

PAINT STRATIGRAPHIC ANALYSIS REPORT

Job Number: 24711

Samples from 17-21 St Anne Square, Manchester
Cast Iron Columns

Report Written for Millbridge Project Management Ltd.

1. Introduction

Cliveden Conservation were invited to take paint samples and undertake paint flake stratigraphic analysis from the cast iron structural supporting columns- two samples were taken, one from the previously hidden capital and one from the exposed column shaft.

It was our surveyor, David Bloxhams' opinion that the column shafts had been subjected to previous paint removal and this is corroborated by microscopic analysis of sections of the two samples.

2. Analysis.

The samples were embedded on edge in clear polyester resin and abraded to produce a clear image of the paint stratigraphy.

The first image below shows the sample taken from the capital:



1. Paint sample from capital under magnification (RR/CCW)

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This sample has not collected any of the column metal/rust substrate and this may result from the protected capital being less corroded than the exposed shafts. The sample clearly shows a 'black' surface coating with several undercoat layers of buff coloured priming coat .

The second sample -taken from the shaft -shows the same 'priming' coats on a corroded metal substrate with no black top layer or grey undercoat in evidence:



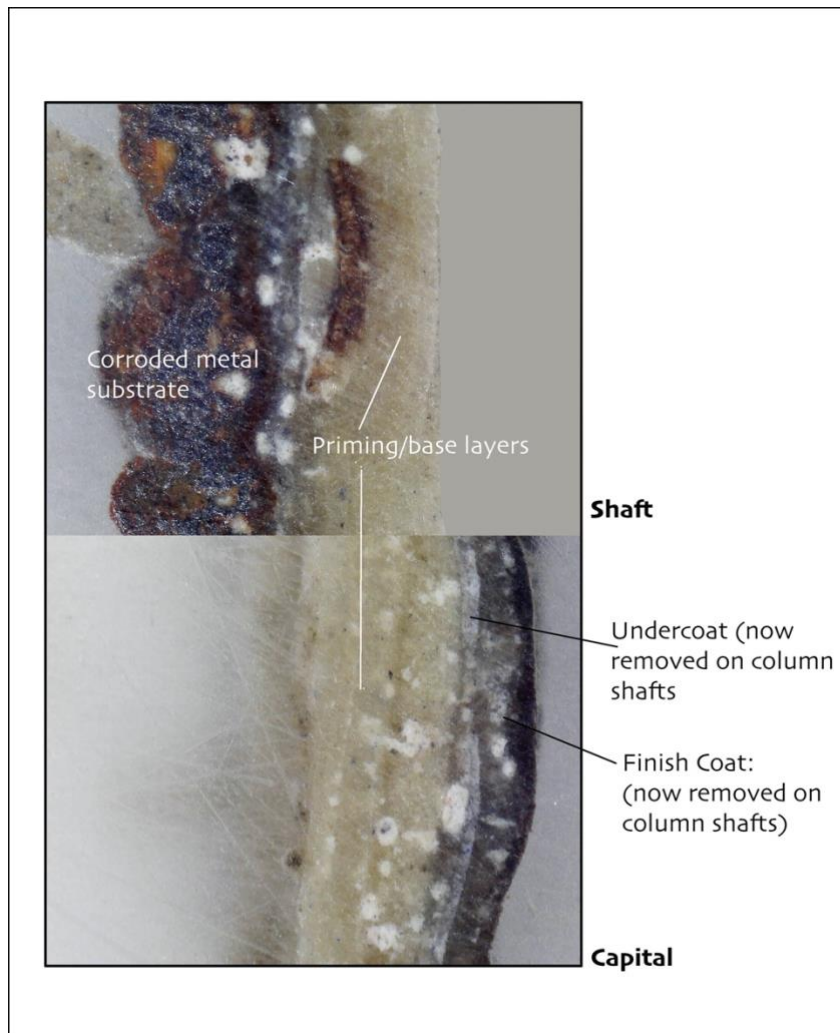
2. Sample taken from column shaft (RR/CCW)

See below for comparison of two samples:

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3. Comparison of samples (RR/CCW)

3. Conclusion.

It would appear from analysis that the original surface paint layers have been removed from the column shafts leaving an uneven undercoat exposed. This is a thin layer through which the corroding surface of the cast iron column is visible in places. No evidence of polychromy was found beyond the black coating and grey undercoat seen on the capitals.