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HERITAGE PAINT COLOUR STRATEGY

project : 1526 – Rylands Building, Manchester.

date : 29.10.2025

our ref : 1526-01Bb20251029_HERITAGE PAINT COLOUR STRATEGY

1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this file note is to summarise the proposed paint colour strategy for internal heritage spaces at Rylands Buildings.

The proposals have been informed by the paint sampling results, the requirement for which was set out in the listed building approval.

2.0 Paint Scape Survey

Condition 5b of the listed building consent stipulates the need to complete a comprehensive analysis of historic paint finishes throughout the Rylands Building, stipulating:

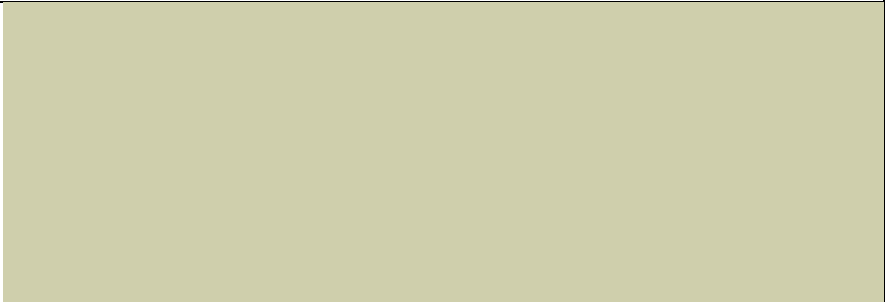
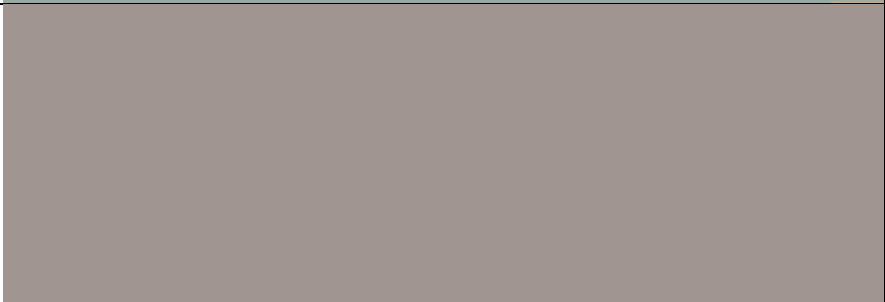
5) Notwithstanding the drawings approved in condition 2, prior to the commencement of development details of the following shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the City Council as local planning authority:

(b) A schedule of paint sampling including all painted surfaces such as the staircases, windows, walls and ceilings and panelling (which may have originally been a exposed wood finish) as a record and in order to inform the proposed decoration

The paint survey was undertaken by Alizeti & Analysis Scientific Ltd. Autumn 2024. The results of which are contained in their Original Colours and Lead Content Report.

3.0 Paint palette

The paint scrape results identify the following colour palette across the intact heritage rooms in the building.

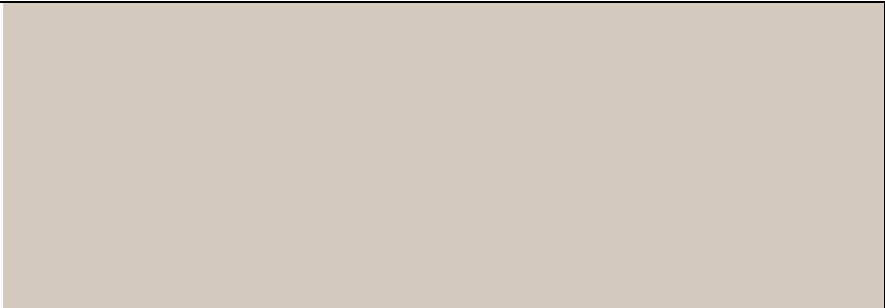
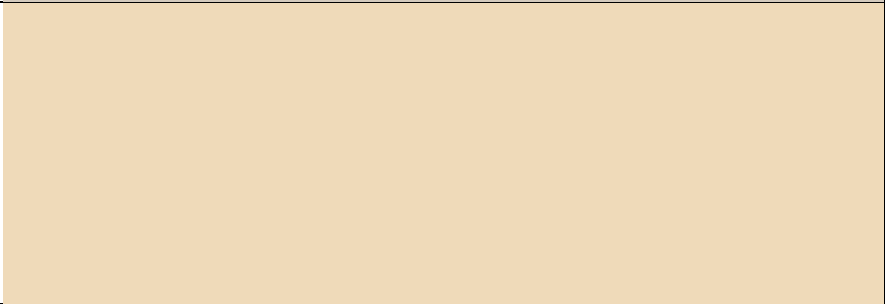
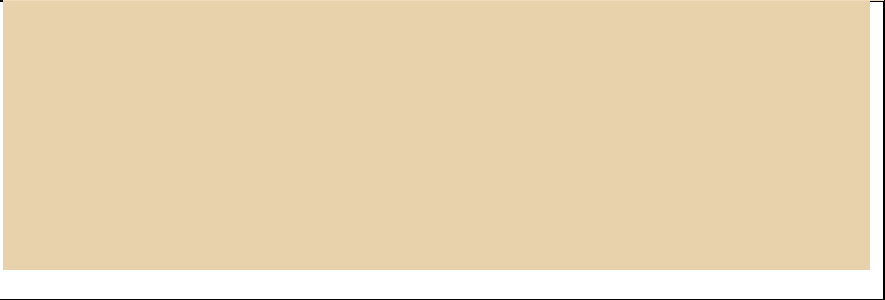
Colour	Swatch
Pale Olivine	
Rosemary Leaf	
Terra Ombra	

