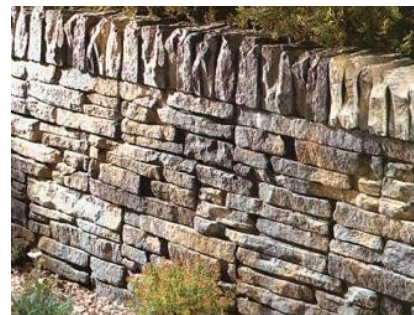


HAWES VISITOR CENTRE, NORTH YORKSHIRE

Working in collaboration with exhibition designers Jasper Jacob Associates, we have designed a new visitor centre for Hawes in North Yorkshire. The Centre contains a permanent educational exhibition focussing on the local sheep farming industry, as well as craft-related retail units and managed workspaces, temporary exhibition space, and a 100-cover refectory coupled with a multi-purpose community space. The community space can be used separately for film shows, talks and exhibitions, or opened up with the refectory to provide a large space for private functions.

The development has been designed to appear as a series of individual smaller buildings rather than one large mass, to reduce the overall visual impact in what is otherwise a domestic-scale environment. The refectory block draws on the historic Cistercian Abbeys of North Yorkshire, with an octagonal form, buttresses and pyramidal roof. By contrast, the block containing managed workspace and lettable commercial units has taken the local domestic vernacular as its cue, using pitched roofs, gables and dressed stone window and door openings. Two other blocks, a large one containing the exhibition area and retail units and a smaller one containing the Community Hall, are steel-framed structures with flat roofs behind massive Yorkstone walls.

The development will include a number of sustainability features, including wool insulation, dry urinals, grey water recycling, solar water heating and biomass heating, and will include a sedum roof to disguise the larger areas in views from the fells.



Client Rejuvenate Wensleydale
Area 2250 m²
Status Planning application
Contract Value £3.5 million approx.

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