
CURRICULUM VITAE



Richard Grota MCIAT

Specialist field in Accommodation for Disabled Persons

Contact details Professional profile

Address 83 Fitzwilliam Street, Huddersfield HD1 5LG

Telephone 01484 960560

Email expert@franceandassociates.co.uk

Website www.franceandassociates.co.uk

LinkedIn [France+Associates](#)

Facebook [France+Associates](#)

Twitter [franceandassoc](#)

Instagram [@franceandassociates](#)



Professional profile

Richard Grota is a Chartered Architectural Technologist acting for people with disabilities, who started his career in the architectural and surveying industry in 1985. Richard Grota brings with him a wealth of expertise and experience in supporting injured persons by preparing detailed construction drawings, design, and project management. Throughout his career, he has worked in a variety of industries, but principally on small to large housing schemes, one-off bespoke properties, healthcare and accessible housing.

Richard Grota acts as an Accommodation Expert in medical negligence and personal injury cases, where individuals have been left with life-changing injuries. His personal and professional manner is valued by his clients; he is always on-hand to provide advice, be at the forefront of the early design process through to the management of the on-site process.

Richard Grota has managed numerous commercial projects, including care homes, hospitals, retail and industrial sites, with values up to £100 million. He has hands-on experience helping clients with their housing needs, especially those with cerebral palsy, spinal injuries, brain injuries, and other serious conditions. Currently, Richard is involved in multiple projects that support a variety of clients in finding accessible homes.

Professional Memberships

Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists Chartered Member

Expert Witness Member (pending)



Significant relevant experience and knowledge

Richard Grota has a wealth of knowledge of working on residential projects and dwellings, from internal and external refurbishment to conversions, new build housing and healthcare schemes. Prior to Richard Grota joining the F+A team, he was a Director at an architectural firm and specialised in supporting his clients following serious injury with property finding, suitability reports and implementing changes to properties. He has supported lawyers, insurers and persons with additional access needs since 2016 and his earliest involvement in accessible buildings and healthcare was in 1985 with a large extension and refurbishment of Scunthorpe Hospital.

Richard Grota's present role includes:

- Providing Accommodation Expert Witness reports for people with disabilities
- Property finding and production of reports
- Production of suitability reports of a home prior to purchase or rent
- Production of feasibility studies/designs for a property to be adapted
- Cost reports for property adaptations
- Preparing regulatory applications for consent
- Contract administration and project management of building projects to provide an inclusive and accessible home

Career experience

2024 - Present

Chartered Architectural Technologist (MCIAT), France+Associates

Richard Grota currently carries out property searches, along with suitability and feasibility studies on existing and proposed dwellings, including preparing all documentation from scheme design to completion.

Richard Grota has also obtained Legal Experience Training Advanced Professional Award in Expert Witness Evidence (LETAPAEWE) accredited by Pearson Learning at a level 7 (Masters level) BTEC.

2016 - 2024

Director (MCIAT), Edward Architecture

A chartered RIBA and CIAT practice, specialising in commercial, housing and supporting injured clients under the Court of Protection.

Richard Grota led the Court of Protection (COP) department, where he created reports on property searches and assessed whether existing or new homes were suitable. He managed all documents from the first design to the project's completion. Richard was the main contact for injured individuals and their families, helping them and their professional deputies navigate a challenging process. During this time, Richard built the department into a team of five architects and other professionals. They managed over £3 million in accessible building projects each year for clients following injuries.

2015 - 2016

Director (ACIAT), PW Architectural Consultants

A chartered RIBA and CIAT practice specialising in commercial, retail and supermarket sectors. This included buildings that needed to meet stringent accessibility standards for the general public.

2009 - 2015

Associate (ACIAT), Davis Weatherill LLP

A chartered RIBA and CIAT practice specialising in commercial, retail and supermarket sectors. This included buildings that needed to meet stringent accessibility standards for the general public, in which Richard Grota acted as contract administrator.

2008 - 2009

Associate (ACIAT), Archial Architects formerly SMC Gower Architects

Archial Architects was a chartered RIBA and CIAT practice specialising in commercial, retail and supermarket sectors. This included buildings that needed to meet stringent accessibility standards for the general public, in which Richard Grota acted as contract administrator.

2006 - 2008

Senior Architectural Technologist (ACIAT), West + Machell

A chartered RIBA and CIAT practice specialising in hospitals, care homes, housing and social housing sectors.

Richard Grota designed accessible buildings that met compliance requirements for residential and social housing developments. Richard Grota worked with local developers, national housing associations, and care homes across Yorkshire.

2005 - 2006

Senior Architectural Technologist (ACIAT), SMC Gower Architects

Richard Grota was involved with the large Safeway conversion programme, which included preparing condition reports, checking drawings and organising the workload for a 20-person

team, together with attending client and pre-contract meetings. During the 6-week construction programme, Richard Grota visited sites throughout the country twice weekly, answering main and sub-contractor queries, together with snagging and agreeing three months' defects, with Contract values of approximately £1 million per project.

2002 - 2005

Senior Architectural Technologist (ACIAT), DLG Architects

A chartered RIBA and CIAT practice specialising in commercial, retail and housing sectors. Richard Grota was involved as lead designer to design various commercial projects, which included seeking compliance approval and acting as contract administrator for building projects with a value as high as £100 million.

1996 - 2002

Principal Architectural Technician (ACIAT), Chetwood Associates

Chetwood Associates is a chartered RIBA practice specialising in commercial, retail and supermarket sectors.

1995 - 1996

Senior Architectural Technologist (ACIAT), RSG Design

Richard Grota was self-employed following redundancy working on various bespoke homes, healthcare building projects and commercial clients.

1991 - 1995

Senior Architectural Technologist (ACIAT), Rone Design Ltd.

Rone Design is a practice specialising in commercial, retail, housing and healthcare sectors.

1990 - 1991

Architectural Technologist (ACIAT), The Goddard Wybor Practice.

Goddard Wybor Practice is a chartered RIBA practice specialising in commercial, retail and housing sectors.

1989 - 1990

Architectural Technologist (ACIAT), Jaques Associates.

Jaques Associates was a chartered RIBA practice specialising in commercial, retail and housing sectors.

1985 - 1989

Junior Architectural Technician (ACIAT), Abbey Hanson Rowe

A chartered RIBA practice specialising in commercial, retail and housing sectors. Richard Grota started his career at this practice which provided him with early experience and exposure to the construction industry; working on the planning, building regulation and tender packages for Scunthorpe Hospital and Halifax Building Society's Data Centre Complex.

Qualifications + Training

2024

Legal Experience Training Advanced Professional Award in Expert Witness Evidence (LETAPAEWE) accredited by Pearson Learning at a level 7 (Master's level) BTEC.

Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists

1985 - 1990

BTEC Higher National Certificate in Building Studies

BTEC Ordinary National Certificate in Building Studies

SAP Assessors accreditation for new build/conversions

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

English and Polish