

Minstead Study Centre

Property Services

CIAT - Open Technical Excellence Award 2007
FX International Best Interior Design Award 2007
Green Apple Award 2007



Location:

Minstead, New Forest, Hampshire

Client:

HCC and Minstead Study Centre

Value: £1.34 million

Completed: September 2006

Specialist teams:

Architect, Interior Design, QS:

HCC Property Services

M&E Engineer: EDP Ltd

Contractor: Carillion

Timber Frame: The Green Oak

Carpentry Company

Minstead is an educational study centre in the heart of the New Forest. HCC Property Services was asked to design new residential accommodation, and refurbish ageing classroom facilities in the existing study centre.

The centre has introduced many primary school age children to a culture of sustainable living, offering residential courses in environmental issues. This ethos has been reflected in the design of the new dormitory building.

There were a number of existing temporary and small permanent buildings on the site which were beyond their useful life. The replacement of these allowed the construction of a purpose-designed building to better meet the requirements of the centre to offer a practical, robust, economic and sustainable eco-dormitory.

The construction of the new 'green oak' timber framed eco-dormitory provides sleeping accommodation for 34 children and 4 teaching staff, offering a secure, stimulating and enjoyable learning experience for the visitors. The building is an unique and innovative design, built on a woodland site to capture the feel of a forest dwelling in an organic way.

The dormitory is built from locally sourced timber, and sustainable materials carefully selected to demonstrate various environmental issues. It has become a benchmark for good sustainable design.

Key Benefits

All aspects of the design contribute towards the Centre's core values:

- Locally sourced timbers from the New Forest and West Sussex, used with traditional jointing techniques.
- Highly insulated roof and wall construction using recycled newspaper.
- Solar roof panels providing pre-heating of hot water supplies.
- Rainwater harvesting providing water to flush toilets.
- Energy efficient heating system, using low pressure gas boilers and underfloor heating which is low on energy consumption.

“ The submission for the new eco-dormitory was the judges' unanimous choice as outright winner of the Award.the judges felt that the winner succeeds in the true sense of the Institutes Award for Technical Excellence. ”

Vice President Technical Chartered
Institute of Architectural Technologist's



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