

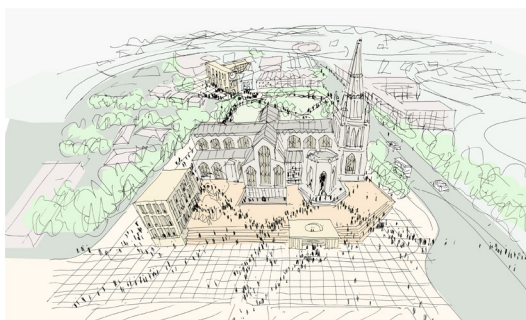
Competition Winner: Purcell

The St Mary Redcliffe Design Competition, which launched in November 2015, concluded in June 2016 with the announcement of the winning team, Purcell.

We give a flavour of all the finalist schemes below, with the teams' own descriptive summaries and images. The £12-15m development project will give the church much needed visitor amenities, step-free access, and a community hub on a separate site (or sites) in the heart of the Redcliffe area. The initiative is linked to wider regeneration plans, placing the church at the heart of a new urban village within the city centre.

For the latest update on the project please visit:

https://malcolmreading.co.uk/news/story/st_mary_redcliffe_design_winner_announced



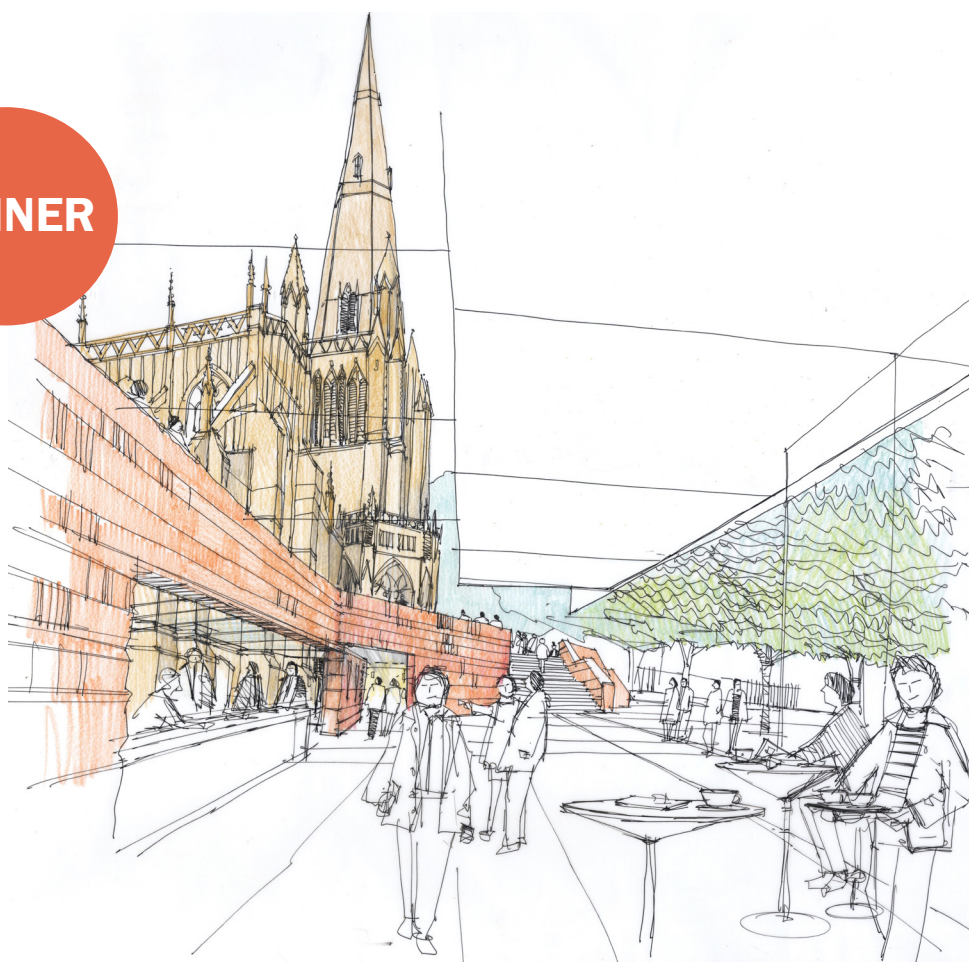
All images are © MRC/St Mary Redcliffe and shortlisted teams clockwise from top left: Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios, Carmody Groarke, Purcell UK/Richard Carman, dRMM, Eric Parry Architects

Purcell UK

Based in Bristol for over thirty years, with more than a decade's engagement with Redcliffe's community, Purcell hope that their enthusiasm and expertise is expressed in this submission. As a once in a lifetime opportunity, they propose new spaces that focus on but do not smother the breathtaking architecture that already exists, so the church, its buildings and its community can be efficient, effective and empowered for generations to come.