Wooded Walk	
Masters Gold	
York White	

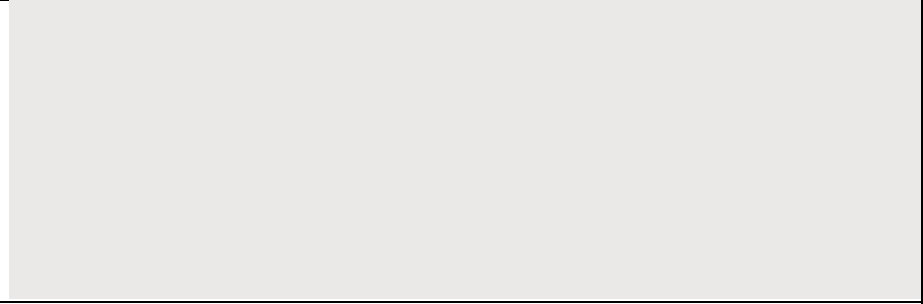
Buff	
Brushed Gold	
Dark Stone	

DH Blossom	
Red Ochre	
Biscuit Beige	

Beachcomb Grey	
Pewter Plate	
Lead Grey	

Pale Walnut	
Cream	
Warm Stone	

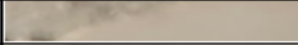
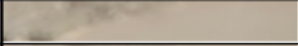
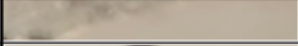
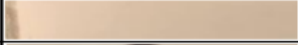
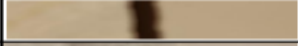
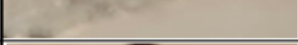
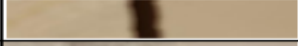
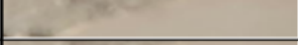
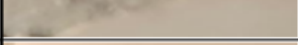
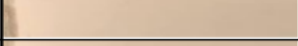
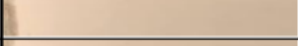
The following colours are provided as reference to selected colours that form part of the works but sit outside of the paint scrape findings

Colour	Swatch
RAL 9010 Pure White	
	Subframes and Spandrel Panels
RAL 7008 Khaki Grey	
	Restored windows and metalwork
Wiltshire White	
	Complimentary dulux heritage white

4.0 Ground Level Unit 01 (Former Bet-Fred)

4.1 Sample Report

The paint scrape sample report identifies a mix of Buff, Pale Walnut and Warm Stone across the ceiling of the proposed Unit 1 (Former Betfred Unit). Across the 10 Ceiling samples and 3 Capital samples, it is not possible to discern whether there was a three-tone colour scheme, or whether the scrape matching is identifying varying condition and discolouration in original material.

67	Plaster ceiling element 1	Corner "BetFred" unit		BUFF
68	Plaster ceiling element 2	Corner "BetFred" unit		PALE WALNUT
69	Plaster ceiling element 3	Corner "BetFred" unit		PALE WALNUT
70	Plaster ceiling element 4	Corner "BetFred" unit		PALE WALNUT
71	Plaster ceiling element 5	Corner "BetFred" unit		BUFF
72	Plaster ceiling element 6	Corner "BetFred" unit		WARM STONE
73	Plaster ceiling element 7	Corner "BetFred" unit		BUFF
74	Plaster ceiling element 8	Corner "BetFred" unit		PALE WALNUT
75	Plaster ceiling element 9	Corner "BetFred" unit		BUFF
76	Plaster ceiling element 10	Corner "BetFred" unit		PALE WALNUT
77	Plaster capital 1	Corner "BetFred" unit		PALE WALNUT
78	Plaster capital 2	Corner "BetFred" unit		WARM STONE
79	Plaster capital 3	Corner "BetFred" unit		WARM STONE
80	Above dado	Corner "BetFred" unit		WARM STONE
-	Below dado	Corner "BetFred" unit	N/A	N/A

4.2 Proposals

The proposal is to use the paint scrapes as reference, but to moderate the range of swatches, providing a coherent neutral scheme appropriate for use in a shell retail unit.

	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Sprinkler Pipes	Not tested		Pale Walnut (Matt)	
Ceiling	Buff, Pale Walnut, Warm Stone.		Wiltshire White (Matt)	
Cornice, Including Capitals	Buff, Pale Walnut, Warm Stone.		Pale Walnut (Matt)	
Columns	Inconclusive		Wiltshire White (Matt)	
Walls	Inconclusive		Wiltshire White (Matt)	
Skirting	Not tested		Wooded Walk (Eggshell)	

5.0 Level 02 – 2nd Floor Board Room

5.1 Sample Report

The paint scrape sample report identifies a mix of Pale Walnut and Warm Stone across the ceiling of the original L2 Boardroom. Across the 5 samples it is not possible to discern whether there was a two tone colour scheme, or whether the scrape matching is identifying varying condition and discolouration in original material.

