



RIBA

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House in Highgate Cemetery, London



Architect:
Eldridge Smerin

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Private

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Inspired by Eldridge Smerin's Stirling Prize shortlisted house The Lawns, the owner of a nearby house built in the 1970s commissioned the practice to design a replacement. The new house, one storey higher than the previous, stands on the edge of Highgate Cemetery with spectacular views across Waterlow Park and the City skyline beyond. The street façade is an abstract composition of black granite, black steel panels and translucent glass, giving the house an air of mystery and intrigue. In contrast, the cemetery elevations are largely glazed, suffusing the interior with natural light and washing the fairfaced concrete structural frame and walls with sunlight. Internally, glass floors at each level provide views vertically through the house and a large sliding rooflight allows the kitchen on the top floor to be open to the sky.

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