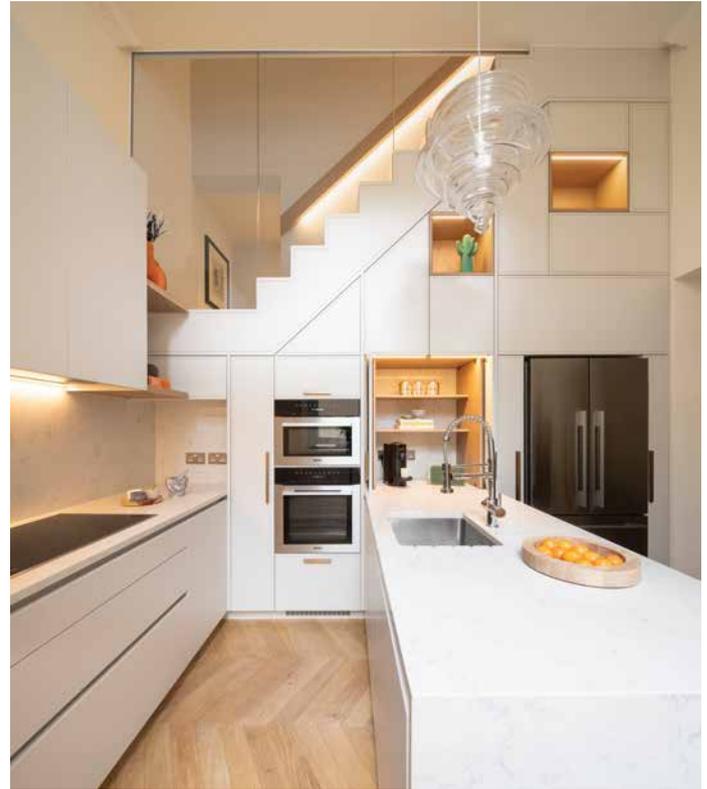


KITCHEN & BATH



The Lunar Kitchen

Designer: Shape London

BY RITA CATINELLA ORRELL

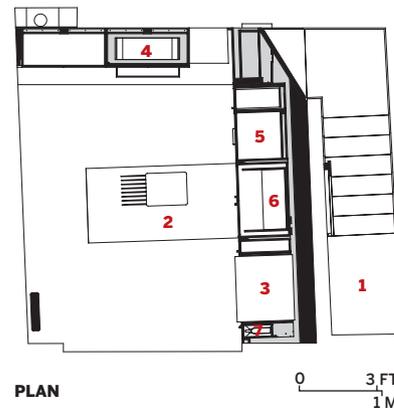
DESIGNED BY Shape London, the “Lunar Kitchen” is situated in a 2,050-square-foot duplex apartment within a listed Victorian house in London’s Little Venice district. As with many London properties, maximizing space was a major consideration. “We wanted to utilize every inch of it,” says Rob Streater, managing director of Shape London. Knitting an oak stair into the kitchen transformed the tight double-height space into a centerpiece for the property, creating a light-filled and contemporary cooking and entertaining spot for a family of three.

The designers inserted a wall of tempered glass panes along the stairs as a safety barrier and to admit natural light. They integrated appliances, cabinets, and open storage beneath the stairs, illuminating the various components with recessed LEDs. “We were conscious not to make the space feel dominated by wall-to-wall cabinets,” says Streater. “The staircase is great in this respect, as it conceals a huge amount of storage and its glass breaks up the elevation, creating a dynamic space.” A bead detail in the doors of the stair-elevation refers to the home’s period features.

Working within the constraints of a historic property, the team had to maintain all of the coving, which posed a challenge when planning the staircase and ensuring sufficient headroom at the corner before ascending the second flight above the kitchen. “All the while, we needed to precisely align all the cabinets below the staircase,” says Streater. “Even the tiniest variation in riser angle would throw everything out.” ■

Design journalist and author Rita Catinella Orrell was an editor at RECORD. She blogs about product design at designythings.com.

The star of the Lunar Kitchen is a double-height oak staircase that conceals a huge amount of storage, creates a connection between floors, and maximizes the space.



- 1 STAIRCASE
- 2 KITCHEN ISLAND AND SINK
- 3 REFRIGERATOR
- 4 INDUCTION COOKTOP
- 5 OVENS
- 6 PANTRY
- 7 WINE COOLER

Credits

KITCHEN DESIGNER:
Shape London

ARCHITECT OF RECORD:
Formwork Architects

ENGINEER:
Milk Structural Engineers

GENERAL CONTRACTOR:
Spiller Builders

SIZE: 2,500 square feet

COST: withheld

COMPLETION DATE: July 2020

Sources

FAUCET: Fohën

SINK: Blanco

TILE: Heritage Flooring UK

SPECIAL SURFACING:
The Marble Group

PAINTS AND STAINS: Farrow & Ball

HARDWARE: Blum; Furnipart Station (handles); Richelieu (recessed channels); Libell Magic Corner Comfort (other)

LIGHTING: Lasvit (pendant)