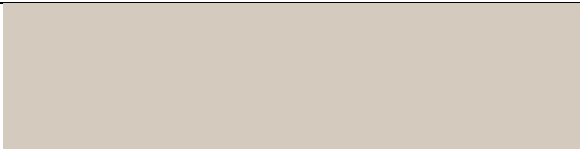
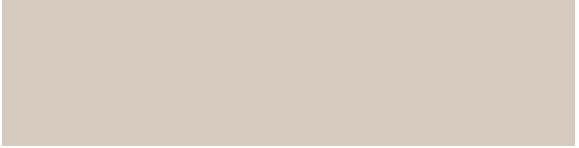
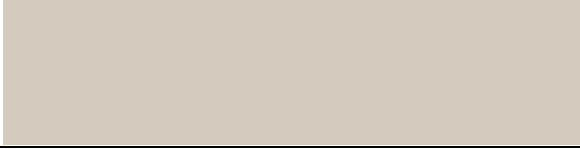
106	Ceiling	Original boardroom to the North-West corner		WARM STONE
107	Cornice	Original boardroom to the North-West corner		PALE WALNUT
108	Freize level wall	Original boardroom to the North-West corner		WARM STONE
109	Panelling	Original boardroom to the North-West corner		VARNISH
110	Secondary glazing frame	Original boardroom to the North-West corner		WARM STONE
111	External door architrave	Original boardroom to the North-West corner		PALE WALNUT

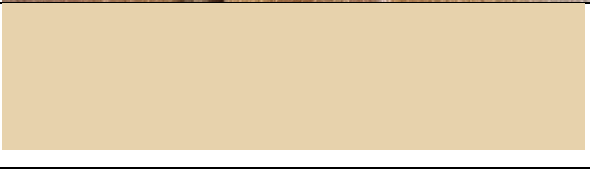
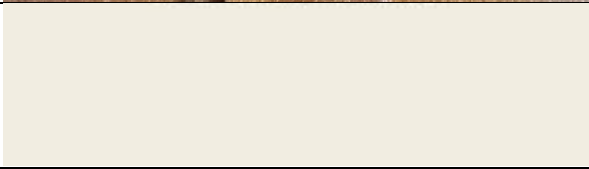
Referring to the original photograph of this space, there does not appear to be any indication that the cornice and ornamental plaster work is picked out in a colour different to the ceiling.



5.2 Proposals

The proposal is to use the paint scrapes as reference, but to moderate the range of swatches. Pale Walnut is chosen over Warm Stone as the more neutral colour, allowing the eye to focus on the leaded glass and panelling which are the defining features of this room. Across other rooms in the building, Pale Walnut re-occurs and would seem to be an appropriate consistent colour choice in the proposals for the building.

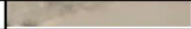
	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Ceiling	Warm Stone,		Pale Walnut (Matt)	
Cornice	Pale Walnut		Pale Walnut (Matt)	
Walls	Warm, Stone		Pale Walnut (Matt)	

Panelling	Varnish		Varnish (Satin)	
Secondary Glazing Frames	Warm Stone		RAL 9010	

6.0 Core 03 Staircase – Staircase 03

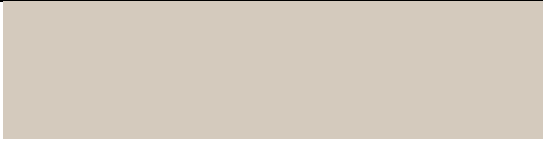
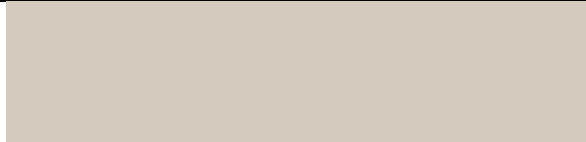
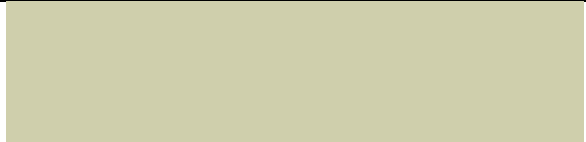
6.1 Sample Report

The limited sampling within Stair 03 (E as original) appears to be consistent with the intact lobby at L7. It is also noted that extensive tile coverage in the staircase would negate extensive sampling.

40	Wall	Staircase E		PALE OLIVINE
41	Ceiling	Staircase E		PALE WALNUT
42	Stair handrail	Staircase E		VARNISH
43	Decorative metal balustrade	Staircase E		GOLD LEAF
44	Decorative metal cage	Staircase E		GOLD LEAF
45	Decorative metal lift entrance	Staircase E		GOLD LEAF

6.3 Proposals

The proposals are true to the sample report results. The proposed scope of works to the metal work of the original cage lift includes for an initial clear and condition assessment. It is anticipated that the original finish is in good condition with refinishing being considered inappropriate.

