

Client: Spetisbury Construction / National Trust
Site: Baden-Powell Outdoor Centre
Location: Brownsea Island, Dorset

Project Description

GTL Partnership Limited were employed by Spetisbury Construction to design, supply and install the helical (screw) pile foundations for the Baden-Powell Outdoor Centre on Brownsea Island.

The centre was commissioned by The National Trust and the Brownsea Island Scout and Guide Committee to celebrate the centenary of the first scout camp on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour. Planning consent was granted on the understanding that construction would be sympathetic to the local environment. After discussions with GTL, it was evident that a steel helical (screw) piled foundation would be the best solution.



The Solution

GTL designed the helical (screw) piles for various pile cap configurations to enable the pre-fabricated glue laminated timber frame to fix directly to the pile cap.



The Challenge

The site was extremely demanding as it had no electricity, gas or sewerage utilities and was accessed from a dirt track road approximately one kilometre from the quay. All materials were manufactured off site and transported by barge and then tracked to site.

We were determined to create buildings that were true to the natural spirit of Brownsea Island and the National Trust's commitment to sustainable structures. We want this 'light touch' building to work well for the here and now but to eventually leave no trace of its existence.

*Angela Cott
Property Manager, Brownsea Island*