

Guildford Design Awards 2023 Submission

Address:

The Founders Studio

Millbrook

Guildford

GU1 3UT

Category of Project: Regeneration Project

Client Name: Emmaus Road Community Church

Design Team:

- Main Design Consultant: Interior Designer Sarah Brown from Ra Ra Designs Ltd
- Architect for planning: Peter Walker from Chrysalis Design Ltd
- Building Surveyors for specification and contract administrator: Richard Grove BSC FRICS from calfordseaden LLP.
- Structural Engineers: Paul Perry from Hewson Consulting

Key Contact:

- Sarah Brown
- sarah@raradesigns.co.uk
- Mobile number: 07779654784

Description of Project:

The building was constructed in the 1960s originally as a morgue and later converted into a dance studio, for The School of Acting in Guildford. It was purchased at auction by Emmaus Road Community Church after being leased by the Church for a number of years.

The client's brief was to create a contemporary high quality community centre within the existing structure.

The property was extremely tired and required extensive refurbishment. Its steel portal frame added complications to the design of the replacement roof. The existing layout of the building was challenging with poor functionality of the space. The WCs were located principally off the main dance studio hall and provide limited privacy for users with no accessible WC. The location of the kitchen invaded the main studio space, was poorly laid out and difficult to use. Storage space was limited and inaccessible. Finally, a second staircases took up valuable floor space to both floors.

The completed scheme saw the main hall expanded to 162 seat capacity by relocating the kitchen and rest rooms. The main hall now has easy access to a new commercial kitchen especially designed for the space. The WCs have been located closer to the entrance lobby with full height tiled cubicles, baby changing facilities and an assessable WC. The building boasts of a new fresh air system, comfort cooling and state of the art lighting, AV and sound system. The horizontal ceiling was removed and the structure of the portal frame exposed. A light weight, tile clad roof replaced the existing roof and new electric skylights were added which now flood the main hall with natural light. The back wall of the hall is now clad in contemporary, acoustic panels that create drama and focus to the room as well as providing great acoustics for music. Texture has been added to the floor design with the clever use of Amtico flooring in a chevron pattern which stands up to the high usage of the space. Lighting was carefully considered in the main hall with a number of lighting scenes being able to be achieved and controlled by a Lutron smart wiring system. The industrial look was emphasised to the hall with the use of brushed brass pendants and black framed, Crittall style glazed doors. The exposed portal frame was emphasised with a contrasting dark grey paint. Lighting was added externally to the front and side of the building illuminating the very dark Rosemary Alley.

The second staircase was removed to create the prayer room and a more enclosed space. The prayer room is accessed 24/7 during prayer weeks and thus needed to be a separate secure space from the remainder of the building. The room décor is softer than the other areas of the building in order to create a feeling of comfort and security for those who are praying. It boasts magnetic wallpaper allowing prayers to be added to the walls with ease. The office space on the ground floor was also overhauled, new electrics and lighting added and much needed storage cupboards.

RA RA

DESIGNS

Existing photos of The Founders Studio:



RA RA Designs Ltd 07779 654 784 raradesigns.co.uk Registered: 8833885
27 Lime Grove, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 1PG VAT No: 204 3535 45

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D E S I G N S

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Photographs of The Founders Studio on completion of the renovation project:



Photo Copywrite Mark Hazeldine Photography



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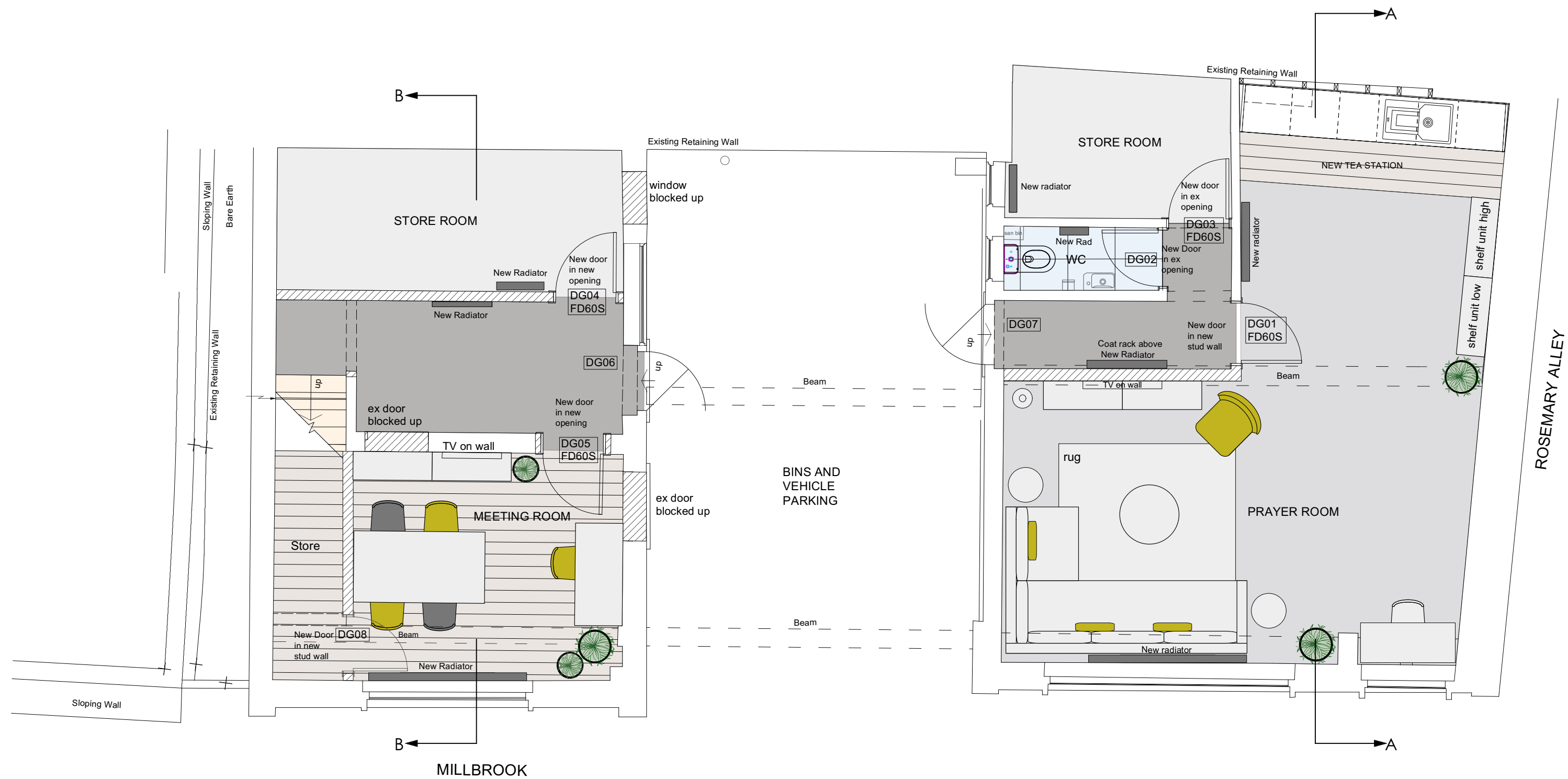
Photographs of The Founders Studio on completion of the renovation project:



Photo Copywrite Mark Hazeldine Photography



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GROUND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1:50 @A2

GENERAL NOTES:

Drawings to be checked on site prior to manufacture and construction.

Do not scale from this drawing.

Any discrepancies to be brought to the attention of designer. If unsure, please ask.

Contractors installing items are to ensure that the correct fixings are used for all material. All items are to be fixed safely and securely.

All drawings copyright Ra Ra Designs.