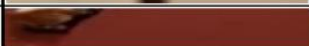
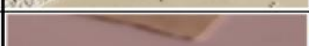
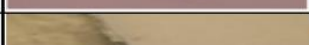
	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Ceiling	Pale Walnut		Pale Walnut (Matt)	
Walls	Pale Olivine		Pale Olivine (Matt)	
Metalwork	Gold Leaf		Metallic Gold (Original to be cleaned)	

'Field' Tile (Reference only)						
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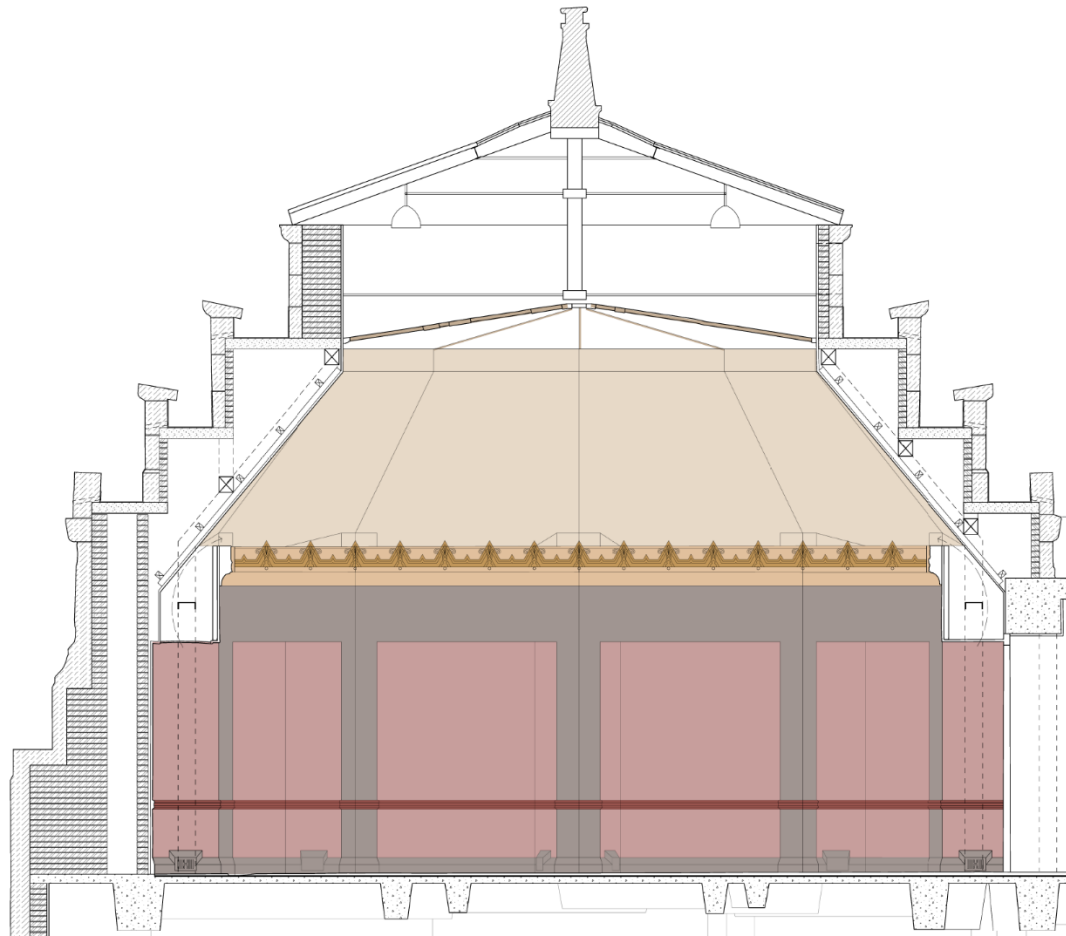
7.0 Level 07 – Cupolas East

7.1 Sample Report

The sample report indicates use of Terra Ombra to the walls and York White to the ceiling with Red Ochre, Blossom, Buff and Dark Stone featuring on distinct items.

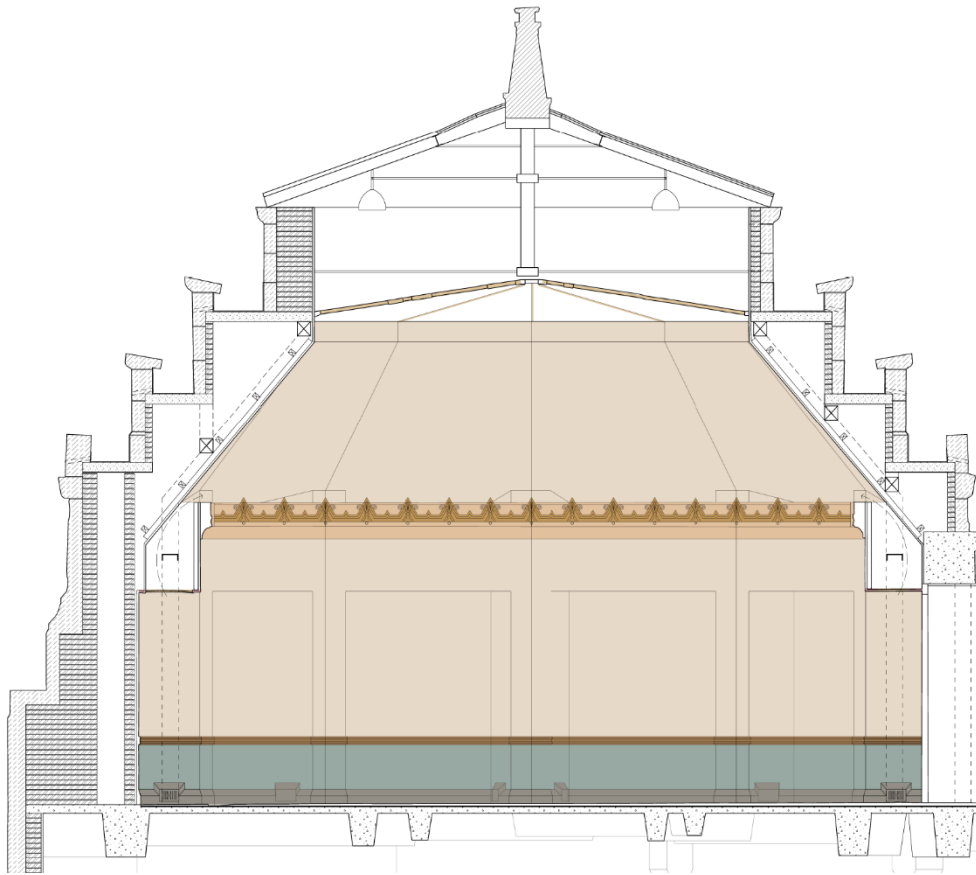
184	Above dado	East pavillion		TERRA OMBRA
185	Below dado	East pavillion		TERRA OMBRA
186	Freize	East pavillion		BUFF
187	Dado	East pavillion		RED OCHRE
188	Skirting	East pavillion		TERRA OMBRA
189	Ceiling	East pavillion		YORK WHITE
190	Soffit	East pavillion		BLOSSOM
191	Grill	East pavillion		DARK STONE
192	Metal laylight stained glass frames	East pavillion		DARK STONE
193	Painted metal perimeter decoration 1	East pavillion		GOLD LEAF
194	Painted metal perimeter decoration 2	East pavillion		GOLD LEAF
195	Painted door 1	East pavillion		VARNISH
196	Painted door 2	East pavillion		VARNISH

