

The Barge Isobel, Bristol.

This project is a conversion of a tar barge, previously used as the Bristol Swan Sanctuary moored at Baltic Wharf in Bristol, into a one bedroom apartment free from the norms of boat architecture and providing all the services expected of a house; drainage, power, water and fuel were all provided to the wharf side with flexible connectors linking the barge.

The design was developed in conjunction with a boat builder who was able to use local boat crafts to a project that would have been difficult to achieve using conventional land based construction techniques: Copper cladding installed by boiler cladders, awnings by a local sail fabricator and Internal steel and strained wire stair case by a local gangplank maker whilst using the most up to date building materials for the fit out: studded rubber flooring used for the deck, Larch and aluminium windows and stainless steel fittings.

The result is a series of wonderful spaces enhanced by light reflecting off the dock through large windows set just above water level.

Client: Ric and Sue Wall

Project value: £35k



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