The church marks the crossing point of physical, social and economic fault lines, so Purcell's proposal has two main axes. From South to North domestic forms and uses stitch the church into its neighbourhood. Running East to West, public uses reconnect the church and Redcliffe Way. Here a ground-bearing red cliff of accommodation creates a new public settlement, forming a base for a lighter filigreed structure of cast glass and perforated ceramic that will shimmer in the changing light.

WINNER



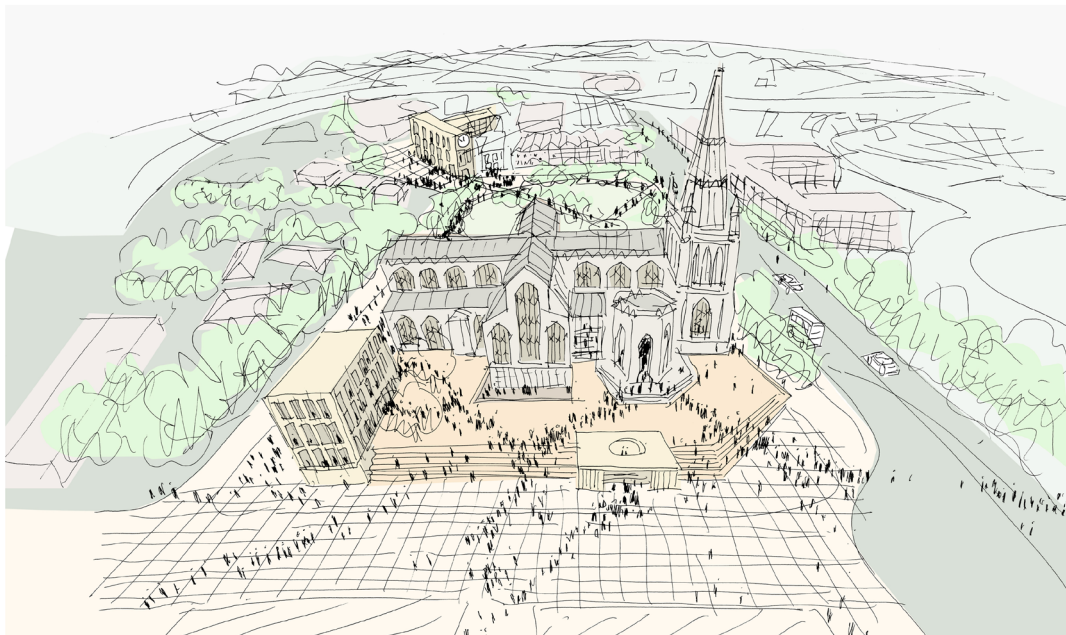
Carmody Groarke

The ambitious new masterplan for St Mary Redcliffe is composed of a series of new buildings that are set aside from the historic church to frame public spaces, allowing it to evolve to meet the needs of the congregation, visitors and community. The proposed masterplan is defined by a careful synthesis of historic and contemporary buildings and landscape.

The North area of the church is redefined by a new esplanade that improves and welcomes connections between the church and the city. New heritage and hospitality functions connect to the church below the esplanade at crypt level, while a new Parish Office building crowns the plinth above. The plinth serves as an architectural device for staging public life, while bringing working, social and worship functions together in one shared space.

To the South of St Mary Redcliffe, a new square is created as an extension to the public realm of the churchyard and is marked by a new community building of simple, yet civic character.

This concept is a collaboration between Carmody Groarke, ARUP, Ettwein Bridges, Gardiner Theobald, Counter-culture, Djao-Rakitine, and Hamilton-Baillie Associates.



dRMM

St Mary Redcliffe is a spectacular church, trapped by traffic. We need to reopen it, welcoming all visitors, with equal concern for the church's practical needs and ideological values.