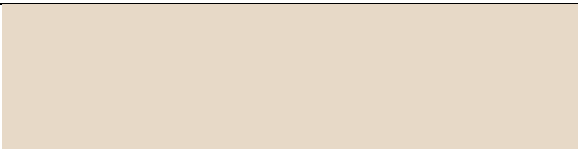
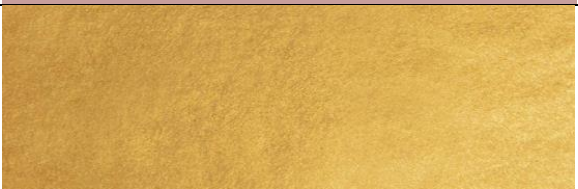
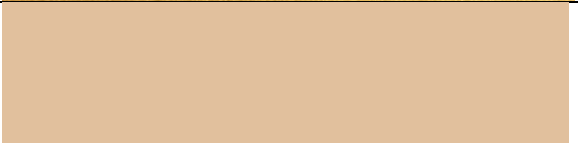
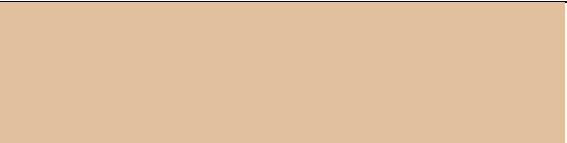
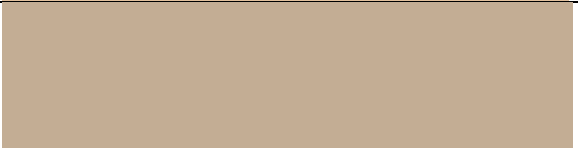
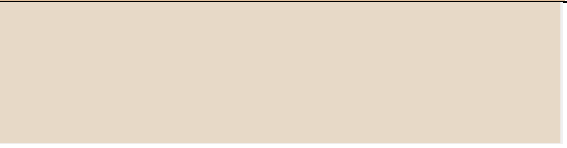
Referring to the below mock ups, there are questions whether the 9 samples that identify paint are truly representative of the original condition. The effect appears to be overbearing and detract from the coloured glass to the laylight.



7.2 Proposals

Where there are questions over the sampling the proposals seek to moderate the use swatch list and take cue from the results above and those on the main L7 floorplate which either validate the use of some colours or provide validation relative to colours seen elsewhere in the building. Note L7 is described separately later in this document.



	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Ceiling	York White, Blossom		York White (Matt)	
	Blossom			
Frieze – Highlight	Gold Leaf		Gold Leaf	
Frieze - Body	Buff		Buff (Matt)	
Grillage	Dark Stone		York White (Eggshell)	
Upper Wall	Terra Ombra		York White (Matt)	
Dado	Red Ochre		Masters Gold (Eggshell)	

Lower Wall	Terra Ombra		Rosemary Leaf (Matt)	
Skirting	Terra Ombra		Wooded Walk (Eggshell)	

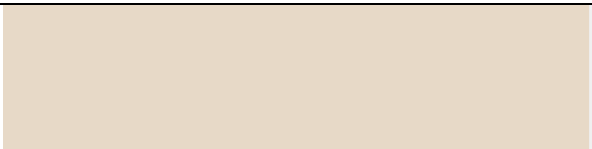
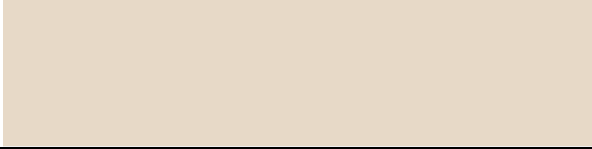
8.0 Level 07 – Cupola West

8.1 Sampling Report

Results for the west cupola have not been received. It is assumed that the results would echo the East Cupola and that the two spaces would not have received different original decoration schemes.

