

ENGLISH HERITAGE PLAQUE DESCRIPTION

Manufacture of English Heritage blue plaques is undertaken by specialist artisans. Each plaque is created by the mixing and pouring of a thick clay slip into a casting mould. When sufficiently dry, the cast is removed and the outline of the inscription and border is piped onto the face of the plaque and filled with white glaze. Blue glaze is then applied to the background before firing. This process produces gently raised characters and border, a unique feature of English Heritage plaques. After firing, plaques have a diameter of 495mm and are 50mm deep. They set into the fabric of a building to a depth of 50mm, so that they rest flush with the surface of the elevation. Plaques have been found to be extremely durable. Similar plaques erected by the Society of Arts under the scheme have lasted for over 100 years. Due to their slightly domed design, modern plaques are self-cleaning and require little maintenance.