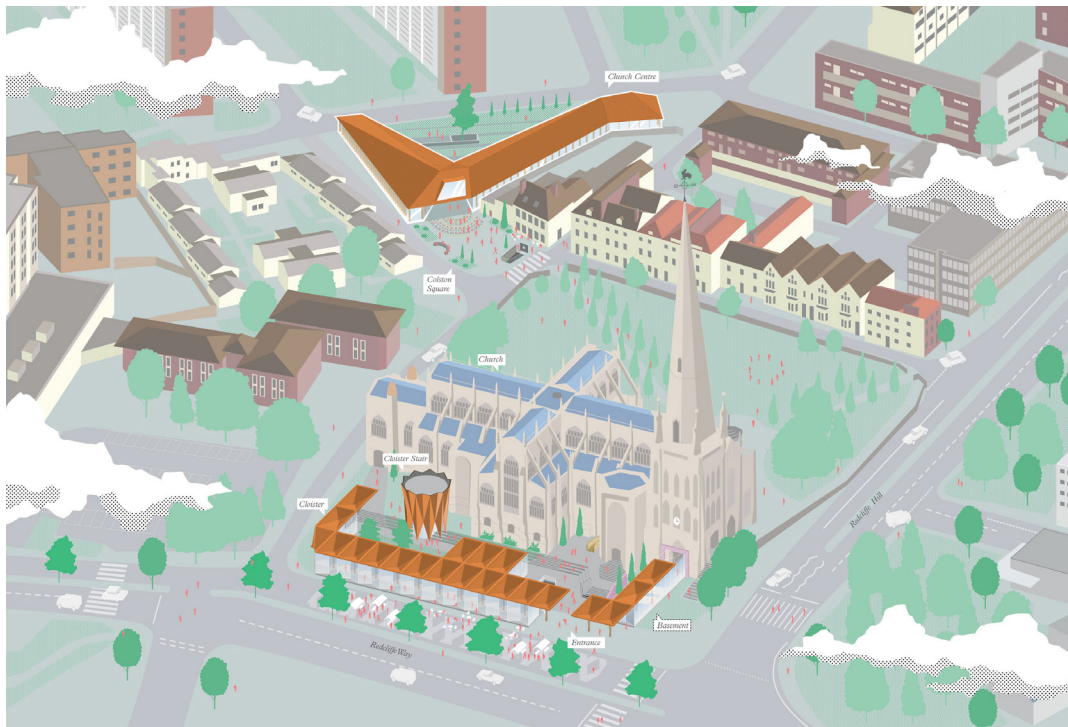
The Church

An old solution to the problems of connecting circulation and activities: the cloister. Our glass cloister redefines the North Churchyard, with the sunny part as open-air room framed by exhibition and cafe spaces. The beautiful timber structure reinvents the geometry of the church interior. A sacristy cloister building completes a site-wide circulation route with lift access.

Church Centre

Placemaking, visibility, and serving the community are met with a simple L-shaped building, sculpted to create a south garden. The sloping site hides all parking. The meeting hall façade frames the famous spire and a new square addressing the South Churchyard. Steps connect the former railway tunnel to the Floating Harbour.

Ancient complemented by modern, incorporating the church's 'Elijah principle' of anticipating the future.



Eric Parry Architects

Eric Parry Architects' proposal creates a fresh setting for St Mary Redcliffe. A broad paved ramp draws visitors down to a new entrance within the 1930s Undercroft, which is reinvigorated as an Interpretation Centre. A new stair and lift will provide an accessible main entrance for the first time.

A new pavilion building housing church and visitor facilities will be built against a listed stone wall in the South-facing Churchyard. This will be a lightweight structure housing a Café, Music Rehearsal Room, exhibitions and education centre. It will be predominantly glazed and open to the Churchyard, with a curving copper roof that will weather to a mellow green.

A Community Centre of similar construction is sited across a new small but convivial urban square to the South of the Churchyard. The life of the Churchyard will thereby extend into the local community, tying the development together.



Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios

The St Mary Redcliffe project is a remarkable – and rare – opportunity to work with a highly significant ecclesiastical building and a client, in the church, who wish to ‘do good’ – both with the physical heritage assets in their ownership, and in a less tangible, social way amongst the community within which they sit. This is a project local to our team and close to our hearts.

The approach we have taken delivers this brief across two neighbouring sites: one connecting within the church precinct, providing the new spaces, means of access and sense of ritual and drama which will accompany this glorious parish church; and one which provides the facilities necessary to deliver vital activities of social outreach and pastoral care.

The architecture that we have proposed for these buildings seeks to respond to these different contexts and to provide high-quality, sustainable designs to create a new platform from which St Mary Redcliffe can deliver their mission.

