

Hess Kincaid Leach

Tregaron

A principal organising feature of the design is the central fireplace back to back with kitchen/ dining recess to accommodate a solid fuel stove, the staircase rising over the arched recess alongside the living room fireplace. This also permits a connecting passage from living to dining room giving a choice of circulation through the ground floor without returning to a central hallway.

From the arrival point on the 1st floor, the 2nd staircase is offset to avoid congestion on a narrow landing, winding through 180° to arrive centrally on the 2nd floor. The window to the 1st floor landing is set slightly higher than adjacent sills to allow clearance for the winding staircase. To achieve this 2nd staircase, the eaves are raised slightly higher at the front elevation. A dormer window provides necessary headroom for the final straight flight, and natural lighting to the 2nd floor landing.

Although the dormer window is not aligned with the door and 1st floor openings, its position is dictated by functional constraints. There are historical precedents in traditional Welsh dwellings for this kind of functional asymmetry and the central chimney type of plan, together with dormers set back from the eaves.