

VMZINC

**DUCHESS OF  
CORNWALL INN**



**NAME OF PROJECT:**

Duchess of Cornwall Inn

**LOCATION:**

Poundbury - UK

**ARCHITECT:**

Martyn Winney - Q&amp;F Terry and Associates

**TECHNIQUE:**

VMZINC® Dormer windows and Balustrades

**SURFACE ASPECT:**

QUARTZ-ZINC®

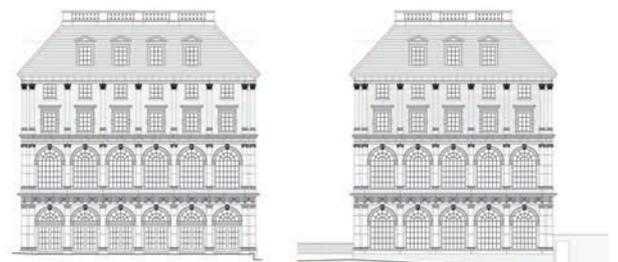
# Duchess of Cornwall Inn

Poundbury is a new experimental town in the county of Dorset in England, initiated by Prince Charles approximately thirty years ago. A mixture of Victorian architecture and Baroque villas, the town is a concentrate of architectural styles and colours. The most recent addition is Queen Mother square, which serves as the town centre. This Palladian-inspired square houses the town's first hotel - the Duchess of Cornwall Inn. VMZINC® created impressive zinc ornaments to decorate this new building.

Constructed on land belonging to the Duke of Cornwall, Poundbury is an urban extension on the outskirts of Dorchester, which is now home to 3,000 inhabitants and 180 companies. The town is the result of a simple idea: create a place that gives priority to people rather

than cars, and where commercial buildings blend with residential areas, shops and leisure facilities to create an accessible community. The majority of parking is located behind buildings to minimize congestion and keep streets spacious and conducive

to meetings and exchanges. The development of the town demonstrates that today there is an alternative way to build, which gives priority to human individuals.





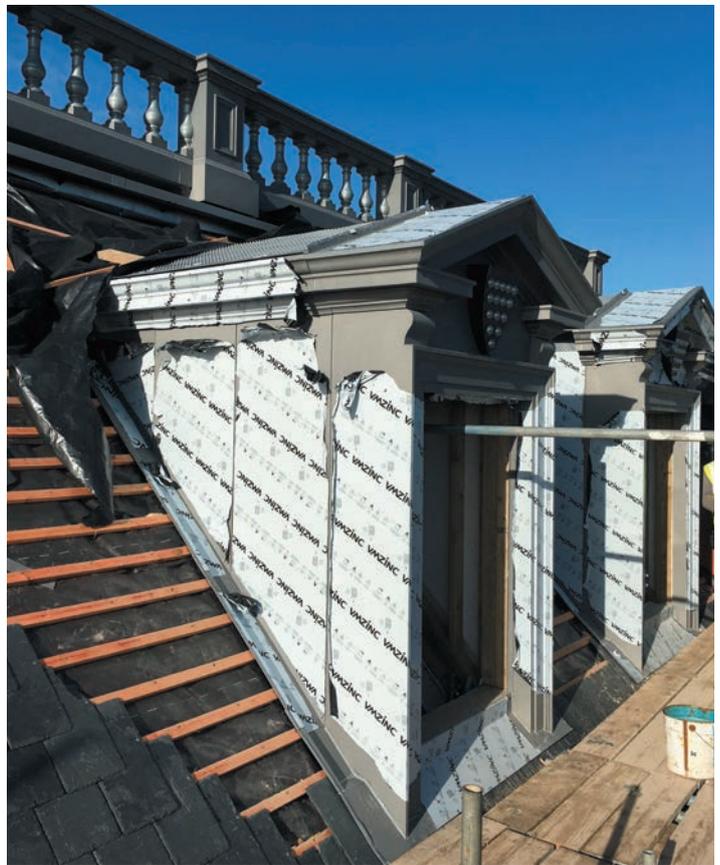
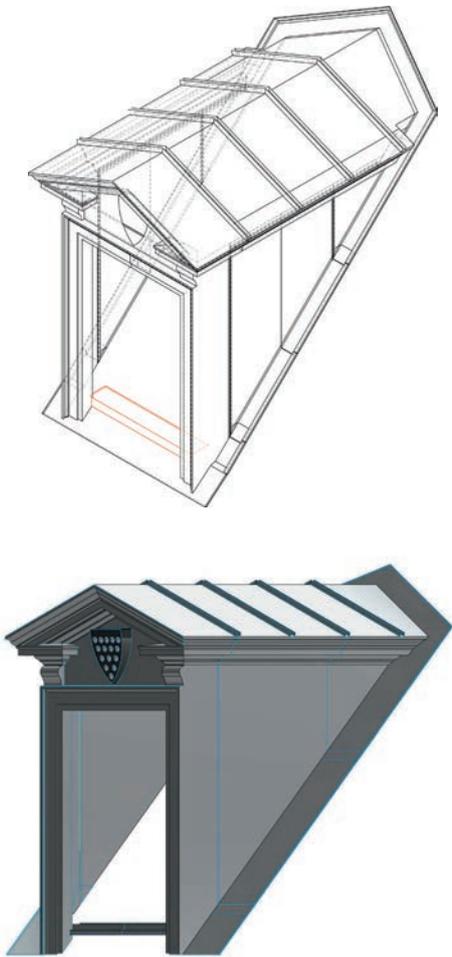
## Zinc to enhance classic architecture

Located at the corner of Queen Mother square, the Duchess of Cornwall Inn is a five-story hotel built jointly by the Duchy of Cornwall and the Dorset Hall & Woodhouse brewery, which has been producing the local "Badger" beers for over 235 years. The hotel's name is a tribute to the Duchess of Cornwall, Prince Charles's wife.

