

Isla Renwick

Architect · stone, brick and timber · Edinburgh

isla@example.com · +44 131 496 0847 · Edinburgh, Scotland · strata.folio.page.dev



I run a one-architect practice in Edinburgh working on houses, retrofits, studios and small civic rooms across Scotland. I draw everything myself, take on four or five projects a year, and stay on site through construction. Registered architect since 2012.

Practice

2018 – Present

Principal

Strata (own practice) · Edinburgh

Founded the practice on Candlemaker Row. Thirty-eight completed buildings to date, most of them in stone, brick or timber; nine of them alterations to listed buildings, all consented first time.

2013 – 2018

Project architect

Duncan & Mair Architects · Edinburgh

Ran a small team on housing and community buildings in the Lothians and the Borders, including a 34-home rural housing scheme and a village hall that still gets rented every weekend.

2010 – 2012

Architectural assistant

Studio Halvard · Copenhagen

Two years on brick and concrete housing in Nordhavn. Learned to detail a parapet properly and to draw a mortar joint at 1:1 before believing it.

2008 – 2009

Year-out assistant

Moray Stone Trust · Elgin

Surveyed and drew eleven ruined steadings for the Trust's conservation register, and spent the summer on a wall with a mason learning how a coursed rubble wall actually goes up.

Education

2009 – 2011

Diploma in Architecture (Part 2), distinction

Edinburgh College of Art · Edinburgh

Thesis: a working quarry as a public building, with the cut faces of the rock as the rooms.

2005 – 2008

BA (Hons) Architecture

University of Strathclyde · Glasgow

Registration

2012

Registered architect

Architects Registration Board

2013

Chartered architect

Scottish chartered practice register

2019

Conservation accreditation

Conservation accreditation register

Awards and recognition

2023

Kincraig Links Pavilion, shortlisted

Scottish Design Review awards, public building

2022

Quarry Steading, commendation

Scottish Stone Guild, conservation and reuse

2021

Dean Village Reading Room, winner

Edinburgh Small Projects Prize

Teaching and talks

2021 to present

Visiting tutor, the stone module

Scott Sutherland School of Architecture, Aberdeen

One week a term with third-year students, building a quarter-scale wall and then drawing it.

2024

Retrofit without regret

Talk, Edinburgh architecture lecture series

2023

Drawing the joint

Workshop, Scottish Lime Guild

What I am good at

Stone and lime construction



Deep retrofit of traditional buildings

Planning and listed building consent



Hand drawing and physical models



Contract administration on site ●●●●○

Passivhaus-level fabric detailing ●●●●○

Timber frame and glulam design ●●●●○

Archicad and hand-finished drawing sets ●●●●○

Languages

English	Native	Scottish Gaelic	Conversational
Danish	Working knowledge		