8.2 Proposals

The proposal is to match the scheme for the East Cupola providing a coherent, consistent proposal across the entire original portion of Level 7.

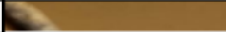
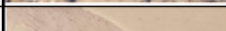
	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Ceiling	Not Tested		York White (Matt)	
Frieze – Highlight	Not Tested		Gold Leaf	
Frieze - Body	Not Tested		Buff (Matt)	
Grillage	Not Tested		York White (Matt)	

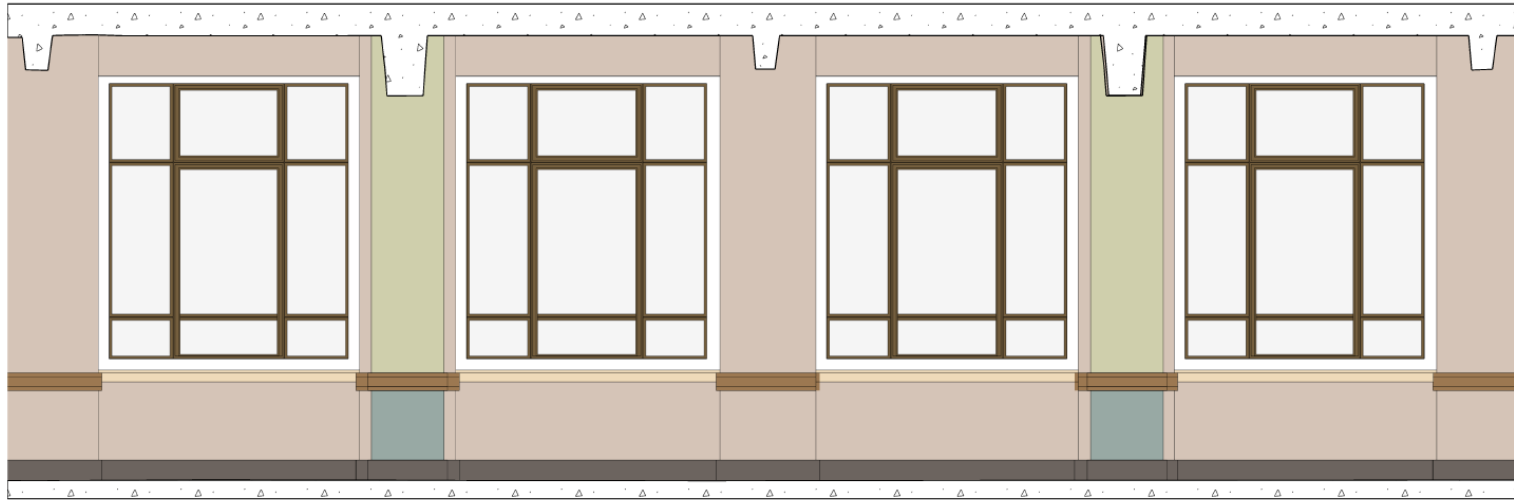
Upper Wall	Not Tested		York White (Matt)	
Dado	Not Tested		Masters Gold (Eggshell)	
Lower Wall	Not Tested		Rosemary Leaf (Matt)	
Skirting	Not Tested		Wooded Walk (Eggshell)	

9.0 Level 07 – Main Office Floor

9.1 Sample Report

Use of Pale Olivine appears consistent with the intact lobby at L7 and Stair 3. Biscuit Beige appears to sit within the range of neutrals seen elsewhere in the building, along with Buff and Stone.

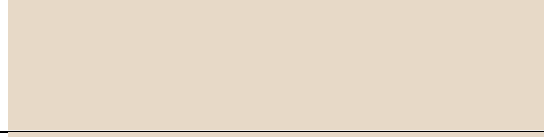
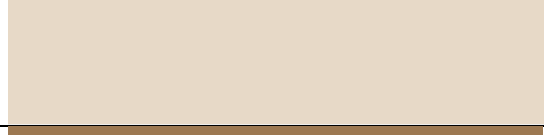
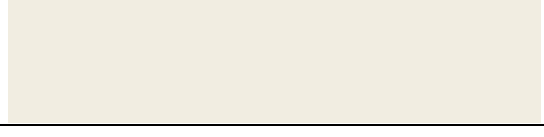
160	Square column with flat plaster above dado	Centre column		PALE OLIVINE
161	Square column with flat plaster above dado	Centre column		ROSEMARY LEAF
162	Painted dado rail	Centre column		MASTERS GOLD
163	Paint and flat plaster ceiling from centre of plan	Flat plaster ceiling		BISCUIT BEIGE
164	Ceiling pavement lights concrete frame	Centre of ceiling		WOODED WALK
165	Painted skirting boards	Columns		WOODED WALK
166	Painted timber window sills	South elevation		CREAM
167	Original timber wood block	Floor		VARNISH
168	Architrave	Doors to North elevation		STONE
169	Inner portion of door	Doors to North elevation		BUFF
170	Outer portion of door	Doors to North elevation		TUDOR BROWN
171	Additional portion of door	Doors to North elevation		BUFF

