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Sadler Brown 11/12 Riverside Studios Amethyst Road Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 TYL

e: info@sadlerbrown.co.uk/ mail@aka-sba.co.uk w: www.architects-group.com

Newcastle (head office): +44 (0)191 265 7080/ 2130133









DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

At Sadler Brown our team are proud to have designed many iconic and award winning projects for our clients.

And, all our clients show a common trait – they're open to revolutionary ideas, they love design, and they want to be challenged. It is this special relationship that we believe is at the heart of what we do.

Our specific approach to design is based on dialogue and collaboration; whereas we recognise our client's contribution is vital to the success of a good project.

For us every project begins with an emotional feeling, an idea, a spark of something special. We gain an understanding of a project by experiencing the environment within which it will be located, seeing views, hearing sounds and soaking up that all-emotional 'feeling of a place'.

By having an emotional attachment to a project, we are able to inject something special. We take pride in ensuring what we do always adds value. To us, being architects is a lifestyle choice. This means we design with passion, with thought to the future in mind. While we are ever mindful of cost, we believe that great design comes from effort and talent – whatever the budget.

'Our specific approach to design is based on dialogue and collaboration; whereas we recognise our client's contribution is vital to the success of a good project.'

SADLER BROWN®



SPECIALIST CONSULTANTS

Robin Purves Development Director

Bill Hopper

Design & Interiors

Anthony Keith Design and Conservation

Interior Designer

Alice Hall

David Cummings Design & CGI Visualisation

COMPANY DIRECTORS

Tony Harmieson Managing Director Dan Cogdon Architectural Director (RIBA) **David Davies** Architectural Director (RIBA / BIM)

DIRECTORS / MANAGERS / ASSOCIATES

Steve Statton Architectural Director Paul Carroll Associate

Mark Starford Associate (RIBA / Conservation CR) **Rob Harries** Associate

Lelia Dunlea- Jones

Associate (RIBA)

John Tweed Urban Design (RIBA)

ARCHITECTS

Peter Churchill Senior Architect/ QA Manager (ARB) Mary Schulz Senior Architect (ARB) Mark Larcombe Senior Architect (ARB) Joe Orchard Senior Architect (ARB)

Jon Dennis Architect (ARB) Ben Dryden Architect (ARB) Scott Stewart Interior Architect Laura Satterthwaite Architect (ARB)

ARCHITECTUAL TECHNOLOGISTS / TECHNICIANS / ASSISTANTS

Chris Pearce Architectural Technologist Husham Taha Architectural Designer/BIM Jeff Wright Senior Architectural Technician Mike Grundy Senior Architectural Technician

Adam Novogrodskis RIBA 2- Arch Assistant

Alex Darley RIBA 2- Arch Assistant

Gareth Hughes

RIBA 2- Arch Assistant

Farrah Colilles RIBA 2- Apprenticeship

RIBA 2- Arch Assistant

Tommy Reeves

David Cartwright Architectural Technologist

Andy Turner Design Technologist

Charlotte Whittingham

Hollie Phelps RIBA 2- Student

RIBA 2- Student

ADMINISTRATION

Fiona Atkin

Carol Turnbull

Rachel Brockhurst



With offices in Newcastle upon Tyne, London, Harrogate, Edinburgh, Chester and Cardiff our practice operates in a number of different sectors on projects that value anywhere between £100,000 to £200m. Whether the project is a small bespoke veterinary alteration or extension, the restoration of an existing veterinary hospital or the delivery of a large new practice; our designs share a common theme of an environmentally responsive, people-focused, place-making approach.

We have built our reputation on our commitment to deliver value-for-money through bespoke solutions which can only be achieved by working in partnership with our clients. We understand the importance of delivering projects in a timely and efficient manner and we pride ourselves on our performance and the number of satisfied clients that have generated repeat business with us. The PDSA was our first veterinary client and we are please to say that we are still working with them to this day. Our policy is that tender documents are detailed and complete as they will also be used as the construction drawings. This gives the best cost control and gives the builder certainty to programme and procure. We also prefer the client to be active in the detail of the scheme so that we are all clear about what is expected of us and we can convey that clarity to the contractor.









SADLER BROWN® VETERINARY PROJECTS OUR STUDIOS





VETS NOW MANCHESTER

Value : £1.3 Million Status : Completed

The Vets Now Manchester project was a major alteration and refurbishment of a former car showroom. The fabric of the building was upgraded and the existing internal walls and floor finishes removed. The construction of the existing building allowed a lot of freedom in the layout with only a central row of columns interrupting the internal space.

The layout of the building is arranged around a large open-plan prep area and a large reception and waiting room with separate areas for cats and dogs. The building accommodates 6 consulting rooms, X-ray, CT, diagnostics, separate feline and canine wards, autoclave, intensive care, barrier nursing and isolation which all open off the central prep area. In addition there is a staff room, admin offices, meeting room, laundry and archive store.

