

The Resident

LATERAL THINKING

Mansion blocks are rising to the challenge of contemporary living

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Attractive red brick and stucco-fronted mansion blocks are a familiar sight in London, lining the capital's most elegant streets. Typically built in the Victorian and Edwardian eras, they attracted residents who were adapting to living on the outskirts of the city and commuting to work.

Today these mid-rise buildings offer floor layouts and lateral space not often found in a conversion, says Andy Shepherd, Managing Director of Dexters. 'Mansion blocks tend to be centrally located and offer a high degree of security, which can include resident porters and gated gardens. Larger flats attract families and smaller flats are often kept as a pied-à-terre or as a long term investment, perhaps for use by the investors' children when they first come to London.'

Many buyers are attracted by a property that is a similar square footage to a house yet gains more space by not having a staircase. Situated on the first floor of a typical Edwardian red-brick mansion building in New Cavendish Street, Dexters is selling a 1,347 sq ft lateral mansion apartment with three bedrooms, two bathrooms and an impressive double-fronted reception room for £2,499,995.

Logan House is a luxury boutique development of just ten apartments in West Kensington putting a contemporary spin on mansion-style living. Built by Mayfield on the former site of the drama



school LAMDA, each apartment has a grand entrance hallway, outdoor terrace and lift to all floors, rare features in older properties. Joseph Mansour, Managing Director of Mayfield, comments: 'This scheme strikes the perfect balance between tradition and innovation; sitting seamlessly among local period buildings, while adding a vibrant new landmark to the street scene.' The third floor, four bedroom lateral penthouse is on the market with Knight Frank for £4.5m. One bedroom apartments start from £1.375m.

Spanning the entire fourth floor of

Beau House, by prime London developer Dukelease at the heart of St James's, is an expansive 1,873 sq ft, two bedroom lateral apartment reflecting the heritage and craftsmanship associated with the tailors, shirt and bootmakers of Jermyn Street. Throughout the apartment, designed by leading interior design practice Edward Philips, is elegant dark oak herringbone flooring, while the master bedroom features a bespoke dressing room with dark walnut lacquered wardrobes and crystal wall lights. Priced at £7.5m through Knight Frank.