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JOB
Founders Studio,
Millbrook,
GU1 3UT

DRAWING
GROUND FLOOR
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT

DATE
Feb 2020

SCALE
1:50 @A2

DRAWN
SLB

DRAWING NO
1050-WD-101

REVISION
*



New Velux rooflights to new roof to Structural Eng details

Exposed steel rafters

Acoustic Panels to back wall

FRIST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1:50@A2

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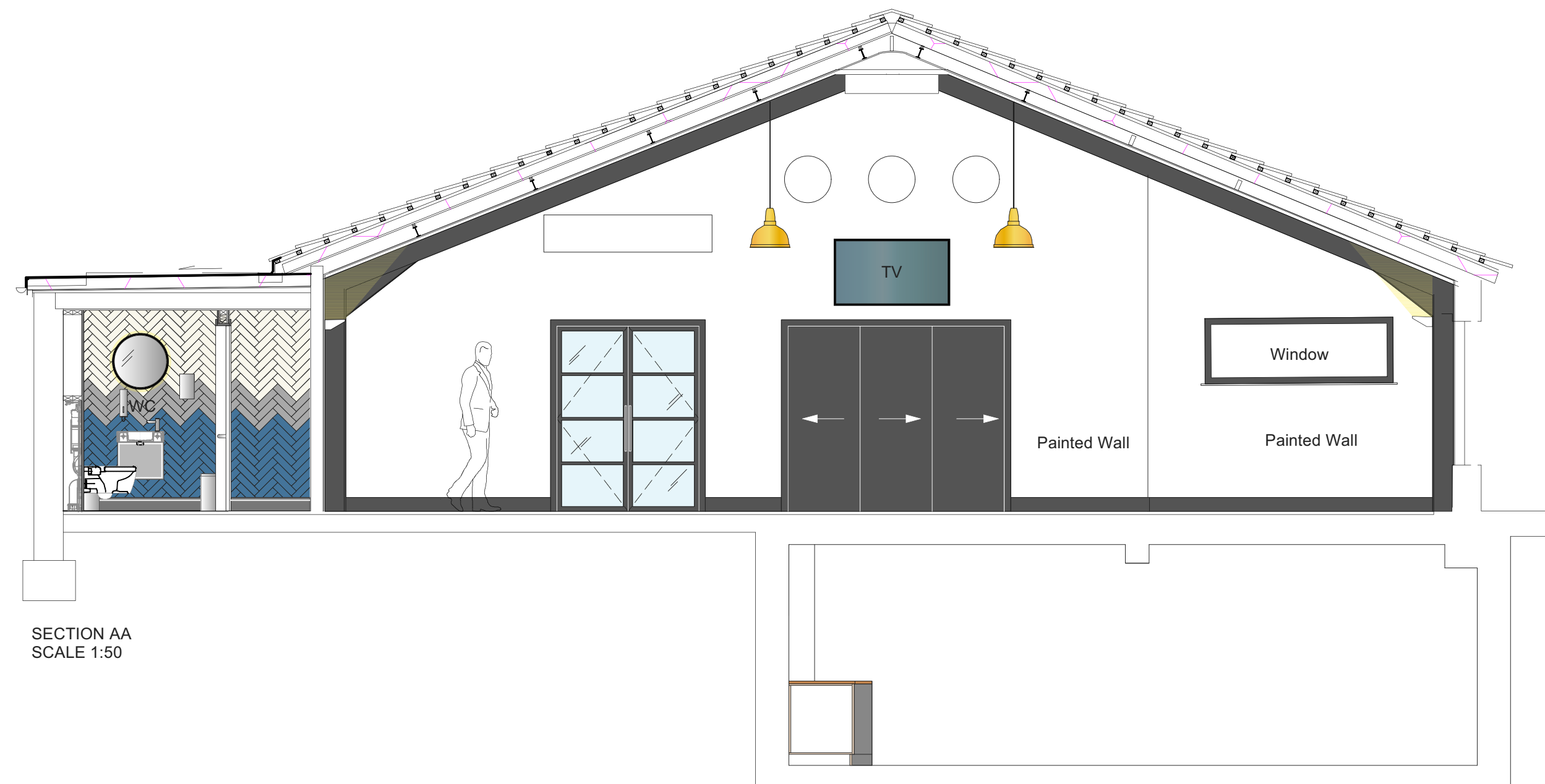
JOB