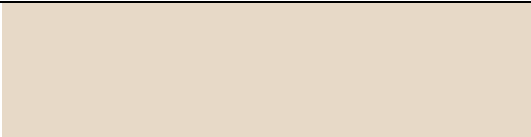
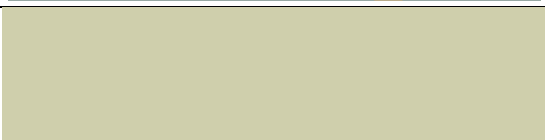
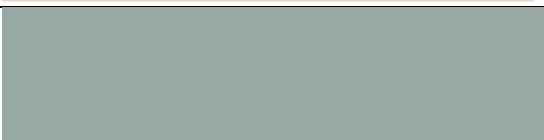
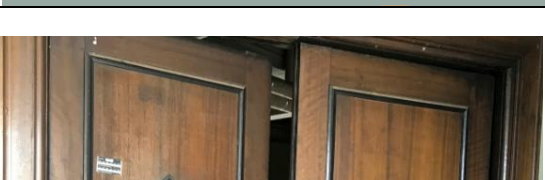
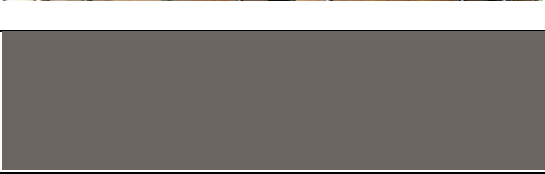
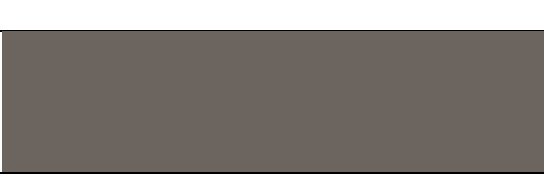


9.2 Proposal

When considered alongside the scheme for the cupolas, the proposal for the L7 main floor is to use the common neutral York White alongside the judicious contrasting colours identified in the paint scrapes.



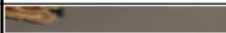
	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Ceiling	Biscuit Beige		York White (Matt)	
Sprinkler Pipe	Not Tested		York White (Matt)	
Pavement Light	Wooded Walk		York White (Matt)	
Walls	Not Tested		York White (Matt)	
Dado	Masters Gold		Masters Gold (Eggshell)	
Window Board	Cream		RAL 9010 (Eggshell)	
Upper Column	Pale Olivine,		York White (Matt)	

	Rosemary Leaf			
Lower Column	Pale Olivine,		Rosemary Leaf (Matt)	
	Rosemary Leaf			
Doors	Varnish		Varnish (Satin)	
Skirting	Wooded Walk		Wooded Walk (Eggshell)	

10.0 Level 07 – Vestibule East

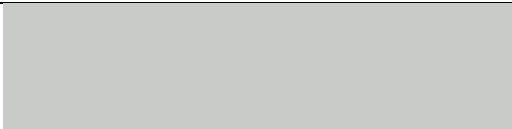
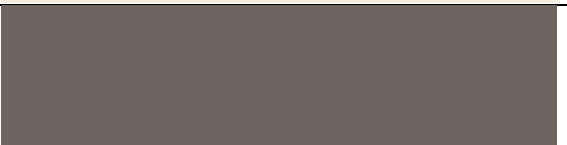
10.1 Sample Report

The sampling report identifies three greys, however there is no indication of how these colours were applied or indeed whether these were the original finish.

172	Original timber stained glass vestibule panelling 1	Eastern vestibule		PEWTER PLATE
173	Original timber stained glass vestibule panelling 2	Eastern vestibule		BEACHCOMB GREY
174	Original timber stained glass vestibule panelling 3	Eastern vestibule		LEAD GREY

10.2 Proposals

Given the limited interpretation of the sampled colours, the proposal is to use colours consistent with overall Level 7 Scheme.

	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Doors	Pewter Plate, Beachcomb Grey, Lead Grey		Varnish (Satin)	
Panels & Frames	Pewter Plate, Beachcomb Grey , Lead Grey		RAL 9010 (Eggshell)	
Skirting	Pewter Plate, Beachcomb Grey, Lead Grey		Wooded Walk (Eggshell)	

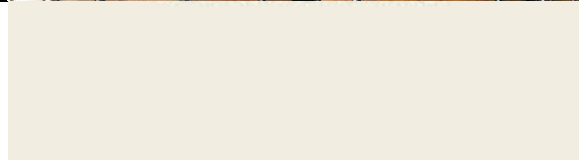
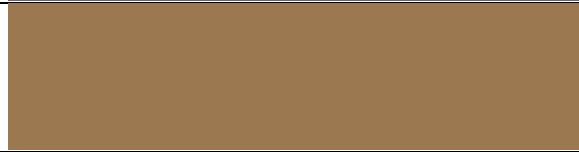
Crown Moulding			Masters Gold (Eggshell)	
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11.0 Level 07 – Vestibule West**11.1 Sample Report**

The report did not sample the West Vestibule

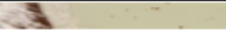
11.2 Proposals

The proposals are to match the scheme adopted for the East Vestibule

	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Doors	Not Tested		Varnish (Satin)	
Panels	Not Tested		RAL 9010 (Eggshell)	
Skirting	Not Tested		Wooded Walk (Eggshell)	
Crown Moulding	Not Tested		Masters Gold (Eggshell)	

12.0 Level 06-07 – Staircase East**12.1 Sample Report**

Where the sampling identifies colours that are visible today, it is noted that the East Staircase appears to be intact in as much as there has been no overpainting or redecoration of the life of the building.

