

Paint Analysis and Proposed Paint Palette

Background:

In accordance with the provisions of Condition 5 attached to 140274/LO/2024, a full paint analysis of the previous decoration of the building has been undertaken by Heritage Project Management, with particular attention being paid to the former banking hall. Whilst the approved use as a restaurant does not necessarily want to replicate the colour scheme associated with an earlier and fundamentally different use, due consideration has been given the findings of that assessment.

Findings of the Analysis

The analysis demonstrates that there has been a range of different colour schemes within the building over the years, with over 22 paint layers in the former banking hall alone.

More importantly for the fabric of the building, there have been decades of impermeable paints use that have undermined the plaster and other details. As the report also demonstrates, there has been water ingress to areas.

As a result of the analysis, Heritage Project Management recommended the use of a single manufacturer to ensure full compatibility of products, and the use of Tikkurila as they are breathable and produce a full range that is also appropriate for difficult applications (so sealers, primers, undercoats and finish coats are all compatible with each other).

Returning to colour schemes, the analysis confirmed that it has changed over the years from white, to dark green, browns and blues, with lighter tones. Whilst most of the dentil mouldings have been off white, the inner ceiling mouldings have *inter alia* been red, brown, and bright yellow. The outer running has then been white, brown and grey.

For the columns, whilst mostly (but not exclusively) white, the capitals have been bright yellow and varnishes applied. For the lower bands, these have been off white, pink and even gold. For the bases, the stone has been varnished and/or had a granular finish of unknown material and finished alternatively in dark brown and grey.

For the pilasters, these have been white, brown on two occasions, stone colour and green.

For the walls, these have been various shades of white, blues, pink gypsum, stone colour and green.

For the panelling, these were originally tinted varnish and more recently mid green (apart from where likely obscured).

It is clear therefore that there has been a range of different finishes subject to the trend at the time, including darker colours to the ceiling and various features. Indeed, there

have been some very garish paint solutions at various points in the building's history, particularly within the former banking hall.

Conclusions

Whilst there is a history of varying colour palettes there is an underlying trend of paints that have had a direct impact upon the fabric of the building. The advice of the heritage consultant in this respect has been noted, with their suggested manufacturer providing the paints etc.

With respect to the palette, there are examples of browns and stone colours throughout the former banking hall. These are therefore reproduced or reinterpreted, as they also lend themselves to a more intimate and warmer feel that is more in-keeping with the approved restaurant use.

As well as acknowledging the past, the comprehensive approach is also the considered design solution of an award winning design practice which seeks to create a distinctive but appropriate restaurant experience commensurate with the significant investment in the building. In this respect, the proposed redecoration approach is considered to be successful whilst acknowledging the past and repairing and protecting the fabric for the future.