

bets money

Sandy Rendel Architects, working with Sally Rendel, has built a 2.8-metre-wide skinny home named Slot House in a disused alley in Peckham, south London.

Sandy and Sally Rendel designed and built the house to fit in the alley, which was almost the exact size of a London Underground carriage, alongside their own home in Peckham.

"The major challenge was to tease spaces that were both functional and delightful out of space that is no bigger than a tube carriage," said Sandy Rendel, founder of Sandy Rendel Architects.

"To commit to the investment involved in developing it we wanted to be sure that the house would not simply 'work' but actually be enjoyable to live in," he told Dezeen.

The architects designed the two-storey house to make as efficient a use as possible of the narrow site, while creating a space that would be a bright and pleasant place to live in.

To avoid placing any weight on the neighbouring buildings the house was constructed using a prefabricated, lightweight steel frame, which was expressed internally to maximise the space.

On the ground floor the house's main living spaces are arranged linearly with the front door opening straight into the kitchen, the stairs in the centre and a lounge at the rear of the home. Above, on the first floor, is a master bedroom and a study area.

Light is brought into the house through large windows at the front and rear of the property and a skylight above the stairs.

Bounded by two-storey flank walls on both sides the only opportunity to bring light in was through the narrow front and rear faces and the roof," Sandy Rendel said.

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"To maximise the light and increase the sense of space, the layout is as open as possible, even including a small double-height space at the garden end linking the living room to the study mezzanine above."