

Extract taken from **Response to questions from Historic England, to be read in conjunction with the previous heritage impact report:**

Finish coat applied to existing retained plaster and modern impervious paint layers with Terrix we have developed a method of reinstating the breathability of existing surfaces which have been covered with numerous layers of modern impervious plastic paints over the past 60 years or so. This method involves lightly scarifying the existing surfaces to remove 40% of the surface area of the modern layers to provide a key and a suitable level of porosity. These prepared surfaces can then be seamlessly finished with the same spray applied the finish plaster coat as proposed for the new base coated areas. Reference has been made in the heritage impact assessment report previously issued to the paint analysis reports prepared in 2015 and 2019 which adequately record the historic paint schemes found in an agreed representative number of spaces across the site prior to the removal of the defective plaster. In addition to this analysis and record we have agreed that, as a further mitigation of this proposal, where in the refurbishment areas we have discovered good examples of the original paint which has not been obliterated by the prevalent modern plastic layers, we should retain these areas of the exposed original decoration as the final finish for visual record and as points of interest. I think this is a positive proposal, as it will provide fascinating snippets or 'exemplars' of the original decorative design left for posterity and conservation. This will be easily achieved by careful selection of locations where it is feasible to appropriately present the original painted surfaces and omitting the scarify and topcoat specification in these specific areas. A suitable area for this approach will be either where the original finishes are of sufficient heritage interest and are already exposed in good condition or where the modern paint is so detached that it can be easily removed without further damage, and it can just be cleaned and touched-in to a reasonable appearance for retention. The selected locations can be recorded as part of the building record along with a commitment to retain these for permanent display and conservation. It should be noted that in the spaces defined very high significance restoration areas this approach of retaining, reinstating, and conserving or restoring appropriate historic decoration schemes are the chosen approach generally. This additional mitigation proposal is in the areas defined as refurbished or unique purpose spaces.