian terrace house located within a Conservation Area in Hammersmith.

This three-bedroomed two-storey house was in need of considerable refurbishment and modernisation. The client asked for a contemporary design and functionality and he also expressed the desire to be able to perceive the garden as a continuation of the domestic space rather than 'the outdoor'. The concept driving the whole design is a 30° twist that allows physical and perceptive overlapping between the indoor and the outdoor spaces that dramatically improves the natural lighting into the house. The new extension is added by a clearly defined line to the rear that respects its heritage and gives this house a unique, uniform aesthetic. The sculptural facade is visually striking and elegant: the fine faceting and the use of seamless glass panels create beautiful, complex reflections.

The use of the same material for the projecting external floor plane, in contrast with the highly worn timbers and the green garden walls, create a suggestive-relaxing space. The garden becomes a vital ingredient of the living space.
Mint Store, Wigmore Street, London

PAUL MCANEARY ARCHITECTS LTD
6 Filicroft Street
London
WC2H 8DJ
T 020 7240 0500
F 020 7240 6808
info@paulmcaney Architects.com
www.paulmcaney Architects.com
Contact Paul McAnear

Architect
Paul McAnear Architects Ltd

Client
Lina Kanafani

Main Contractor
Debowski Contractors p190

Photography
Paul McAnear Architects Ltd

'The most unique dynamic and visionary store in London', said Max Fraser of Mint in the London Design Guide 2010.

Previously, the John Pawson-designed Bulthaup kitchen showroom occupied the building's ground floor. Coincidentally, Paul McAnear worked for Pawson before he established his studio and demolished his old master's work.

The project brief was to reconfigure and expand the existing space, Paul McAnear Architects designed a new contemporary timber facade that plays with the traditional proportions of the classical building and expanded the space by forming a new basement. Paul McAnear Architects' most important detail is the new staircase to the lower level. It has a very flush glazed balustrade and floating rough-sawn oak treads, together with McAnear's special handrail that has a hidden inner radius to make the act of descending the staircase a more pleasurable tectonic experience.

Other important details include two structural glass floors, which serve to allow transparency and visual connection between the levels and allow natural light to the new lower space.