



Architecture with simple Norfolk charm

In the traditional coastal village of Blakeney, ACS Architectural present beautiful architecture that celebrates local heritage

Based in Snettisham, multi award-winning practice ACS Architectural has a large portfolio of completed projects that span both contemporary and traditional design. Led by brothers Chris and Nick Borrmann, the experienced and skilful team tailor their professional services to realise the vision of each individual client.

Just minutes from the salt marshes, the site of one project in Blakeney had previously obtained planning permission with an existing design. Although happy with the size and overall form of the proposed home, the developers wanted to build something more in tune with the local heritage.

"The original design had lots of contemporary details which were adding little value in the context of this building," Nick says. "It can be tempting to over-design which was the problem here. Lots of these popular features can be stunning, but they must contribute positively to the complete effect."

Nick and his team stripped these

features back to let the traditional Norfolk architecture shine through. A number of Juliet balconies were removed because they lacked a view, replaced by one positioned to frame a lovely garden scene. Asymmetric glazing was scrapped in favour of extra Norfolk flint with a nautical round window positioned on the end gable.

"Cost effectiveness may not have been prioritised within the original brief," Nick explains. "At the front entrance we withdrew a fully glazed porch. It would have gained and lost heat like a greenhouse without transferring any of that warmth and light further into the house and would be expensive to construct." In its place, ACS designed a wonderfully inviting timber porch over the classic front door.

While the exterior is attractively traditional, internally ACS adapted the floorplans to create better flow and incorporate a modern open plan layout. Velux windows and wide bifold doors bring light into the main hub of the home. A reworked solid oak staircase

and glass balustrade open up the welcoming entrance hall. "This property delivers sociable contemporary living within the perfect picture of Norfolk that everybody wants," Nick says.

The iconic coastal architecture of Norfolk is extremely popular with homeowners and visitors of this picturesque region alike. In Blakeney, ACS architectural have applied their practical expertise to create a balanced traditional home that perfectly fits the brief.

"When you come home, you want it to feel like a home," Nick says, "We take care that feeling isn't lost in the process of design."

