

Method Statement

Method Statement for the Lifting of Natural Stone Flooring and
the Reinstatement and Installation of Natural Stone Flooring

PROJECT:

The
British Museum
Central Saloon
and Galleries 37
to 40

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On Site Liaison

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Working Hours Days

08.00 to 16.30 Monday to Friday
08.00 to 14.30 Saturday & Sunday

Working Hours Nights

19.00 to 04.30 Monday to Friday
19.00 to 01.30 Saturday & Sunday

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Project: The British Museum, Central Saloon and Galleries 37 to 40

0.1 General

- 1.1 The lifting of natural stone, slab/paving will be carried out in accordance with current codes of good practice
- 1.2 Only operatives who are fully experienced and trained for the task will be employed to carry out these works
- 1.3 All operatives are to wear steel toe capped boots, high visibility jackets, gloves, eye and ear protection
- 1.4 Supervision – Del Stone will be responsible at all times whilst work is in progress for the supervision and direction of their works through their on-site Agent who can be easily contacted and can liaise with the Client and the general public should a problem arise

2.0 Sequence of Working

- 2.1 Before any works are to take place arrange to meet with the CA and relevant Area Manager, Fire Officer and Security to establish the areas that can be worked, times, dates, fire escapes that are to be left free, walkways etc.
- 2.2 Once the above areas and times have been established draw up a Programme of Works for the CA's approval. Once this is approved, distribute a copy to the relevant bodies involved
- 2.3 Before works commence establish with CA a date for a weekly Contractors Meeting
- 2.4 Once the works are in progress should there be a need to deviate from the Programme this should be brought up at the weekly meeting and can only be implemented by the CA
- 2.5 Should at any time there be a need to deviate from the specification for any reason, this should also be brought up at the weekly meeting and only be changed with prior permission from the Architect/CA

Method Statement the Lifting of Natural Stone Flooring and the Reinstatement and Installation of Natural Stone Flooring

Project: The British Museum, Central Saloon and Galleries 37 to 40

3.0 **Scaffold**

- 3.1 All work will be carried out from a mason's scaffold complying with the requirements of BS 5973: 1993 Code of Practice for access and working scaffold structures in steel
- 3.2 Where necessary the scaffold may need to be strengthened using ladder beams according to weight and stress
- 3.3 Where the scaffold is tied into the face, only stainless steel anchors can be used
- 3.4 The scaffold will have 2m lifts and will be fully boarded with one board between the inner upright and the face of the building
- 3.5 Unprotected scaffold must not be used and any scaffold transoms abutting the building face will be fitted with end caps
- 3.6 Any holes left in the face when the scaffold is dismantled will be plugged with stucco

4.0 **Preparation of Works**

- 4.1 Establish with the CA where Natural Stone slab/paving is to be stored and where skips are located
- 4.2 Take dimensions of the Natural Stone slab/paving that are to be lifted and establish the approximate weight of each slab, the best way of lifting them and the sequence that they are to be lifted
- 4.3 Establish with the CA the route that the stone slab is to take going to the storage area and determine whether the flooring is to be strengthened using scaffold boards or similar to distribute the weight points of loads
- 4.4 Securing of stone is to be by Lewis pins, strap round slings, slab grabs **or in this instance a stone magnet**

Method Statement the Lifting of Natural Stone Flooring and the Reinstatement and Installation of Natural Stone Flooring

Project: The British Museum, Central Saloon and Galleries 37 to 40

Preparation of Works/con...

- 4.5 Method of lifting is to be by crane, block and chain, rope and wheel, scaffolding hoist, builders gantry hoist **or in this instance a mobile aluminium gantry crane**
- 4.6 Moving of stone is to be by pallet truck, masons turn table truck, masons heavy duty trolley, fork lift truck **or in this instance a heavy duty masons stone trolley**
- 5.0 **Lifting Natural Stone Slab/Paving**
- 5.1 Lifting Natural Stone/Paving at the following Project: The British Museum Central Saloon and Galleries 37 to 40
- 5.2 The stone slab to the above Project floor is to be lifted as per the marked up drawings and specification and stored for re-use at a later date
- 5.3 Lifting tackle – erect a masons mobile aluminium gantry crane, with a one ton block and chain attached to the gantry above the stone slabs/paving stones to be lifted
- 5.4 Secure to the block and chain a one ton stone magnet by hook and clip
- 5.5 Carefully saw around the 4 No. stone joints to the full depth of the slab which is to be lifted using a diamond blade attached to a mechanical cutter
- 5.6 Dampen the stone surface with cold water and sponge off the stone to be lifted, attach the stone magnet and secure by starting the motor which forms a suction. Now the stone can be lifted using the block and chain. This method is to be repeated for each individual stone that is to be lifted
- 5.7 Once stone slab has been lifted move masons trolley into adjacent position, pull slab over using gantry and lower slab onto the trolley to be removed to the storage area
- 5.8 When the stone is in place on the trolley, manually pull to designated storage area using the designated route
- 5.9 The stones are to be numbered individually as they are lifted and marked on a record drawing for the reinstatement

