



## Construction of Somerset Earth Science Centre

PROJECT TITLE	<b>Somerset Earth Science Centre</b>
CLIENT	Somerset Earth Science Charity
ARCHITECT	Mark Kingsley Architects
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER	Ramboll Whitbybird Engineers
CONTRACT VALUE	£499,805
DURATION OF WORKS	30 weeks
COMPLETION	October 2008
PROCUREMENT METHOD	Design and Build
CONTRACT NO.	1507

The work comprised construction of a new single storey, low carbon study centre on the edge of an existing lake at Moons Hill Quarry, Stoke St. Michael. The development included a kitchen, changing rooms, WCs, offices and classrooms. The building is constructed off a reinforced concrete slab on a piled foundation, with a gabion retaining wall along the lake edge. The superstructure is an internal facing blockwork, with full fill rockwall insulation; blockwork backing and stone cladding. The roof covering is a Sedum roof built off a Glulam timber beam construction. The building's power is supplied by a wind turbine installed on an island in the lake, and is heated by an underground heat source pump on the lake bed. The completed building achieved a SBEM Rating of A+ -14, Zero Carbon Rating. The Building was officially opened in July 2009 by HRH The Princess Royal. In June 2011, Melhuish & Saunders were awarded the Chairman's Award for the centre, for best building in the south-west of England at the LABC SW Regional Awards.