



CASE STUDY — 01

# A LONDON RESIDENCE



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A Robert Adams house completed in 1772 with many original features.

## A Robert Adams house completed in 1772 with many original features.

Between April 17-19 2019, various paint stripping trials were carried out by RAG ARTS on the ground and 1st floor. These were carried out on flat and carved wood, as well as decorative plaster surfaces, where the detail had been hidden by the thick build-up of paint. Tests were carried out at four locations – front hall, stairwell, wooden shutters, and dado.

The client was extremely pleased with the results of the trial as it showed that there was beautiful and intricate carving beneath the many layers of paint, which had completely obscured the fine detail.

After completing the report on the stripping trials, the client, who preferred to keep all the specialist restoration and decoration work with one company, requested Rag Arts to make mineral plaster samples for the walls of the house, to be applied over 600 square meters.

Rag Arts was asked to advise on paint for the stripped plaster and woodwork, the wall finishes and ceilings.

The client was happy Rag Arts recommended sustainable paints both for the environmental and health benefits.



LAYERED PAINT OBSCURING DETAIL



INTRICATE CARVING BENEATH

DECORATIVE WOOD	6
AND STUCCO	
STRIPPING	
DOORS	
PAINTING/DECORATING	
PLASTER BAND	
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The background of the page is a close-up photograph of various decorative wood and stucco moldings. The moldings are arranged in horizontal bands, showing different patterns such as repeating leaf motifs, geometric shapes, and textured surfaces. The colors range from light beige to dark brown. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the image, containing the chapter title and subtitle.

CHAPTER ONE

# DECORATIVE WOOD AND STUCCO

ORIGINAL DECORATIVE ELEMENTS

# STRIPPING

## Stripping Overview

Areas, ground floor entrance, staircase hall, 1st floor, dining room, living room, kitchen, study, 1st floor lobby.





# Stripping Phase One

Stripping x 2 strips Langlow stripaway



## Stripping Phase Two

Repairing and filling woodwork

Applying oil only after wood had been cleaned and all stripaway residue had been neutralised with vinegar and cleaned

Taking moulds to replace missing elements, casting in plaster and fixing/making good





# TRIALS PDF

— · [DOWNLOAD](#)



# INTERIM REPORT

— · [DOWNLOAD](#)



# STRIPPING REPORT

— · [DOWNLOAD](#)



## Ground Floor Doors

The client decided to strip the pitch pine doors on the ground floor and not to repaint them.

The stripped doors presented many problem areas including replacement panels and old repairs



# Phase One: Stripping

Strip doors completely

Sand

Repair and make good

Replace missing elements

[DOWNLOAD DOOR REPORT](#)



## Phase Two Staining & Graining

The client wanted the doors stained to complement the reclaimed oak floor.

Once the doors were stripped it became clear that it would be necessary to grain the large amounts of filler that had been used on old/historic repairs and replacement panels as well as the considerable amount of filling and repairs we had done.

- Samples and tests were carried out on the doors to find the right stain.
- The doors were wire brushed to give an even grain.
- Areas that were filled or panels that had been replaced with rough cuts of wood were prepared and wood grained to tie in with the rest of the pitch pine on all doors.
- The doors were stained and sealed to achieve a warmer colour.





# O&M: Doors Manual

GROUND FLOOR // 5 DOORS

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## CLEANING

As required.

Dust with a soft dusting brush.

Clean with a soft damp cloth, natural soap and warm water. Do not use a scouring sponge, or products with any sanding or polishing filler such as Cif.

## REMOVAL

In case of complete redecoration for a smooth base: lightly sand entire wall.

Skim with a breathable eco plaster.

## DECORATION

To keep texture but change colour to a flat colour, re-paint with Keim Optil.

## MAKING GOOD

Please contact Rag Arts for making good of damage to the wall.

For smaller areas or spots Rag Arts can provide touch up/care package on request by the client.

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# PAINTING & DECORATING WOODWORK

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*Brief:* To apply knotting to knots in the wood, to prime and to paint

The client chose to use one colour for all the woodwork, we recommended Belgian brand Emente, a water soluble linseed oil Paint that is hardwearing and sustainable, with a beautiful selection of colours. The client chose: *Dorian's pillar 10*.

The paint was to be painted on in several thin layers to allow the carved woodwork we had uncovered to shine.

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## Painting Method

Knotting was applied to the knots on the stripped  
woodwork and the,

Wood was primed in Emente Acrolin,

With 2-3 thin coats of Emente Satola as a top coat.

Extra care was taken to apply the paint thinly and evenly.





# O&M: Woodwork Manual

**GROUND FLOOR** // ENTRANCE : dado, skirting, decoration above door to staircase hall // STAIRCASE HALL : dado, skirting

**1ST FLOOR** // KITCHEN : window surrounds, Shutters (fronts only) // STUDY : dado, skirting, shutters, window surrounds // LIVING ROOM : dado, skirting, shutters, window surrounds, above adjoining door // DINING ROOM : dado, skirting, shutters, window surrounds, above adjoining door // LANDING : dado, skirting

The woodwork has been painted using Emente Satola 'Dorian's Pillar 10' which is a low sheen water soluble linseed oil based paint. It is a sustainable paint as well as being durable and washable. The stripped wood was primed using an isolating primer Emente Acrolin.

