

CASE HISTORY :-CLASSROOM OF THE FUTURE, LONDON

ARCHITECT

Studio E

MAIN CONTRACTOR
SUB CONTRACTOR
CONSTRUCTION

BALFOUR BEATTY
SMALLWOOD CONSTRUCTION
AUTUMN 2002



The new classroom is an unusual design featuring a gabion wall that had to be profiled to accommodate the translucent dome which can be opened and closed.

For design, the wall section was trapezoidal in shape comprising of basic trapezoidal section varying in height from 2m to 3m which forms the structural wall internally. To render the wall impermeable the main wall was covered in a sandwich of geotextile and membrane prior to facing the structure in a 300mm thick gabion cladding.

The basic wall and cladding was manufactured of Triple Life (95% zinc 5% aluminium) coated gabions formed of 76.2mmx76.2mmx4mm wire diameter units, the trapezoidal form being achieved by utilising preformed frames manufactured from welded 10mm galvanised welded bar.

To achieve a curve on the top of the wall the unit height was adjusted by attaching a framing mesh of Triple Life coated 76.2mmx12.5mm x 4mm wire diameter mesh to give the defined lines.



Construction showing 10mm support frames. The mesh was attached to the framing using 3mm wire diameter helicals which provided a continuous jointing system and protected the cut edges of wire snagging of clothing and causing abrasions if brushed against.

To achieve the curve required the wall was constructed with 1m long facets.

The outer gabion skin cladding laid to the geotextile / impermeable membrane sandwich for damp proofing.

The exterior cladding units were specially manufactured and installed so that the membrane was not punctured whilst ensuring fixity to the main trapezoidal wall.



Hy-Ten Gabion Solutions also provides design services and technical support, for further information please contact :-

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