



## Squire and Partners completes timber-framed technology block

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BUILDINGS

# Squire and Partners completes timber-framed technology block

7 JANUARY, 2016 • BY LAURA MARK



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Squire and Partners has completed this design and technology building at St James School in Ashford, Kent

### ARCHITECT'S VIEW • PROJECT DATA

The timber-framed building was designed to accommodate 20 students and two teaching staff alongside an office, plant and store room.

It occupies an area of the school grounds which were previously home to a series of sheds and storage units.

The building is clad in black vertically laid weatherboard and features a concealed gutter and flush pyramid rooflight.



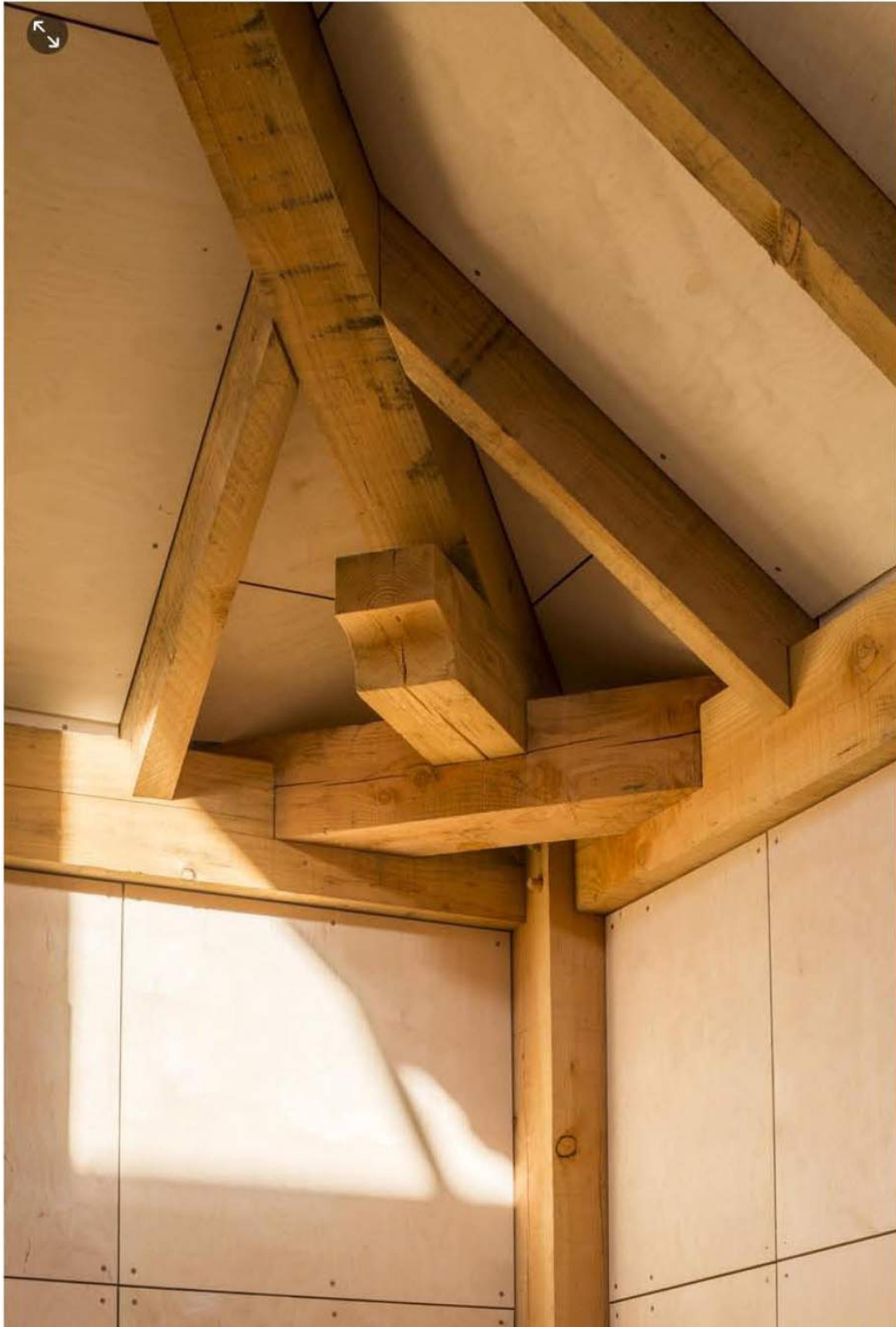
According to the architects the scheme with its exposed structure 'takes inspiration from traditional craftsmanship'.



### Architect's view

The building takes inspiration from the craftsmanship and simple technology of timber-frame buildings in the southeast of England.

The dark external cladding provides a striking contrast to the light Douglas Fir timber interior. Here, traditional pegged mortise and tenon joints of the timber frame are counterpoised by steel hex-head fixings and sheets of birch-faced ply panels lining the walls, balancing tradition and modernity. The honesty of construction and robust interior provide a simple and practical backdrop for the workshop activities within.



### Project data

- Location** Ashford, Surrey
- Type of project** school
- Client** St James Senior Boys' School
- Architect** Squire and Partners
- Structural engineer** Eckersley O'Callaghan
- Quantity surveyor** Bollingbrook
- Main contractor** STP Solutions
- Wood supplier** Carpenter Oak & Woodland

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