175	Above dado	Staircase lobby to Eastern end of main room		PALE OLIVINE
176	Below dado	Staircase lobby to Eastern end of main room		PALE OLIVINE
177	Timber dado rail	Staircase lobby to Eastern end of main room		VARNISH
-	Metal vent above manager's dining room door	Staircase lobby to Eastern end of main room	N/A	N/A
-	Painted doors to vestibule	Staircase lobby to Eastern end of main room	N/A	N/A

12.2 Proposals

The proposals are to match the results of the paint scrapes.

	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Ceiling	Not Tested		Pale Walnut (Matt)	
Walls	Pale Olivine		Pale Olivine (Matt)	

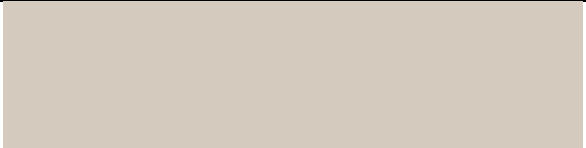
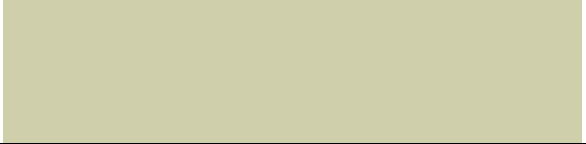
Dado	Varnish		Varnish (Satin)	
Window Boards	Varnish		Varnish (Satin)	
Skirting	Varnish		Varnish (Satin)	

13.0 Level 06-07 – Staircase West**13.1 Sample Report**

The sample report did not test the West Staircase.

13.2 Proposals

The proposal is to match the original scheme as proposed for the East Staircase.

	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Ceiling	Not Tested		Pale Walnut (Matt)	
Walls	Not Tested		Pale Olivine (Matt)	
Dado	Not Tested		Varnish (Satin)	
Skirting	Not Tested		Varnish (Satin)	

14.0 Level 07 Lobby**14.1 Sample Report**

The sample report did not test the Level 7 Lobby, however the it is unlikely that the middle room in the sequence of Stair 3, Level 7 Lobby and East Stair would have different colours to those identified in the first and last spaces.

14.2 Proposals

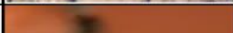
The proposal is to match the original scheme as proposed for the East Staircase and Stair 3.

	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Ceiling	Not Tested		Pale Walnut (Matt)	
Walls	Not Tested		Pale Olivine (Matt)	
Dado	Not Tested		Varnish (Satin)	
Window Boards	Not Tested		Varnish (Satin)	
Skirting	Not Tested		Varnish (Satin)	

15.0 Level 07 Management Office

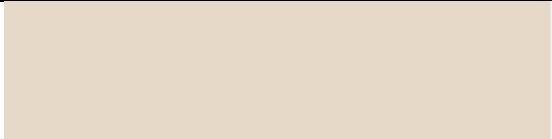
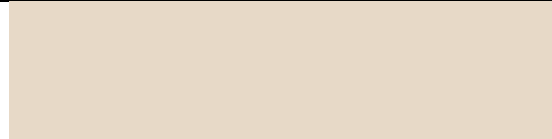
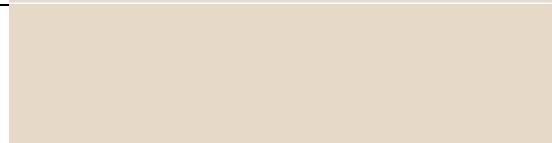
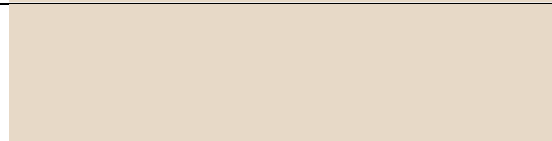
15.1 Sample Report

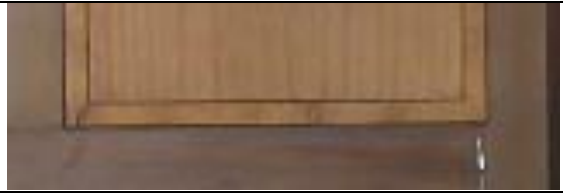
The sample report identifies a similar pattern to other rooms with a neutral colour above varnished timber panelling. The notable exceptions are Chiltern White and Red Sand. Red Sand is considered an anomaly that may relate to a later replacement or primer coat that can be disregarded in the proposals.

178	Ceiling	Original manager's dining room		CHILTERN WHITE
179	Cornice	Original manager's dining room		YORK WHITE
180	Rose	Original manager's dining room		YORK WHITE
181	Timber panelling	Original manager's dining room		VARNISH
182	Timber panelling skirting	Original manager's dining room		VARNISH
183	Inside window frame	Original manager's dining room		RED SAND

15.2 Proposals

As set out in the Level 2 Boardroom, it is suggested that the Chiltern White is also only representative of a common neutral. As such the proposal is to use the common York White for consistency.

	Original	Swatch	Proposed	Swatch
Cornice	York White		York White (Matt)	
Ceiling	Chiltern White		York White (Matt)	
Walls	Not Tested		York White (Matt)	

Panelling	Varnish		Varnish (Satin)	
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16.0 Samples

For prudence, the above swatches should be prepared as physical in situ samples for final review and sign of, prior to commencement of the full decorating works.

End.