

MORE THAN bricks and mortar

SENSITIVITY AND SKILL ARE PARAMOUNT IN WORKING WITH PERIOD PROPERTIES, AND THESE ARE THE TWIN STRENGTHS SUPPLIED BY SMARDEN-BASED BUILDERS A T PALMER LTD.



The highly-trained workforce is massively experienced in restoring, extending and converting many of Kent's most historic buildings, and the impressively long list of testimonials on their website supports their high reputation for attention to detail, hard work and stunning results.

It's a long time since 1949, when Arthur and Myra Palmer bought a small building business with just six tradesmen and a dilapidated van

In this Edwin Lutyens early 20th century style house, a double-height vaulted ceiling extension was built to the front of the property to create a new drawing room with a new entrance porch and lobby area to the right hand side. All materials were carefully sourced to match the existing structure.

and now, through three generations of the family, it has grown to be the major specialist firm it is today, employing 30 skilled people including carpenters, decorators, traditional

This grade II listed 18th century farmhouse underwent a complete renovation with the addition of an oak framed, peg tile roof extension to the side of the house. This contained a bespoke handmade kitchen and galleried master bathroom suite.



The extension created on this circa 1500 timber-framed, painted brick and weatherboard farmhouse was built on to the back of the catslide roof, and constructed of painted brickwork with an exposed oak roof. Reclaimed Kent peg tiles were used to match the original.





craftsmen, brick-workers and ground-workers, with a joinery shop on-site.

There is a rolling programme of around five apprenticeships, so that the skills will be passed on to younger workers and to the benefit of future home owners.

Extensions to listed properties can be delicate matters. The customer will naturally want to retain the integrity of the old building, while adding modern conveniences such as a bespoke kitchen, garden room or high tech entertainment area. It's more than just bricks and mortar, and A T Palmer will always strive to seamlessly blend the new build with the old, sourcing local matching materials as carefully as possible, says Director Simon Palmer.

Conversions from cattle sheds to dilapidated Kentish oast houses have been worked on to create superb homes, thanks to close liaison with architects, conservation officers, structural engineers, building control officers and – if necessary – carefully-selected outside specialist

This 17th century listed hall house underwent a complete refurbishment. The project included a substantial two-storey extension to house a new bespoke contemporary kitchen with large slimline glazed sliding doors seamlessly opening on to a York stone terrace. The first floor comprised a master bedroom suite with exposed oak frame and crown post to match that of the original house. The extension also benefits from a full-size basement area with home cinema room and entertaining space.

contractors. And, of course, the client! The firm places lots of emphasis on a friendly respect for the customer... which is often mentioned appreciatively in feedback.

To learn more about the firm's impressive history of successful projects throughout Kent, visit www.atpalmer.co.uk, or phone 01233 770077 to discuss a proposal.