The building is a single storey and with no load bearing walls allowing greater flexibility while avoiding the need for a lift and duplication of facilities on each floor. The existing structure will also allow for alterations of the internal layout with minimal disruption. The car parking around the building has been separated into staff and visitors parking and re-surfaced with large timber planters to the front of the building













PDSA PETAID HOSPITAL PLYMOUTH

Value: £1.78 Million Status : Completed

The PetAid Hospital at Plymouth, is a sustainable design for the PDSA. The scheme has been designed to meet the BREEAM Excellent standard and incorporates Solar pre-heat and PV panels, Rainwater recycling and Air Source Heat Pumps. The high density of heat sources in PetAid centres (people, animals and equipment) mean that the buildings tend to overheat.

Traditionally, large amounts of energy would be expended providing mechanical cooling to solve this problem but a sophisticated ventilation system will redistribute heat to other parts of the building that require it, and excess heat will be used in the hot water system. This significantly reduces both the carbon footprint and the running costs of the building. The building is split in two with the public side facing the car park and the clinical side behind. The two sections of the building are joined through a central corridor with roof lights to bring natural day light into the heart of the building.











VETS NOW GLASGOW

Value : £1.3 Million Status: Completed

The existing Vets Now referral Hospital is located in city centre of Glasgow.

The site was used as a 24/7 emergency hospital for pets and working in partnership with local veterinary practices to offer vets and their clients an out-of-hours service.

The new Vets Now design provides additional surgical and ward space for the animals together with improved staff facilities and admin space. The building has been designed for ease of access for both humans and animals. As animals may be injured and/or carried, a level floor is maintained where practical. Ramps in the building are integrated as part of the circulation within the facility.

The main entrance from North Road into the Veterinary referral hospital is via double doors which go into a spacious lobby allowing veterinary staff to direct owners and their pets to their destination. A new lift has been installed allowing staff to take animals into a preparation, surgery and recovery area and can also access the 2nd floor which is used for administration. There are also staircases for staff, admin and as means of escape. Access and egress from the rear/street side into the building is via existing ramps. There are also enclosed exercise pens.



















Elevations

PDSA NOTTINGHAM

Value: £2.1 Million

Status: RIBA Stage 5 Construction

The PDSA is a Charity which provides low cost and free veterinary care to the sick and injured pets of people in need and promotes responsible pet ownership. PDSA has partnered with the University Of Nottingham, since it opened its doors to Veterinary Undergraduates. PDSA is proud to be an Associate Practice Partner of the University. In 2007, Nottingham opened the first new Veterinary Faculty in the UK for over 50 years - prompted by the shortage of qualified practitioners revealed by the foot and mouth crisis of 2001. The School welcomes around 150 veterinary students each year.

Partnering with Nottingham University Vet School (NUVS) in the Pet Hospital it allows the PDSA to engage with the next generation of Veterinary Surgeons and provide a great experience in a formative part of a great number of vets careers. From this the PDSA benefits by being able to influence the clinical practice of many vets introducing them to the concepts of a more rounded approach to pet wellbeing.

The total floor area of the building is 856 square metres, arranged on one floor.

Staffing in terms of full time equivalent during the day time:

- 1 Practice Manager
- 1 Senior Vet
- 5 Vets
- 1 Head Nurse
- 4 Nurses
- 2 Auxiliary Care Assistants
- 6 Receptionists

University faculty members, students on placement and Cleaners.



PDSA NOTTINGHAM (continued)

The building is designed in four parts.

The first part is where the public visit the Centre by appointment only. It comprises a Waiting Room and Reception where appointments can be made and confirmed and prescriptions collected. Around this are arranged 8 Consulting Rooms that are accessible both from the public Waiting Room and the clinical area to the rear.

The second part of the building is the clinical area beyond the Consulting Rooms. There are two Operating Theatres, a Dental Theatre and a Diagnostics Room arranged around the Theatre Prep area. Also arranged around the Theatre Prep area are the Recovery Wards: one for dogs; one for cats and one for small animals. Associated with this is a small covered exercise area for the animals to recover from the effects of their operation and anaesthetic gas. Ancillary to this is the Clinical Waste Store and the Isolation Ward which has its own exercise area.

The third area is the staff accommodation. This is made up of a Staff Room, Staff Toilets, Locker Rooms, shower room, offices and Meeting Room. There is also a Duty Room for the staff to stay overnight and an Interview Room.

The fourth part is the Wellbeing Unit which comprises a retail area, MOT rooms and a Community Hub for training and education.



Ground Floor Plan



Nottingham University Vet School







PDSA PET AID HOSPITAL SUNDERLAND

VALUE: £1.3 MILLION STATUS: COMPLETED

The PDSA was first established in Sunderland in 1952 and in 2009 began the construction of its new Centre to cope with increased demand. The new Centre has two additional Consulting Rooms and additional Operating Theatres so that it can cope with a 50% increase in demand.

This project won the RICS NE Renaissance Award for Sustainability in 2011. A key driver in this latest design is the sustainability of the building. The building is heated by air source heat pumps mounted externally at ground level. These units supply heat or cooling through a Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) system to the air conditioning units in the building and also to two heat pump boilers in the Plant Room.

