

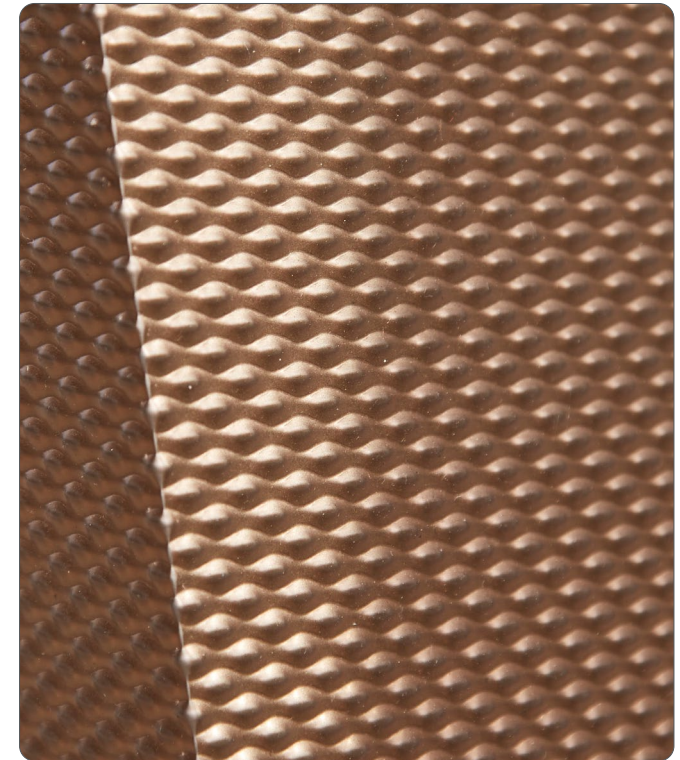
JDL Fetter Lane

London, United Kingdom

The original brief was to undertake renovations to dilapidations as the main tenant was moving out of the building. Then McBains were asked to provide architectural services to refresh all the internal common parts and a concept design for the external entrance. The existing entrance was low and dark and not very discernible from the main thoroughfare as the entrance was at the side of the building. The client wanted to create a clear entrance that was welcoming and that had more gravitas and appeal. There were quite a few challenges on the project. They did not really know the structure of the façade of the building as there were no detailed records or drawings. Assumptions were made as to what would be found once the existing façade was stripped off. Originally much brighter finishes were proposed i.e. a powder-coated polyester canopy but the planners were not in favour as there is a listed building opposite and the bright finish was deemed to be unsuitable to be in such close proximity. So a more traditional finish had to be considered. The team at McBains Cooper looked at a bronze-coloured material, Granex 6WL electro-plated and sandblasted stainless steel that had been used elsewhere to good effect and it had the really contemporary feel that was wanted. However the real concern was that the electro-plated finish would be adversely affected by weather and a guarantee from the manufacturer

could not be obtained.

When the PVD was proposed as an alternative this proved more than acceptable as it had both the aesthetic appeal of bronze and also had a twelve-year guarantee which gave the architect and the client much-needed reassurance. The V-Grooving and folding of the PVD stainless steel sheet meant the look of solid bronze would be achieved without the weight and this specification was approved by the planning council.



Environment:	urban
Material:	316L stainless steel PVD coloured in chocolate with embossed finish SB-H25
Manufacturer:	John Desmond Ltd.
Architects:	McBains Cooper
Photographs:	John Desmond Ltd.
More information:	johndesmond.com

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