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Case study

The Shoe and Boot Factory, Leicester

Client: Campbell Property UK Ltd

Architect: Willmore Iles Architects

Main Contractor: R G Carter

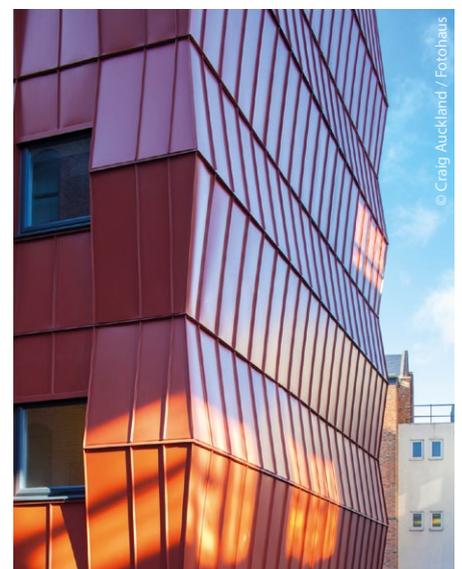
Tata Steel products: Colorcoat Urban® standing seam system and special colour-matched detailing which included gutters, flashings and junctions

Year: 2013

Known once again as the Shoe and Boot Factory after its' original Victorian purpose, the building lies within easy reach of many of Leicester's key institutions such as De Montfort University, the University of Leicester, Leicester Royal Infirmary and the city centre.

When discovered by Campbell Property the building was in a severe state of disrepair, having been neglected since closing as a sock factory some years earlier.

The structure was essentially sound and Willmore Iles Architects' proposals were based around reviving the original building and enhancing it with modern extensions.



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The redevelopment provided 34 apartments (173 bedrooms in total) with students located in the original structure and key workers in the separate new-build elements, linked by landscaped gardens to create a calm retreat within the city centre.

The conversion retained the key original features of the building to preserve the inherent industrial character. Timber beams were exposed in the converted loft spaces, with the original steel plates complementing bare brick walls, all left on view wherever possible.

The challenge

The task of cladding the new timber-framed extensions was to provide a visually strong form without introducing unnecessary complexity to the build. It was essential that the rain-screen cladding system selected could achieve the clean lines required by the proposed geometry as well as permitting any differential movement, and retain its bold look with the minimal need for maintenance.

Tata Steel products:

Colorcoat Urban® innovating standing seam roof and wall cladding system has been developed and is specifically designed for the urban environment.

The panels are available in standard 514mm widths for low-rise buildings, with the option of a narrower 305mm width available to suit taller structures or those exposed to high winds.

The range has been developed in a series of architect-inspired matt hues, ensuring an aesthetic, consistent even shade. The quick fit system offers reduced on-site fixing times and can be laid vertically to a pitch of <5 degrees.

With a short lead time guaranteed on all standard orders, Colorcoat Urban® roof and wall cladding system is eco-designed to remove environmentally

harmful elements and so deliver the lowest impact without reducing performance.

For those seeking a complete solution for their projects, the system can be further complemented and enhanced with any of our wide range of colour-matched gutters, downpipes, soffits, fascia and weatherboard planks.

All Tata Steel construction products, including the Urban Seam® panels, are certified to the BRE responsible sourcing standard BES 6001. Specification of BES 6001 certified products further validates the sustainability credentials of our products via an independently certified standard that recognises companies that go that bit further to act responsibly and promote sustainability.



The solution

Working closely with Tata Steel the project team chose to use approximately 600m² of Colorcoat Urban®. The 514mm wide wall panels were supplied in Terracotta.

The strength and versatility of the Urban Seam® panel from the Colorcoat Urban® range provided a striking façade which enhanced the concertina effect. The panels can be laid at virtually any angle down to a minimum of five degrees.

“While originally developed as a roofing product, we first looked closely at pre-finished steel and the Colorcoat Urban® system in mid-2012, to act as a potential alternative to composite board cladding products. Interestingly, our QS provided like-for-like supply-only cost estimates which showed that Colorcoat Urban® rates were more competitive

than composite board materials,” says Julian Owen, Architect for Willmore Iles Architects.

Willmore Iles Architects worked with the Colorcoat Urban® technical design team to create the details necessary to achieve this adaptation, so that the sheet could be used as the outer element in a rain-screen cladding system. “Their willingness to co-operate in working through the details gave us confidence that the concept would become a reality,” adds Mr Owen.

The walls of the new timber extensions were clad on three sides in the Colorcoat Urban® panel. The one-off junction details at the base and heads of the changes in angle were part of the Colorcoat Urban® technical team’s solution, along with special details to window cheeks and sills, all supplied in the

same colour-matched pre-finished steel to provide the clean detailing and clarity of aesthetic required.

Special pressed steel gutters were integrated into the package to give the contractor a one-stop solution to include all elements of the metal cladding, which greatly assisted the viability of the whole effort and blended seamlessly into the build.

Our dedicated team of construction professionals have developed Colorcoat Urban® and are on hand to advise you on all aspects of the Colorcoat Urban® roof and wall cladding systems.

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