Designed by architects Quinlan and Francis Terry, the establishment is laid out like a country house, with services spread out over the various floors: the ground floor houses the reception, bar and conference spaces; the dining room dedicated to traditional British cuisine can be found on the second floor; and the establishment's 20 guest rooms are located on the last three floors.

The Duchess of Cornwall Inn has a classic design incorporating Doric, Ionic and Corinthian orders in brick and reconstructed stone. Each style of antique column determines a floor and divides the facade into three levels. The roof features ornamental dormer windows and a balustrade that crowns the building. For these two exceptional pieces, the architects chose VMZINC® decorative elements. An original decision that adds prestige to the building and which, with the stone facade and slate roofing, is reminiscent of the symbolic Parisian buildings associated with the work of Baron Haussmann.

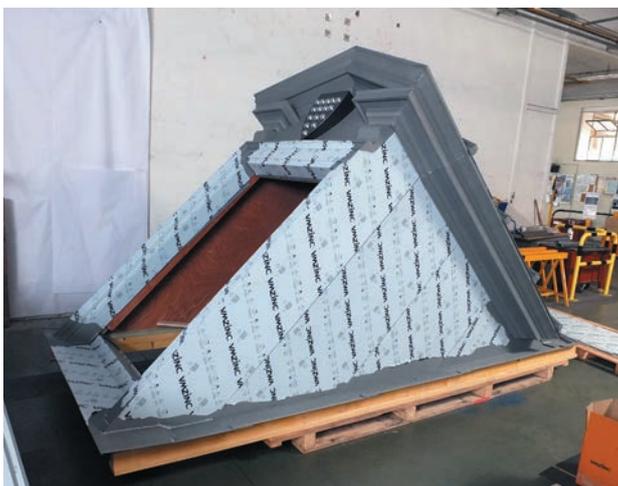


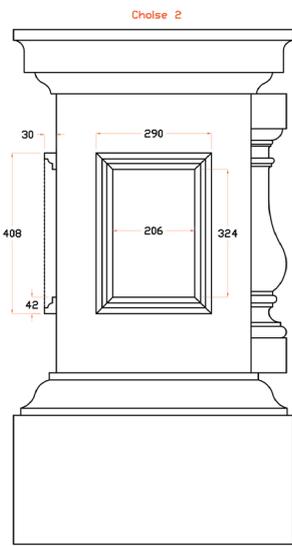


### Preference for zinc rather than lead and stone

Initially envisaged in other materials (lead for the dormer windows and stone for the balustrade), in the end zinc was the material preferred for these ornaments by Peter James, project manager for the Duchy of Cornwall, and Martyn Winney, the architect in charge of the project at the Q&F Terry & Associates architecture firm. A choice influenced by the aesthetic qualities of zinc, which ensure a strong visual impact for each of the pieces. The malleability of the material, and the experience & know-how of the VMZINC® ornamental worker teams, made it possible to provide very clear mouldings that give finesse to these huge metal pieces.

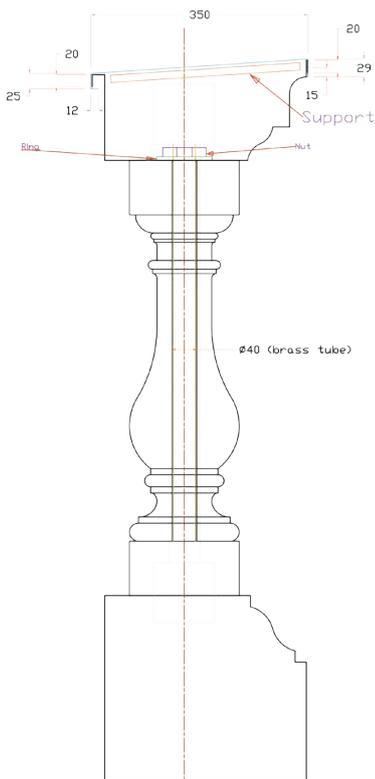
Zinc is also lighter than lead or stone, which meant it was not necessary to add heavy and costly structures to the building. Lastly, the zinc pieces were preformed in the workshop, making work on site easier, an advantage greatly appreciated by the design team and the client.





### Support from the VMZINC® teams for successful installation

Once zinc was chosen for the ornaments, regular meetings between the VMZINC® teams and the design team made it possible to provide sketches and then technical drawings that were quickly approved. Life-sized models were produced prior to production of the final pieces to ensure flawless work on details and guarantee greater precision during final assembly on site.



The installation team came to the workshop to become familiar with the zinc pieces, the assembly plan and to be trained for their assembly. Necessary upstream precautions that led to an exceptional end result.

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