Method Statement the Lifting of Natural Stone Flooring and the Reinstatement and Installation of Natural Stone Flooring

Project: The British Museum, Central Saloon and Galleries 37 to 40

Lifting Natural Stone Slab/Paving/con...

- 5.10 The lifting of the stone slab described in the above items 5.4, 5.5, 5.7 is the method to be repeated to each individual slab throughout the complete Contract and repeated when lifting from the trolley into the storage area
- 5.11 When the stones are lifted the bed would normally be scrapped back at least 75mm for the re-bedding of new paving. In this instance the builders are to dig a trench to install services so they will complete these works leaving the desired space for our bed
- 5.12 On completion of the above works, clear all plant and spent materials from site and make sure that the stone storage area is secure

6.0 Installation And Fixing of Natural Stone Slab/Paving

- 6.1 Prior to the installation the area will be checked to ensure it is a safe working area
- 6.2 Before the installation ensure that the sub base is of the correct depth below the finished floor level as this is to be laid by others. Determine the data lines and the setting out
- 6.3 The stone slab/paving will be laid in accordance with the specification and working drawings
- 6.4 The stone slab/paving will be set out from a position that is governed by the joint configuration being parallel to the main access of space or specified features on the working drawings/as was
- 6.5 The level of the stone/slab paving will be determined by a pre-set datum level as shown on the Architects drawings and/or working drawings with a 2/3mm tolerance allowance
- 6.6 The fixing bed is to be as specification on to the ready prepared base. A typical bed mix is 6 sharp, 1 lime putty and 1 white Portland cement (6:1:1)
- 6.7 The laying of the bed should be by hand using large trowels and should be compacted to prevent cavities and bedded to surrounding levels

Method Statement the Lifting of Natural Stone Flooring and the Reinstatement and Installation of Natural Stone Flooring

Project: The British Museum, Central Saloon and Galleries 37 to 40

Installation And Fixing of Natural Stone Slab/Paving/con...

- 6.8 The positioning of the stone slab is to be by lowering the stone magnet onto the pre-wetted stone slab using the chain and block and mobile gantry, lifting the stone from the trolley, moving across on the gantry and lowering into position
- 6.9 Setting the stone - once the stone is in position remove the stone magnet and level the stone tapping down with a wooden masons mallet setting spacers in the joints and leveling to datum lines
- 6.10 Once the stone is in place and bedded clean with water and sponge washing off any residue from the bedding leaving stone to set for three/four days before allowing traffic over it
- 6.11 Grouting the stone joints using a specified mix or alternative – a typical stone mix – 4 silver sand, 2 stone dust, 1 hydrated lime, 1 white Portland cement (4:2:1:1) or in this instance the mix may be silver sand, stone dust and a lime putty with no cement
- 6.12 Applying grout – remove spacers and clean out joint, wet joint with a brush and apply mortar by hand with a metal small tool, trowel compacting to full depth. Leave until semi-dry and sponge off with clean cold water

7.0 Welfare and Amenities

- 7.1 Establish with the MC all welfare and amenities that operatives are to use in conjunction with our works whilst on their site
- 7.2 At no time should our operatives be anywhere in the building other than the designated area of works or the designated facilities

8.0 Health & Safety

- 8.1 Only operatives who have been fully trained for the task will be used on this Contract
- 8.2 All Del Stone staff and operatives will be expected to attend a site induction with the MC before commencement of any works or attending site
- 8.3 A weekly tool box talk will be implemented with regards to Health & Safety and any relevant problems that may arise from the works as they progress

Method Statement the Lifting of Natural Stone Flooring and the Reinstatement and Installation of Natural Stone Flooring

Project: The British Museum, Central Saloon and Galleries 37 to 40

Health & Safety/con...

- 8.4 All operatives will be issued with the appropriate steel toe capped boots, high visibility jackets, hard hats and the appropriate masks, eye and ear protection

9.0 Protection

- 9.1 All protection on site and areas to be worked will be by MC
- 9.2 All protection to general public and public areas will be by MC
- 9.3 All erection and maintenance of the hoarded perimeter and access is to be by MC