

ROLY Loft

Location
Belgium

Composition
One building

Design company
aabe

This is a small outbuilding which has been extended and transformed into a house—now a bed and breakfast. The aim was to introduce steel sheets into the existing structure to create a mezzanine floor; the aim then was to extend these sheets outdoors in order to create a living room enclosed solely in glass which opens out generously into the natural surrounding environment.

The architect has taken care to blend the new elements into the existing building. The work carried out has not been to the detriment of the old building. The original heavy and solid features of the old building are still clear for all to see, and these features contrast with the extremely soft touch of the more recent work which has been carried out, the intention of which is obvious: the inclusion of features which create a contrast and which are not a close replication of the existing features.

The architect has made the heavy materials appear subtle by setting them alongside the most delicate construction possible. The gables have not been altered and the windows have been fitted to the frames which remain set back. Only the reflections on the windows remind us that there is an interior.

Apart from the steel sheets on the ground, other such sheets are folded to create the kitchen work top, the stairs and the flooring on the first floor. The ceiling on the first floors looks like a white page folded between the two stone gables. The staircase has no attachments and the wash basin and bath are incorporated into separate blocks.

