Our Ref: SG/SEL/27983

17/02/2025

FAO Dave Connor
Dawnvale
Albert House
Albert Street
Hollinwood
Manchester
OL8 3QP

BY EMAIL

Dear Dave,

Re: The Cut and Craft, Mosley Street, Manchester

The sandstone bases to the columns have had a variety of previous paint coatings applied to them over the years. A trial sample has been carried out to determine the effectiveness of a heritage approved paint softener and it was proven to be a good product to use.

Due to the nature of the site and the adjacent materials and finishes it was decided that only hand cleaning of the areas would be possible, as use of any other methods such as use of the Thermatech superheated steam would only increase the risk of damage.

The proposed process to carry out the works is as follows: -

Protection will be applied to adjacent materials and finishes by others prior to the paint removal works being undertaken. This will also include the floor area. Once protection is in place a coating of Restorative Techniques 'Rapid' paint softener is to be applied to the areas of paint that require removal. The coating is to be applied thick enough so that it doesn't dry out and it is then to be allowed to dwell for a minimum of 15mins to allow a reaction with the paint. The initial layers are to be scraped off using hand scrapers and the removed material placed in to a metal bucket at the side of the work area. Another layer of paint softener is then to be applied to the surface and the process repeated until elements of the base paint layer are removed from the scraping process, exposing the sandstone underneath. At this point a layer of paint softener is to be applied, allowed to dwell and then agitate with a hard stiff bristle brush to break down the final areas of paint. A scraper is to be used to remove the main build up and then a sponge is to be soaked in clean cold water and the area washed by hand to remove the final build ups of paint. If any stubborn sections are found the area can be left to dry and the process repeated. Once the paint has been removed to an acceptable level the area is to be again washed with a final amount of clean water to neutralise any remaining softener that may be on the surface.

Once the paint has been removed all protection can be removed and the sandstone inspected for any defects or further works that may be required.

If you require any further information please contact the writer

Yours sincerely,

Steve Gerrard
STONE CENTRAL (NW) LTD
(Enc)