

Tigerman on the Prentice 21 When It's Mission Critical 64
Herzog & de Meuron Hit Long Island 24 Letter From Moscow 74

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AWARD

LORCAN O'HERLIHY ARCHITECTS

FLYNN MEWS HOUSE

ONCE A SHELTER for carriages and servants, a mews house on the grounds of an 18th-century Georgian manor in Dublin is serving its second life as a luxurious 2,600-square-foot four-bedroom residence. Before renovations began, the local planning council requested the preservation of the mews house's Neoclassical facade and that views of it be maintained from the main house. Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects met these requests with its design for the addition, which sits low on the landscape, yet boldly contrasts new with old.

The entrance to the house is off an alley and through a new front elevation composed of black-stained concrete and glass. A contrasting white plaster passageway funnels guests through the volume of the mews house and the retained Neoclassical facade, and finally into a split-level landscaped courtyard. The architects widened an existing opening in the historic facade to accommodate a glass-and-steel bridge that connects the mews house to the new glass curtain-wall-clad addition.

The addition sits lightly on the landscape, literally and figuratively, incorporating sustainable features such as an underground heat pump system that uses recycled graywater for radiant floor heating, as well as rooftop solar panels for domestic water heating. **MURRAY BESSARD**

"It's unpretentious: They've deferred to the existing architecture just enough."

G. Martin Moeller Jr.