

Langley Castle, Northumberland



Client: Langley Castle
Year: 2011
Contract Value: £250K

Simpson & Brown completed a contemporary dining room extension to the Grade 1 listed Langley Castle Hotel in 2011. The castle was built circa 1350 by Sir Thomas de Lucy. It was restored in the late 19th century, after some 500 years of ruin and used as a girls' school. Today, it stands monolithically within its grounds as a high quality hotel and venue.

A recent expansion put significant constraints on the number of guests and visitors being able to use the dining hall. Simpson & Brown's design creates a new dining pavilion to the west of the castle accessed through an existing nineteenth century doorway from the dining hall. This provides the hotel with additional dining space and creates flexibility in holding functions.

The extension to the dining pavilion touches the castle walls lightly with a glass link, pulling the pavilion back from the strong stone walls to minimise the impact of the new against the powerful composition of the original structure. It is lightweight, low-slung and 'ephemeral' in direct contrast to the massive and imposing stone bulk behind.