



Priory & Cannon House Reception, Birmingham City Centre

GRC Designer & Constructor: PCE Ltd
GRC(Glass Reinforced Concrete) Supplier: BCM GRC Ltd
Client: Nurton Developments
Main Contractor: Ashford's Construction Plc
Architect: Seymour Harris Ltd

PCE Design & Build played a key role in the interior refurbishment of an unoccupied building set in the heart of Birmingham City Centre.

As part of the overall scheme to revitalise the building, PCE were responsible for the design and installation of an impressive architectural façade in GRC (glass reinforced concrete).



The façade forms the impressive backdrop to a prestigious new entrance to the building and is fixed to a purpose-design and manufactured steelwork support structure devised by PCE.

The Project



To design and install a challenging and visually stunning internal architectural facade. The Selection of PCE Design & Build was a key factor in ensuring the visionary the architects' vision was realised.

Following an in-depth survey, the design team set about the skilful integration of both a primary & secondary steelwork support structure, that fitted seamlessly within the existing structural confines.

The original internal envelope had severe irregularities in terms of 'out of true' walls, columns and beams, which the design team had to cater for when devising an accurate but forgiving steelwork support structure. For the Architectural GRC (Glass Reinforced Concrete) stone finished panels. PCE's solution demonstrated the suitability of GRC as both an architectural facade and a product conducive to dimensional accuracy.

Glass-fibre Reinforced Concrete is one of the most versatile building materials available to architects and engineers having only 20% of the



Key Benefits

- **QUALITY OF SOLUTION**
Capturing the Architects visions, the optimum solution was identified and executed.
- **FLEXIBLE DESIGN APPROACH**
The ability to realise the clients aspirations by using a variety of construction methods.
- **SPEED OF CONSTRUCTION**
PCE's approach ensured an extremely accurate structure was delivered to challenging duration.
- **ROBUST CONSTRUCTION**
Lifecycle costs were greatly reduced by the use of high quality low maintenance products



weight of precast concrete, thus enabling ease of handling on site and reduced loads on structures when in-situ. GRC is also strong, with a higher tensile strength than precast concrete allowing for thinner wall sections to be produced.

Approximately 3.5 tonne of primary & secondary steelwork, with a total of 425 brackets, was designed, supplied and installed by PCE.

Additionally 200m² of stone finished GRC claddings, equating to 139 panels, was installed in the refurbishment.

The success of the project was acknowledged by the head Architect of Seymour Harris, Stuart Taylor, who commented, "PCE's design team greatly assisted the project Architects by confidently developing the initial design proposals into a viable construction solution. They proved to be a highly dynamic and professional member of the design team. Ultimately the end product as installed on site has exceeded the aspirations of both the client and the Architect."

