

CASE STUDY
CARROCHAN







With thanks to Renzo Mazzolini Photography for photography.

Timber technologies

35% of the National Park is made up of forest. This is reflected in the building's design as timber is the main construction material, creating an affordable, sustainable building.

The timber contractor worked closely with the architects at the design stage to create a barn-like structure, which integrates the largest greenwood timber frame constructed in the UK. This frame supports a central glazed rooflight, which runs through the building providing natural ventilation and light to all the spaces.

The frame is supported by the gigantic two-storey Douglas fir columns and beams. Additional natural materials are used widely throughout the building, such as the natural slate roof finish, Scottish larch cladding on the rear elevation and sheep's fleece insulation.

Timber was sourced mainly from the Scottish Borders.

Special timber-related features

Carrochan is the largest green timber building in the UK, using the UK's largest sections of green timber with the biggest posts measuring a massive 650mm x 600mm x 6.2m long.

The Douglas fir frame is a cutting-edge timber structure combining post and beam construction with pre-fabricated floor and roof panels. It comprises 160 cubic metres of timber weighing 80 tonnes.

CASE STUDY

CARROCHAN

Name of building

Carrochan, Loch Lomond & The Trossachs
National Park Authority Headquarters

Date completed

2008

Building type

Commercial

Location

Balloch, Alexandria

Architect

Page / Park

Client

Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority

Main contractor / timber supplier

CBC Ltd
Carpenter Oak and Woodland

Awards

Carbon Trust Low Carbon Building Award 2009
Scottish Government Award for Quality in Planning 2008
British Council for Offices Award 2009,
Regional Winner
British Council for Offices Award 2009,
National Winner
Natural Stone Award 2008
NFRC Roofing Award 2008
GAI/RIBA Specification Award 2008/09,
Sustainability Category
RICS Scotland Awards 2009,
Sustainability High Commendation
Scottish Design Awards 2009,
Engineering Design Award
Scottish Design Awards 2009,
Best Public Building Commendation
Scottish Design Awards 2009,
Sustainability Award
ACE Engineering Excellence Awards 2009,
Building Services Award
Roses Design Awards 2009 Silver Award,
Engineering Design
Civic Trust Award 2010,
Commendation

Background to building

Carrochan is the new headquarters for the first National Park in Scotland, which covers a region over 700 square miles, north and west of Balloch. The new administrative centre provides flexible workspace for over 120 staff from Scottish Natural Heritage and associated community groups, and will also become a central information point and meeting place.

Material Considerations

A Natural Factory

Forestry Commission Scotland

Silvan House
231 Corstorphine Road
Edinburgh EH12 7AT

+44 (0)845 367 3787

fcscotland@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Sust.

Architecture + Design Scotland

The Lighthouse
11 Mitchell Lane
Glasgow G1 3NU

+44 (0)141 204 3635

info@sust.org
