



The Lead Sheet Association



Rolled Lead Sheet key to RIBA Award winning house extension

Once the new owners of an old Sussex cottage concluded that it did not contain sufficient living space for their needs, they decided upon the construction of a garden room pavilion. The use of rolled lead sheet proved an ideal choice for a design which needed to take into consideration the rural surroundings and the personal requirements of the owner.

Making the most of the aesthetic features of British Standard rolled lead sheet alongside another natural material, in particular timber in the form of Siberian larch, the extension consists of a new entrance to the house, a living room, and a studio. The latter, specially designed for the portrait painter owner, has an inclined end wall, with a glazed panel set within the incline for westerly light. This form of inclined glazing is a traditional method of lighting studio spaces, whilst the sloped end wall gives the extension a distinctive and neat appearance as well as matching the contours of the site.

The extension consists of an upright masonry pavilion, standing above the lower structure and acting as a solid core, and is clad entirely in patinated rolled lead sheet. The patinated lead, which clads both the roofs and walls, is divided by welts, with triangular lead fixing points on the crest of the lead elevations. Solid Siberian larch was chosen for the wing because, as it weathers, it takes on the colour and some of the natural sheen of the adjacent lead.

The project has portrayed perfectly the ambitious modern designs that can be created by extensively incorporating the use of rolled lead sheet, and indeed, the excellence of the design was suitably acknowledged with a RIBA award, with the judges being particularly impressed by the triangular lead fixing points on the façade.

For more information about using Rolled Lead Sheet to BS EN 12588 visit the LSA website at www.leadsheet.co.uk



'The way the building sits bedded in the contours of the site is made even more natural by the forms and materials used. Two dominant and interlocking forms express the articulation of the internal space, defining it further by a contrasting use of two natural materials, lead and timber. Glass screens provide views to the surrounding gardens.'

'The soft and worked appearance of the patinated lead which clads both roof and walls is divided by welts to give definition to the form'.

David Rea, David Rea Architects

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