

# Royal College of Art Kensington, London



The Royal College of Art is a Grade II Listed Building in Kensington Gore, directly adjacent to the Royal Albert Hall in London. Unfortunately all of the original galvanised windows had corroded, therefore they all had to be replaced, using durable modern windows in the same style.

Removal of the existing windows and their embedded fixings, necessarily caused damage to the internal masonry reveals. During the initial inspections, it was also noticed that some of the external precast, exposed aggregate panels and the reconstituted stone faced concrete mullions were cracked and spalling in areas.

A survey was then carried out by Folcrete Restoration Services to determine the nature and extent of the external damage. This was found to be due to carbonation reaching the embedded steel and allowing it to corrode in these areas. The remainder of the

reinforcement was well within an adequate depth of good alkaline concrete cover.

Folcrete were also able to provide additional assistance with their Powered Access Division able to solve scaffolding problems at the rear. All of the works in replacing the windows and repairing the concrete, was carried out from their 12 metre long motorised cradles.

Internally the damage was made good with Remmers Betafix® RM, a lightweight repair material, that was ideal for rapid repairs after removal of the windows. This was suitable for use on horizontal, vertical and overhead surfaces, plus because it is fast curing, it allowed the redecoration works to proceed the very same day.

Externally the exposed aggregate and reconstituted stone surfaces were repaired using colour matched Remmers Restoration Mortar, with the

original profiles recreated by finishing and tooling the surfaces to match. Additional fine, broken granite aggregates were bonded into the 'wet' mortar surfaces, to blend into the exposed aggregate where necessary.

## Project Details

### Application:

Concrete Repair and Protection

### Market:

Local Authority - Education

### Client:

Royal College of Art

### Main Contractor:

West Leigh Windows Limited

### Specialist Contractor:

Folcrete Restoration Services Limited