Solar panels on the South slope of the roof also preheat the hot water to provide a maximum of 15% of the heating requirement. However, the main heat source for the hot water is the heat pump boiler mentioned earlier. In addition to this the rainwater from the roof is recycled for use in the toilets and for washing down the external areas.

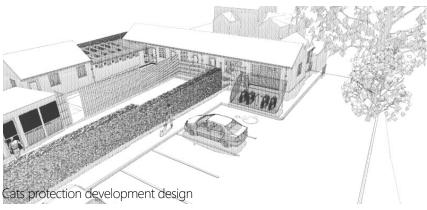












CATS PROTECTION DEREHAM

VALUE : £1.1 MILLION STATUS: COMPLETED

Cats Protection provide an array of cat care information via publications, their website and helpline; promote the benefits of neutering to prevent unwanted litters and educate people of all ages about cats and their care.

Cats Protection has developed a number of new build and redeveloped adoption centres nationally over the last 10 years. These have all been bespoke designs and Cats Protection now wishes to develop a standardised design approach for new and redeveloped centres in order to homogenise cat care centres and develop a more economical approach to the design and construction process.

DESIGN PROCESS

The flow through the building is of key importance and also the segregation of the public and private areas. This is summarised in the flow diagram showing the main areas of the building and the routes between them. From this original flow diagram a number of optional layouts were developed until the final layout was agreed.

The initial brief was to replace the cat pens, increase the car parking, improve access and provide additional ancillary facilities in order to allow separation of admission and homing pens.

The existing main access to the site from the road will be retained and used for visitors, staff and deliveries. Parking for visitor and staff is located along the western side of the site.



PDSA PET HOSPITAL, OLDBURY BIRMINGHAM

Value : £1.4 Million Status : Completed

The building provides a vital service to communities in West Birmingham. The evidence from the existing Centre which is very congested is conclusive proof of the demand for this service. Veterinary medical procedures are developing rapidly and it is essential that the maximum flexibility is built into the design. It is steel framed with no internal support structure to allow for maximum flexibility in use and the layout to be changed and developed to maximise the life of the building.

The total floor area of the building is 657 square metres, arranged on one floor.







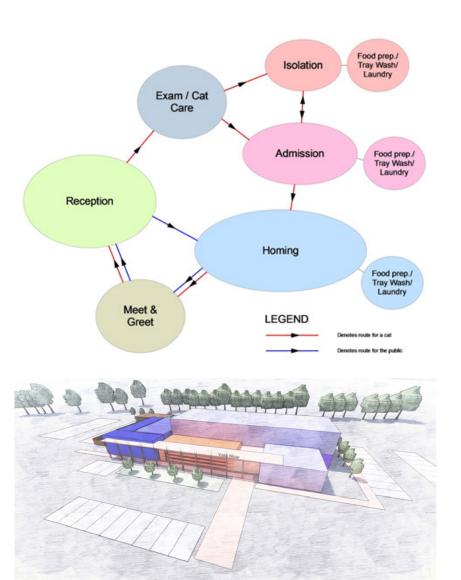


DESIGN PROCESS

We have worked on veterinary design for over 25 years and completed projects as far south as a Plymouth and north as Dundee. Completed projects range from small 'high street' veterinary surgeries up to multi million pound new build referral hospitals. In all our projects we like to fully understand the client's workflow so we can ensure we provide the most efficient layout to minimise travel and therefore maximise productivity. We often utilise bubble diagrams to analysis the flow of the building and required room adjacencies, see example diagrams.

More recently we have been looking into improvements in visibility between different workspaces to improve productivity of staff working in the building. We achieved this by close examination of the workflow to inform the layout together with the introduction of open plan areas, glazed partitions and internal windows to maintain a visual connection. This also helps with monitoring animals particularly when they are recovering from surgery and has been a real benefit for our clients.

As a practice we utilise 3D Building Information Modelling (BIM) on all our projects and have done for over a decade. 3D BIM allows a virtual building model to be created from which all of the building information can be extracted and shared with the client and other consultants. This allows us to quickly produce 3D visualisations of the proposed scheme early in the design process, allowing different options to be fully explored.



Top: Example flow diagram for a cat adoption centre Bottom: Example of a building concept visualisation



NEWCASTLE:

11-12 RIVERSIDE STUDIOS AMETHYST ROAD NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE4 7YL

T: +44 (0) 191 265 7080

LONDON: 34 CANDLER MEWS

AMYAND PARK ROAD TWICKENHAM TW1 3JF

T: +44 (0) 203 637 4180

CHESTER:

CHAPEL HOUSE CITY ROAD CHESTER CH1 3AE

T: +44 (0) 124 431 0388

HARROGATE

THE WHITE HOUSE CRAVEN COTTAGE 37 VICTORIA COTTAGE

HARROGATE HG3 2XA

T: +44 (0) 142 320 6980

EDINBURGH: 36 ST MARY'S STREET EDINBURGH

EH1 1SX

T: +44 (0) 131 5641880

STUDIO 211 CREATIVE QUARTER 8A MORGAN ARCADE CARDIFF CF10 4AF CARDIFF:

T: +44 (0) 292 166 0903

