

The West End of Temple Bar: Essex Street West

This mixed-use building on Essex Street West, known as Scarlet Row, forms part of an integrated development in Temple Bar Dublin. The accommodation comprises 38 apartments, 6 retail units, car parking and a café.

The building comprises three blocks of accommodation around a central hall. The blocks are the 7 individual brick three-storey elements onto Essex Street containing two duplexes each, a five storey range onto the Courtyard containing one bedroom south-facing apartments, and a four storey over plinth element on Fishamble Street containing two bedroom dual aspect apartments. There are two entrances to the apartments- one from Fishamble Street, the other from Essex Street leading to two staircases and a lift. Horizontal access on each floor is by open balcony within the central hall. The hall has a south-facing sky light and one large west-facing window. The plinth contains an outer perimeter of shops with a cafe on Fishamble Street beside the Handel Archway. Behind the shops is a small car park.

Access to the apartment is along open galleries which overlooks the four storey hall. The roof of the hall opens in the summer to allow the building to cool; its glass roof maximises solar gain in the winter.

Compositionally the building is organised as a stone plinth along Essex Street supporting 7 brick three storey elements. The stone plinth runs to three stories at the junction of Essex Street and the North/South Street. Fishamble Street comprises two brick elements supported on the plinth and separated by the entrance and window to the central hall. The taller brick element is curved in plan on the upper floors - the ground floor follows the existing back of pavement line. The curve articulates the existing Archway and the entrance to the Courtyard. The heights are varied (three, four, five and six storeys) in response to the particular context.