



SIKA AT WORK

ROYAL GUNPOWDER MILLS, WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX

ROOFING: Sika® Sarnafil G410-15EL FSA Lead Grey, Sarnametal Abutments

Sarnafil®





SARNAFIL REFURBISHING HISTORY

PROJECT REQUIREMENT

A historic and archaeological treasure, the Royal Gunpowder Mills in Waltham Abbey, Essex has had a Sika Sarnafil roofing system installed to bring a new lease of life to the heritage site.

Consisting of listed buildings, ancient monuments and natural aspect features, the attraction has been described by Historic England as 'the most important site for the history of explosives in Europe'. With exhibitions, a mini railway and a programme of hands-on activities, re-enactments and workshops for school groups, the site is a busy hub of activity, attracting thousands of visitors every year.

With previous roofing systems across the site's buildings close to derelict, a new stunning, sympathetic and durable roof refurbishment was needed in order to uphold the heritage charity's mission to preserve and conserve the site for the benefit of the general public.

SIKA SARNAFIL SOLUTION

Main contractors Courtenay Builders Limited tasked roofing contractor Contour Roofing with the specification and installation of the roofing system. Having seen the results of similar Sika Sarnafil projects, along with Contour Roofing's award-winning track record on builds using Sarnafil's single ply membrane, Courtenay Builders Limited felt confident they had found the perfect team and product. After discussions with the team at Sika Sarnafil, Contour Roofing specified Sika® Sarnafil G410-15 EL FSA Lead Grey alongside Sarnavap® 1000E air and vapour control layer.

As a site once home to tonnes of explosives, which needed to remain open to visitors during installation, extensive attention to health and safety was required. Restrictions on naked flames presented a particularly difficult challenge as no hot works were allowed. As such, Contour Roofing had to prime plyboards immediately after installation and before exposure to wet weather. Plus, the specification for the vapour control layer changed, switching to a Polyethylene layer which was more equipped for installation in potentially damp conditions.

The 45 degree pitch of the roof also provided a further challenge. Roof ladders had to be used to allow workers access to the complex angles of the roof and achieve a seamless finish using the roofing membrane alongside bespoke Sarnametal abutment, change of angle flashings and ridge angle flashings.

Although the time consuming work requiring the utmost skill to ensure the roofs were completed to the highest standards, Contour Roofing's contract manager made daily visits to the site alongside regular visits from Sika Sarnafil Technicians, which not only kept the project on track but saw it finish a week early.

The result was a unified finish across the roofs, which looked stunning and combined with its 20-year Sarnafil guarantee, led to an incredibly pleased client.

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

Main contractor: Courtenay Builders Limited

Roofing contractor: Contour Roofing

Architect: Derrick Wade Waters

Project name: Royal Gunpowder Mills

Location: Waltham Abbey, Essex

Area: 1200m²

Our most current General Sales Conditions shall apply.
Please consult the Data Sheet prior to any use and processing.



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