



MIDDEN STUDIO



**CLIENT:**

Private client

ARCHITECT:

Studio Weave / London

INSTALLER:

HL Metals

TECHNIQUE:

VMZ Stamped standing seam

ASPECT:

Natural zinc

MIDDEN STUDIO

In the south-west of Scotland, a new building recently became part of the picturesque coastal landscape of the Kintyre region in the Highlands.

Harmoniously integrated into the surrounding environment, this artists' studio blends softly with its antique setting, only revealing its details on closer inspection.

It should be said that Midden Studio has an original zinc envelope featuring crosses and diamonds that are reminiscent of the "Scottish Baronial" style.

Midden Studio's embossed diamond-studded cladding, designed by Studio Weave, is inspired by bossage, an architectural style practised during the Roman era and the Italian Renaissance. Eddy Blake, project manager with Studio Weave, admits he was inspired by Italian buildings he visited while

travelling. In this case, the uncut stone is replaced by natural zinc and the diamond pattern on the metal is a reinterpretation of its southern counterparts in the Palazzo dei Diamanti in Ferrara and the Chiesa del Gesu Nuova in Naples. The project was designed to ensure

a permanent connection between the artist and the site. Numerous openings were installed in the studio, including one on its floor, creating close proximity with the inspiring nature surrounding the building. The interior is as simple and warm as possible to facilitate creative work.



Zinc was the obvious choice

The studio is simultaneously reminiscent of the neighbouring vernacular agricultural buildings and the granite rocks that punctuate the landscape.

To develop the embossed pattern they wanted, the architecture firm chose zinc for its durability and malleability. Having initially envisaged a dark grey preweathered zinc, in the end natural

zinc was selected to clad the building. Its raw, natural, environmental aspect and its initially uneven patina that develops more uniform colours after some years, are aesthetic advantages that contribute to integrating the studio into the surrounding landscape. Design of the embossed zinc panels was entrusted to VMZINC because of its capacity to adapt its existing





systems to meet the architects' specific requirements.

"For this project with a double pitched roof, the traditional standing seam installation system was used", explains Sammy Baron, Ornaments Customer Support Manager with VMZINC.

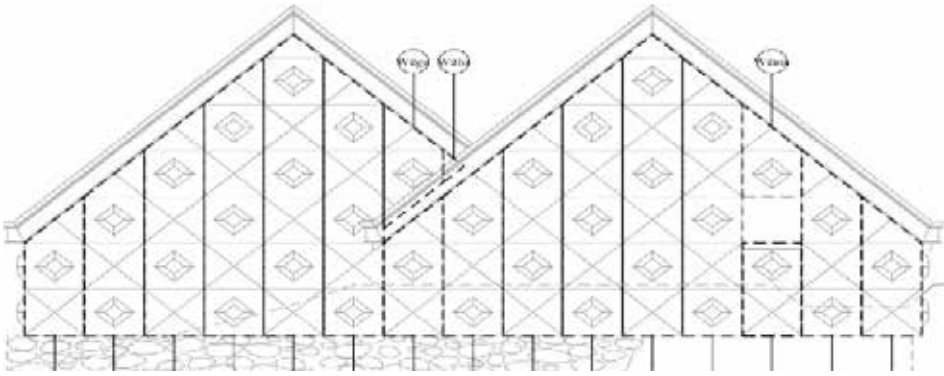
"This system is well known by installers and makes it possible to integrate decorative elements, and

therefore to customise.

It can be used on roofs and facade and installation can be strengthened with supplementary fixing elements to withstand even the harshest of weather conditions."

"Once all the panels are installed, the overall design of the building becomes visible."





Creating tailored aesthetics through know-how

Although made-to-order work is increasingly practised at VMZINC, each project still remains a new challenge. Midden Studio was no exception to this rule.

“We had to adapt and design a stamping die enabling us to reproduce the desired pattern on panels several metres in dimension”, says Sammy Baron.



The main difficulty resided in defining the dimensions of the panels taking into consideration the deformation of the metal caused by stamping, and at the same time ensuring the system remains watertight. And subsequently in creating the stamping and bending die to test the quality of the product.





For harmonious integration into the landscape

In order to facilitate the installers' work, an installation plan was provided.

"Once all the panels are installed, the overall design of the building becomes visible", specifies Sammy Baron.

"The installation company selected has indepth knowledge of VMZINC products and the quality of the final result is proof of this", concludes Sammy Baron.

Ornamental flashings such as gutter facing were also designed. They ensure optimal watertightness of the building envelope and provide flawless aesthetic continuity.



With this project, VMZINC demonstrated its capacity to listen and use its experience and that of its teams to serve an exceptional architectural project. By illustrating VMZINC's know-how Midden Studio by Studio Weave is an iconic reference for the brand.

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