

**Architecture Review
East Midlands 2006**





RIBA Award 2006

Project:

The Collection, City and County Museum, Lincoln

Architect:

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Client

The Collection

Photo:

Helene Binet

The Collection forms a part of the Flaxengate Masterplan for a Cultural Quarter of the City of Lincoln, regenerating an area below the historic Cathedral. This is a strategically important building, which has been designed in tandem with the adjacent Neo Classical Usher Gallery to create a cultural hub for the City.

The Collection is popular with visitors and staff, it works as a piece of urban design, as a museum and exhibition space and is a triumph of detailing and craftsmanship.

The exterior of the entire building is clad in Lincolnshire Limestone. The cave-like interior of the entrance pavilion is formed from board-faced, self-compacting *in-situ* concrete that has been lovingly detailed and constructed. Both the shop and the café benefit from carefully framed views of the courtyard and the Cathedral.

The main exhibition spaces are entered via a glass walkway which leads into a central glass-roofed circulation area. The building has the benefit of conference rooms and rooms for education, along with staff offices; all these spaces have been beautifully considered and detailed.