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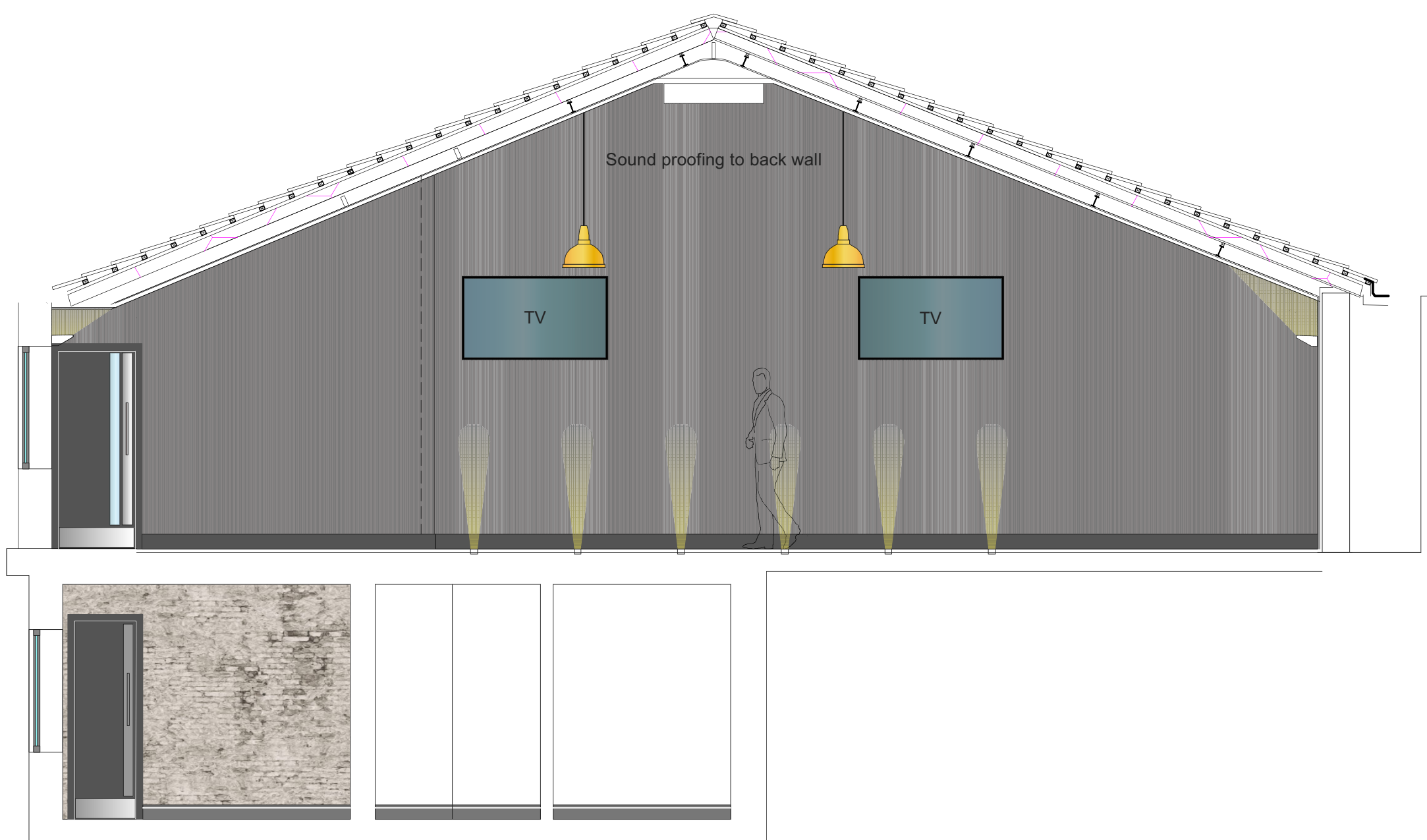
DRAWING

FIRST FLOOR PLAN
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT

DATE	Feb 2020	SCALE	1:50 @A2	DRAWN	SLB
DRAWING NO	1050-WD-102			REVISION	*



SECTION AA
SCALE 1:50



SECTION BB
SCALE 1:50

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DRAWING
SECTIONS AA AND BB

DATE
Feb 2020

SCALE
1:50 @A2

DRAWN
SLB

DRAWING NO
1050-WD-103

REVISION
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