



Elegant exterior. Subtle curves and the use of organic materials make it seem as if the building has grown up out of the ground along with the surrounding beech trees. The exterior is pebble-dash stucco—traditional cement stucco with aggregate, or pebbles, literally thrown at it while it's still wet—trimmed with mahogany.

Arts & Crafts and automobiles

Located in a suburb of Philadelphia, this elegant garage was designed by architect Peter Archer. His concept for the overall building came from an appreciation of the English Arts & Crafts movement, but he found inspiration for the timber-frame configuration on a visit to the Liberty of London department store. Archer developed the model for the garage—a hybrid system of trusses connected by steel plates and bolts along with support beams using mortise-and-tenon joinery—and he executed the

concept with assistance from timber framer Hugh Lofting. The beams are Douglas fir from the Pacific Northwest, and the interior walls are finished in northeastern white pine. Doors and windows in each wall allow an abundance of natural light to enter the space. At 30-ft. by 30-ft., with a 24-ft. ceiling height from the stained and sealed southern-yellow-pine floor deck to the apex of the clerestory, this inviting space is also used as the location for warm-weather dinner and dance parties. —Maureen Friedman

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