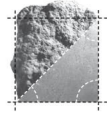


portland stone - naturally



ALBION STONE

# Frankton Memorial, France



**Architect/Designer:**  
**Baca Architects**

**Client:**  
**The Royal Marines Association**

**Contractor:**  
**Albion Stone Restoration**

**Location:**  
**Le Verdon-sur-Mer, France**

**Portland Stone:**  
**Grove Whitbed**

**Scope of Project:**  
**Construction of Memorial commemorating Operation Frankton.**

The Memorial commemorates Operation Frankton more popularly known as 'The Cockleshell Heroes', the epic WWII raid on enemy shipping in Bordeaux, in November 1942.

A team of ten courageous Royal Marines were launched by the submarine HMS Tuna into the Atlantic Ocean at night, from which they paddled 60 miles up the river Gironde, to Bordeaux, to cripple or destroy six enemy ships.

Only two men survived, assisted by courageous French citizens at a very high risk of

arrest, deportation and execution.

Four blocks of Portland stone symbolically followed the journey from the UK to France where they rise from the ground like the emerging Royal Marines, standing up for freedom and overlooking the Gironde.

The staggered blocks create a dynamic ensemble, growing bolder to the front. The blocks are adorned with polished plaques that commemorative the heroism and retell the story. Symbolically the four stones represent four figures emerging from the sea.

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