



**GILLESPIE**

**case study**  
Fortnum & Mason

**architect**  
Jestico & Whiles

**main contractor**  
Chorus



# facing the future

From its historic premises situated on Piccadilly in London, Fortnum & Mason has become an internationally renowned premier luxury brand. As part of the store's tri-centenary celebrations in October 2007, the store embarked on a £24m refurbishment to bring new appeal and vitality to the Fortnum & Mason shopping experience.

With an established track record in the retail sector, Gillespie were commissioned to fabricate the interior finishes. Gillespie's Zerodec laminated GRG product was used to form the ceilings with decorative cornices and recessed downlighting, bringing clean lines and a fresh contemporary ambience to the new food court.



Established in 1707, the store has a distinguished history as supplier of goods to the Royal Households, and enjoys a particular reputation for its upmarket food emporium and luxurious hampers. Fortnum & Mason were keen to build on their retailing strengths with a spacious and contemporary new look. A key objective for the store's refurbishment programme was to open up the celebrated Food Hall to incorporate an additional floor and a Wine Bar, while at the same time encouraging shoppers to circulate around the store more freely.

Gillespie's Zerodec GRG was also used to create the dome for the rooflight at the top of the stairwell, which features a flower design beautifully inlaid with metalwork petals. The flower motif was mirrored in the flooring at the base of the staircase. It was vital to the success of the project that the interior finishes were manufactured and installed to the very highest standards, and this is why Gillespie were chosen.

Architects Jestico & Whiles' solution involved the creation of a new four storey atrium incorporating a magnificent helical staircase in the centre of the store, crowned by a custom designed rooflight to draw the eye upward and to flood the store with light.

Gillespie worked in close cooperation with Chorus to ensure that works were carefully scheduled and managed so that Fortnum & Mason could continue to trade throughout the duration of the refurbishment. Now fully functioning, the new Fresh Food Floor and Wine Bar shows how sensitive design can be combined with modern materials and skilled craftsmanship to invigorate the most traditional of trading environments.

“We were delighted that we had chosen Gillespie. They delivered on all the aspects of the project requirements and applied their highly professional and polished approach to manufacturing and contracting. Zerodec laminated GRG produced precisely the desired effect in forming the new atrium and domed rooflight.”

**Jude Harris,**  
Jestico & Whiles

