



Project Address:	Edinburgh Futures Institute, The University of Edinburgh, 1 Lauriston Place, Edinburgh, EH3 9EF
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Client:	The University of Edinburgh, Estates Department	Date of completion:	2024
Architect:	Bennetts Associates	Building type:	University
Structural Engineer:	Will Rudd Davidson	Form of Specification:	Bespoke
Project Manager:	Atkins Realis	As-built surface finish classification in accordance with NSCS 5	Special **
Quantity Surveyor:	Thomson Bethune	Construction type:	Cast in situ
M&E Engineer:	Atkins Realis		
Principal Contractor:	Balfour Beatty		
Concrete Contractor:	Stephenson Group		
Concrete Producer:	Hanson		

** Design specification was for Plain, but as-built finish equivalent to Special due to evolved requirements on site including post finishing

Summary Project Introduction:	The EFI project repaired, restored and extended the grade A listed former Edinburgh Royal Infirmary converting it into teaching spaced for the University of Edinburgh. The structural frames of the new extensions, are cast in situ concrete and create circa 6,000 m ² of new space.
Visual concrete overview:	<p>The new cast in situ concrete frames are all exposed, and the clean lines of the concrete sit in contrast to the rubble stone of the existing building.</p> <p>The visual concrete elements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat slabs • Intersecting down stand beams • Rectangular and square columns
Additional project specific features / notes:	The frames stand off the existing building accentuating the contrast between old and new. Cast in shadow gaps manage the soffit interfaces to minimize the visual connection between the two. The design specification was for an as struck Plain surface finish, but bag rubbing and touching up was undertaken as required. This means this finish is equivalent to an NSCS v5 Special surface finish classification.
Further reading:	AJ building study 4 th November 2024. Building Design 3 rd December 2024. Architecture Today Online
Visitor Access:	The entrance, public cafe and restaurant, main circulation and associated break out spaces are all publicly accessible.

Further detailed information on specific finishes:

Finish 01	
Location: All new extension elements	
NSCS 5 surface finish classification:	Special**
Construction method:	Cast in situ
Placement method:	Pumped
Concrete Mix and Materials:	
Cement content	300 - 340kg/m ³
Water / Cement Ratio	0.55
Cement type / addition %	A range of mixes used for various structural elements. Mix of CIIIA+SR, CIIB-S & CEMI. GGBS included in some mixes but details of percentages unknown
Strength	RC32/40
Admixtures	Sika VS100
Other Additions	Unknown
Release agent	Adolease release agent
Sealant	Installed but spec unknown
Visual criteria	
Colour	Unaltered grey
Blemishes	Unknown
Extent of blowholes	No more than ten 3mm diameter blow holes per m ² were acceptable
Formwork	Fair faced ply
Layout & joints	Ply boards set out by architect
Tie bolts	N/A
Flatness / Surface regularity	As Plain surfaces 10.9.1
Surface texture	Smooth
Surface reflectance	Unknown
Post finishing	Bag rubbing and touching in was undertaken as required.
Additional information	
None	

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