

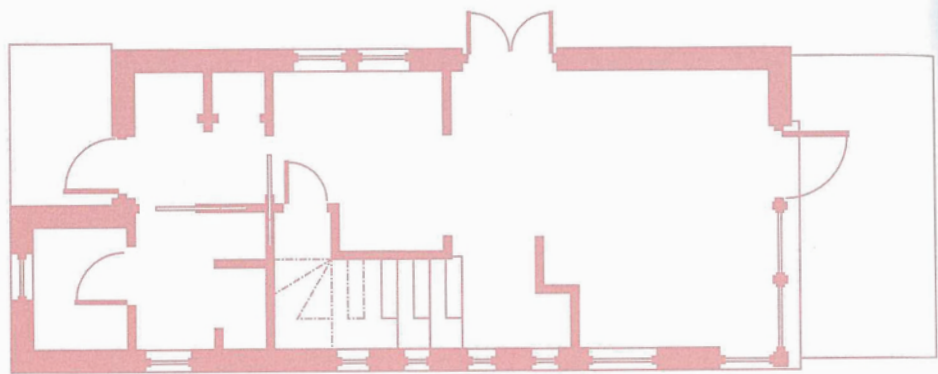
2020 VISIONS

Home

Housing Scotland 2000-2020

Edited by Neil Baxter





House, Valtos, Uig, Isle of Lewis

edge Architecture & Design

THIS FORMER CROFT SITE is long and narrow, sloping down to the north-east with spectacular views of both the local beach and across to Pabay Mor. The new house, walled entrance garden and garage straddle an area previously occupied by the south-eastern section of an old rubble wall enclosure. These, in combination with the retained north-western area of the old rubble wall, maintain an enclosed area that will be gradually grown into the garden on this windswept site.

A new dry-stone wall construction wraps around the base of the timber-framed and Scottish larch-clad house. This roots it to the land just above that point where the slope falls away much more steeply. The house is compact, with just two bedrooms and a total floor area of eighty-four square metres. Yet it is generous in feel.

The design addresses the practicality of life on the Atlantic face of the Isle of Lewis. Gables are set in the face of the prevailing wind. Thick sheep's wool insulates walls,

roof and floors. The home is robustly designed to slough off the day to day rural challenges of wellington boots and a wet dog while offering a warm and welcoming environment. At the same time the house is light-filled, spacious and inspired by its stunning setting.



