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CASE HISTORY: GABION CLADDING TO FIRST BAIT BRIDGE, BARKING RIVERSIDE

LOCATION: Barking, East London, U.K.

MAIN CLIENT: The Carey Group

GABION CONTRACTOR: Retaining Solutions Ltd
DESIGN, MANUFACTURE & SUPPLY: Hy-Ten Gabion Solutions



GABION CLADDING & WALLING

Max. Height: 1.6m Total Length: 135m Total Area: 49m²

Introduction: Barking Riverside, a sprawling urban redevelopment project on the banks of the River Thames, aims to reshape a once industrial area into a vibrant community hub. One crucial aspect of this transformation is the improvement of access to community spaces and transportation links. This case study explores the successful implementation of gabion cladding on the reinforced concrete walls of the First Bait Bridge, a project executed by Retaining Solutions Ltd, in collaboration with their client, The Carey Group.

Background: Barking Riverside's ambitious redevelopment plan required enhancing the aesthetic quality of its infrastructure. The First Bait Bridge extension, already completed, represented an opportunity to create a more appealing environment. The client, The Carey Group, contracted Retaining Solutions Ltd for the installation of gabion cladding along the concrete walls that flanked the bridge. The goal was to visually enhance the area and align it with the broader Barking Riverside project.



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Project Scope: The project scope encompassed the installation of gabion cladding on both sides of the First Bait Bridge. Gabion baskets, supplied by Hy-Ten, were strategically placed to cover the existing grey concrete walls.

Challenges: Several challenges were addressed during the project:

- 1. Aesthetic Enhancement: The primary challenge was to transform the appearance of the concrete walls to align with the aesthetic quality of Barking Riverside redevelopment.
- 2. Logistics: Ensuring timely delivery and precise installation of gabion baskets on an operational bridge presented logistical challenges.
- Environmental Considerations: As the project involved the banks of the Thames, environmental considerations and regulations were of utmost importance.

Solutions: Retaining Solutions Ltd, in collaboration with Hy-Ten, implemented the following solutions:

- A. Gabion Cladding: The installation of gabion cladding involved the placement of gabion baskets filled with natural stones. This approach dramatically improved the visual appeal of the concrete Walls.
- B. Precision Installation: Skilled workmanship ensured the precise alignment and installation of gabion baskets, adhering to the aesthetic requirements of the barking Riverside Project.
- C. Environmental Compliance: The project adhered to strict environmental regulations to protect the Thames ecosystem and wildlife.

The implementation of gabion cladding on the First Bait Bridge has transformed these once-grey concrete walls into an attractive feature of Rivergate neighbourhood, aligning with the overall aesthetic of Barking Riverside.