Method Statement

Date: 25.11.2023

Works to correct and repair cob and render elevations at:

Northcott Cottage,
Morchard Bishop,
Nr Crediton, EX17 6SJ

Method

- Carefully remove existing cementious render on cob elevations and plinth.
- Inspect for splits and fissures in cob elevations.
- Assess east and north corner junction, where re-working of cob has occurred and assess levels of saturation in existing cob and degree of any slippage.
- Review use of modern material and lack of tieing in at this corner and maker good by chasing out poor working and re-tie using stainless steel helifix bars as required and stabilise.
- Stabilise any unstable or slipping cob at east and north corner with new cob block and NHL 2 lime and sharp sand.
- Where other splitting is found, chase out and stitch intermittently with cob blocks and NHL 2, (Natural Hydraulic Lime) with sharp sand mix 2:5 mortar and strengthen with stainless steel helifix bars.
- Expose and assess the condition of the plinth. Make good by raking out any cementious pointing material and re-point and tamp back with NHL 2 leaving the stone exposed to allow breathability.
- Inspect the condition and placement of cementious lintels and replace with seasoned oak if necessary.
- Review weight bearing of cruck in front bedroom which is being held up by newly created window opening.

- Replace with a new lintel.

- Remove all concrete at the footings of the elevations which is impeding breathability at plinth height.

- Create a French Drain by excavating an area 150mm from the base of the plinth. Dig out 0.5m x 0.5m channel. Place breathable membrane in newly created ditch.

- Fill with pea shingle to level in channel.

Render

- Harl exposed cob elevations with NHL 2 with sharp sand mix 2:5

  (2 lime-5 sand)
- Allow to dry
- Apply Haired Scratch Coat with NHL, sharp sand mix 2/5.
- Final smooth finish coat render using CLM 35 lime putty mix, with colour pigment from Cornish Lime.
- Float and sponge back
- Allow to dry.

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