



**'REMARKABLE AND BEAUTIFUL':** The Sinclair Building in Glossop Road, Sheffield, was named Yorkshire Building of the Year in the RIBA White Rose Awards at Leeds Town Hall last night.

# White Rose accolade for black brick building

Sharon Dale

IT'S curvy, contemporary façade in jet black brick and an innovative interior has earned Sheffield's Sinclair Building the region's top architectural accolade.

It was named Yorkshire Building of the Year at last night's RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) White Rose awards. Judges described it as "a remarkable and beautiful building, executed with bravura and panache". And they declared it "an important addition to the city of Sheffield".

The winners were announced at Leeds Town Hall at an event presented by design commissioner and author Stephen Bayley.

The Sinclair Building was designed by London architects Project Orange and commissioned by local businessman Cristian Sinclair. The striking £3.8m new build in Glossop Road replaced a Victorian terraced block that housed Sinclairs china and glass store.

The modern landmark is now home to the new look Sinclairs shop and restaurant, two office units and 24 flats.

Architect Christopher Ash took

## BEST BUILDINGS IN YORKSHIRE 2007

### Yorkshire Building of the Year:

- Sinclair Building (main pic), Sheffield by Project Orange, London.

### Yorkshire Client of the Year:

- Women's Refuge, North East Lincolnshire by Hodson Architects, Cleethorpes.

### RIBA Yorkshire White Rose Awards for Architecture are:

- Sinclair Building, Sheffield.
- Arc Design, Leeds by Architecture 2B, Leeds.
- Fine Art & Photography Department, Franklin College, Grimsby by Hodson Architects, Cleethorpes.

### Highly Commended:

- Private House, Sheffield by Prue Chiles Architects, Sheffield.
- Women's Refuge, North East Lincolnshire.
- Primrose Hill, Huddersfield, With a Judges Commendation for Regeneration by Cartwright Pickard Architects, Leeds.
- Hellfield Peel (below), Hellfield, With a Judges Commendation for Conservation by Brewster Bye Architects, Leeds.



Graphic: Graeme Bandiera

### Commended for Sustainability:

- Innovative Green Office, Leeds by Rio Architects Ltd, Cardiff.

### Commended for Conservation:

- Wentworth Castle and Stainborough Park, Barnsley by Purcell Miller Tritton, Sheffield.

### Community Changing Place Award:

- Trans-Pennine Trail Gateway, Horsea led by the Horsea Area Regeneration Partnership.



inspiration from Sinclairs products when choosing the materials. The black brick evokes ceramics and is glossy when wet, and the windows feature strips of coloured Murano glass.

He said: "The building was perceived as a metaphor for the client's business, embracing the paradox of presenting the

refined, precious and decorative against a hard-edged industrial townscape."

The judges loved the exterior but were also impressed by the imaginative layout of the flats and the generous communal areas.

They stated: "This is a confident urban building wrapped with fluid but hard curves, of

black brick which enhances the street scene whilst defining its own identity."

White Rose Awards for Architecture also went to the fine art and photography department at Franklin College, Grimsby, by Hodson Architects and to the Arc Design building in York Street, Leeds, by Architecture 2B.

Arc Design, a furniture design partnership, bought the derelict building at auction and renovated on a tight £304,000 budget.

Judges were impressed by the reuse of materials such as the slate roof and the exposure of the original walls to mark the building's history.

They described it as "an intelligent yet modest example of how to put derelict buildings back into beneficial, economic use without trying too hard to impose a new identity – the character of the original is left to speak for itself."

The RIBA Yorkshire White Rose judging panel was chaired by Jonathan Hall, from London-based architects Allford Hall Monaghan Morris and included Ken Smith, of award sponsor Istock Brick, Clare Lilley, head of programming, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, and Martin McWilliams of Yorkshire architects JAMM.

Mr Hall said: "The White Rose Awards celebrate the best in architecture at a regional level and the awards this year indicate that good architecture in its many forms is indeed in rude health in the Yorkshire region."