Brutalism—1960 to Present



This style was originally used to describe the work of British architects that allowed all of the building elements and systems to be exposed. The concrete buildings of Le Corbusier and others eventually were classified under this style. Brutalism is in direct opposition to the Corporate International Style. Buildings are heavy and monumental, as exemplified by the Trelik Tower, in London, and the J Edger Hoover Building (FBI Headquarters), in Washington DC, pictured below right, in contrast to the lightweight feel of the Corporate International style.

There are not any known buildings within the City that are wholly constructed in the Brutalism style; however, Ontario City Hall, pictured left, contains many elements of Brutalism, exemplified by the use of exposed concrete surfaces left in its rough state, with exposed board and form work. The style would be very compatible

with the tilt-up concrete building constructed within the easterly portion of the City.

Common Features

- Variety of forms, including vertical and horizontal projections, roof forms, shapes
- Combining walls and structure into one form
- Structure predominates
- Infill walls created to join walls and structure where separate (typically brick or other materials)
- Openings introduced as holes in structure walls
- Exposed concrete surfaces
- Exposed ductwork, pipes, vents, etc.

Windows

Windows were typically fixed single-paned with metal frames

Doors

Doors were typically simple metal doors, sometimes with glass panels.

Colors

Buildings were typically not painted. Only windows doorframes would have any accent color.



