

# Case Study

expertise in stone

# STONEENGINEERING



a division of land engineering (scotland) ltd

NATURAL STONE ▪ RESTORATION ▪ CLADDING ▪ FLOORING ▪ PAVING



## Portencross Castle

Contract Value	£750,000
Contract Period	March 2009 – June 2010
Client	Friends of Portencross Castle
Architect	Gray Marshall Associates

### Project summary

Portencross Castle is located on the west coast of Scotland near West Kilbride. The castle sits on a rock outcrop overlooking the Firth of Clyde. Prior to the succession of Robert the Bruce, this castle belonged to the Ross Family (Sheriffs of Ayr), but after the fall of that family, and of the Balliol cause, ownership was conferred on an ancestor the the Boyds of Kilmarnock. About the time of Robert II, the castle became part of the inheritance of the third son of Sir Thomas Boyd of Kilmarnock, Robert Boyd of Portencross, with whose descendants it remained until 1737. Robert II and Robert III must have been frequent visitors to Portencross as they travelled between the castles of Dundonald and Rothesay, both Stewart strongholds.

The castle is a scheduled ancient monument which had fallen into a serious state of disrepair. Following a protracted fundraising effort, the client organisation secured sufficient funding to secure the future of this important historical building. Stone Engineering were selected for their extensive knowledge of conservation and restoration of our built heritage and works commenced in February 2009.

The works comprised extensive consolidation and repair involving major masonry works including takedown and rebuilding of 16th century masonry, complex scaffolding over the sea-facing elevations, internal spiral stairs, glass balustrade, oak joinerwork with associated electrical works and landscaping.

An apprentice working towards C&G in Stonemasonry was appointed to the project and received valuable training from our skilled stonemasons



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