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Method Statement for installation of Historic Fireplace

Site address:

Bristol Guildhall

18-22 Small St

Bristol

BS1 1DE

Fireplace History.

The fireplace was removed from its position in the Guildhall and a full set of condition photos were taken to aid in the reinstallation and conservation/repair.

Pre installation.

Each stone will be photographed, any faults recorded the wrapped in softening ready for transport to site. Special note will be made of the stones that have been previously worked to receive cramps , ties or supporting ironwork.

Delivery.

The fireplace will be transported to site in small batches which will make up the different courses with the stones then laid out with dimensions, bed height stone depths marked on site for reference.

Installation.

The fireplace will be concurrently with the blockwork supporting wall, this will enable the stones to be embedded in the wall as it is being built.

The stones will be cramped back to the wall with stainless steel 316 grade fixings, dog cramps suitable for the size and weight of the stones. Where in the original some of the larger stones were supported with iron ties these will be replaced with stainless steel 316 grade.

The fireplace stones will be bedded in a lime putty & stone dust mix as per the original installation; any thick joints will have a coarser aggregate installed as per the original installation.

As there are significant areas of salt damage to areas of the fireplace and there are eroded and damaged or missing areas of the stonework, these will be modelled up in a lime-based repair mortar together with a lime-based shelter coat which will both protect and blend in the areas of repair/conservation, this will also help to blend in some of the areas of previous repairs.

The stones although large are manageable by 2 skilled stonemasons, a steel gantry with block and tackle & lifting slings will be used to hoist the larger stones into position.