

PROJECT

Bunce Island Slave Castle
Sierra Leone, West Africa

CLIENT

The Bunce Island Coalition

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Bunce Island Slave Castle includes several historic stone masonry structures, including a two-story central residence and office space, numerous site walls and bastions, a below-ground storage vault, and an office tower structure. The site has remained essentially untouched on a small, uninhabited

island near Freetown, Sierra Leone since the British slave trade ceased in 1807. Rain, erosion, and vegetation pose a significant threat to the remaining ruins, and rapid deterioration has been documented within the last few decades. An effort is underway to stabilize and protect the remaining structures and make them more accessible to visitors.



Founded around 1670, the Bunce Island Slave Castle was a primary hub for British slave trading in sub-Saharan west Africa, exporting tens of thousands of African captives to North America and the West Indies until passage of the Slave Trade Act in 1807.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY ATKINSON-NOLAND

- Perform an overall evaluation of existing structures and conditions in including analyzing the stability of existing elements to prioritize the most threatened structures on the site
- Design and train locals to implement emergency shoring measures at elements such as leaning walls and delicate window and door lintels
- Use ground penetrating radar to evaluate foundation conditions and nondestructively evaluate other subsurface conditions such as the underground vault roof



Atkinson-Noland & Associates
Consulting Engineers
www.ana-usa.com

2619 Spruce Street
Boulder, CO 80302
303.444.3620

32 Old Slip, 10th Floor
New York, NY 10005
917.647.9530