

1.0 Airbricks

1.1 Method Statement

1. Existing terracotta airbricks are to be removed by carefully cutting out of surrounding localised brick. The minimum amount of localised brick is to be carefully removed to facilitate the work.

The airbricks are to be fitted externally rather than internally. The vents are stepped and do not align through the wall internally, therefore, to fit internally would be impractical and cause disproportionate and unnecessary intrusive work to internal existing ceiling and wall construction. No airbricks to be removed for the installation of mesh where protected bees are present to front (east) elevation.

2. Insect mesh to be inserted to rear of airbricks. This mesh is considered necessary to protect against insect infestation to the art works stored within the gallery.
3. Each airbrick is to be carefully re-bedded. Any replacements to be bespoke to match original in design.

1.2 Cutting Out Of Surrounding Brickwork

The areas to be cut out shall be marked on site and approved/confirmed by the Architect prior to commencement of cutting out.

The brickwork shall be carefully cut out with hand tools only (chisels), no mechanical tools should be used without express permission from the Architect. Extreme care should be taken not to damage the terracotta airbricks or the arises of adjoining brickwork which is to be being retained.

Any damage to adjoining areas will be made good at the contractor's expense.

The area is to be cleared of any mortar, debris etc. and any defect in the backing masonry is to be reported to the Architect.

1.3 Replacement Airbricks

Replacement terracotta airbricks shall be new terracotta manufactured by an approved manufacturer to match the existing size, texture, colour and profile of the original decorative airbricks. Performance data and samples shall be provided by the Contractor for approval to confirm suitability and no final orders shall be confirmed until the sample has been approved in writing.

1.4 Re-bedding Airbricks

The recess is to be thoroughly cleaned out and the adjoining brickwork is to be moistened to prevent the mortar "snatching". New airbricks are to be bedded on a bed of hydraulic lime mortar.

Airbricks are to be installed in the line of the original face of the brickwork and ensuring that the bed joints and per joints are maintained consistent with the existing bricks / blocks.

The mortar is to be kept back 25mm from the face to facilitate later pointing.

1.5 Water

Water for the works shall be clean and fresh without pollutants. Where existing water supply is available within the building this may only be used with the Employers permission. In other cases a lockable standpipe is to be erected to the approval of the Local Water Authority.

1.6 Mortar

The hydraulic lime mortar used shall be NHL 3.5.

1.7 Inspection

The Contractor is to allow inspection by the Architect with the benefit of access scaffold during the removal and re-bedding of the airbricks.