## CLEANING

The paint must be 14 days old before cleaning. You can use a damp cloth and if necessary, a PH neutral natural detergent.

Do not use anything with polishing filler such as Cif.

## REMOVAL/REDECORATION REMOVAL

For complete removal strip wood using an eco-paint stripper such as 'Home Strip-paint and varnish remover'

## REDECORATION

To redecorate, lightly sand painted surface, clean and repaint in colour/paint of choice.

## MAKING GOOD

Sand down damaged area, make sure it is clean, and free from dust, apply Emente Arcolin primer (1 coat) and Emente Satola 'Dorian Pillar' (1-2 coats)

# PLASTER BAND

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*Brief:* To strip,  
repair and repaint  
the plaster.

To strip plaster bands in staircase hall (please see detailed reports for stripping).

To make good cracks in the plaster band and repair any of the decorative carving/ missing elements

To repaint stripped plaster band in woodwork colour.

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The stripped plaster bands were due to be painted the same colour as the woodwork. After applying Beeck gypsum primer and stain blocking any yellow stains with keim stain blocker, we realised that the plaster bands looked fantastic painted a chalky white.

We rang the client at this stage who came to see for themselves,

and they agreed, the plaster bands should not be painted the same as the woodwork.

The overall effect of the blue grey cloudy plaster walls and the chalky white plaster band with palmette and swag decoration is magnificent and elegant, the daylight from the glass dome changes all day long creating the illusion of movement in a sky.





## Method & materials

The plaster bands were stripped with up to 6 coats of Langlow Stripaway LV.

Repairs to missing plaster elements, voids and cracks were treated with plaster and lime putty mixes.

The bands were primed with Beek gypsum plaster.

Stains were blocked using Keim stain blocker.

The top coat was painted in Keim 'Optil' white.

A mixture of keim optil K8691 and keim optil K8692 was applied unevenly to give a patina.



# O&M: Plaster Band Manual

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## CLEANING

Dust with a feather duster. In case of dirt use a damp, soft, lint free cloth, for stubborn marks use PH neutral soap and water. Do not scrub or use a scouring sponge.

## REMOVAL

For complete removal strip the plaster band use an eco paint stripper such as 'Home Strip- paint and varnish remover'

## REDECORATION

To redecorate, lightly sand painted surface, clean, prime using an isolating primer such as 'Beeck gypsum primer fine', repaint in colour/paint of choice.

## MAKING GOOD

For small areas Rag Arts can leave a care package (on request) For larger areas, please contact: Rag Arts

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CHAPTER THREE —————

# WALL FINISHES

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*Brief:* To create  
a subtle and soft  
mineral plaster finish  
for the walls.

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Rag Arts made samples for the mineral plaster using SOL silicate paint (Keim 'Optil') to which we added, marble dust, quartz and clay powder.

The mixture which has the consistency of plaster was applied with trowels, We added pigments to a base of white to develop the right colours and applied breathable glazes to protect the plaster and add movement to the large expanses of wall we needed to cover.

We sampled the finish on site in four different places and in various colours and tones which we developed on discussion with the client.

The client chose to use two of the samples, a rich white colour Keim Optil K8691 throughout the first floor rooms and a bluish grey tone Keim 'Optil' K8690 for the ground floor and 20 meter high staircase hall. The colours were mixed by Rag Arts and samples were sent to Keim to be copied.

K8690 was used as a flat paint on the back staircase walls and K8691 was used on the ceiling of the back staircase and on the underside of the stairs.



## Method & materials

Rag arts 'waterglass' finishes are made using sustainable keim mineral paints with the addition of clay, marble dust and quartz to create a thin textured plaster finish.

The plaster is sealed for protection with a breathable eco wall glaze with the addition of pigments from earthborn 'wall glaze'



# O&M: Wall Finishes Manual

GROUND FLOOR // ENTRANCE // COURTYARD LOBBY // LIFT LOBBY // STAIRCASE HALL

1ST FLOOR DINING ROOM // LIVING ROOM // STUDY // FAMILY KITCHEN // LIFT LOBBY // LANDING

2ND FLOOR MASTER BATHROOM // 2ND FLOOR LANDING

The woodwork been painted using Emente Satola 'Dorian's Pillar 10' which is a low sheen water soluble linseed oil based paint. It is a sustainable paint as well as being durable and washable. The stripped wood was primed using an isolating primer Emente Acrolin.

## CLEANING

As required.

Dust with a soft dusting brush.

Clean with a soft damp cloth, natural soap and warm water. Do not use a scouring sponge, or products with any sanding or polishing filler such as Cif.

## REMOVAL

In case of complete redecoration for a smooth base: lightly sand entire wall.

Skim with a breathable eco plaster.

## DECORATION

To keep texture but change colour to a flat colour, re-paint with Keim Optil

## MAKING GOOD

Please contact Rag Arts for making good of damage to the wall.

For smaller areas or spots Rag Arts can provide touch up/ care package on request by the client.



CHAPTER THREE —————

# PORTLAND STONE





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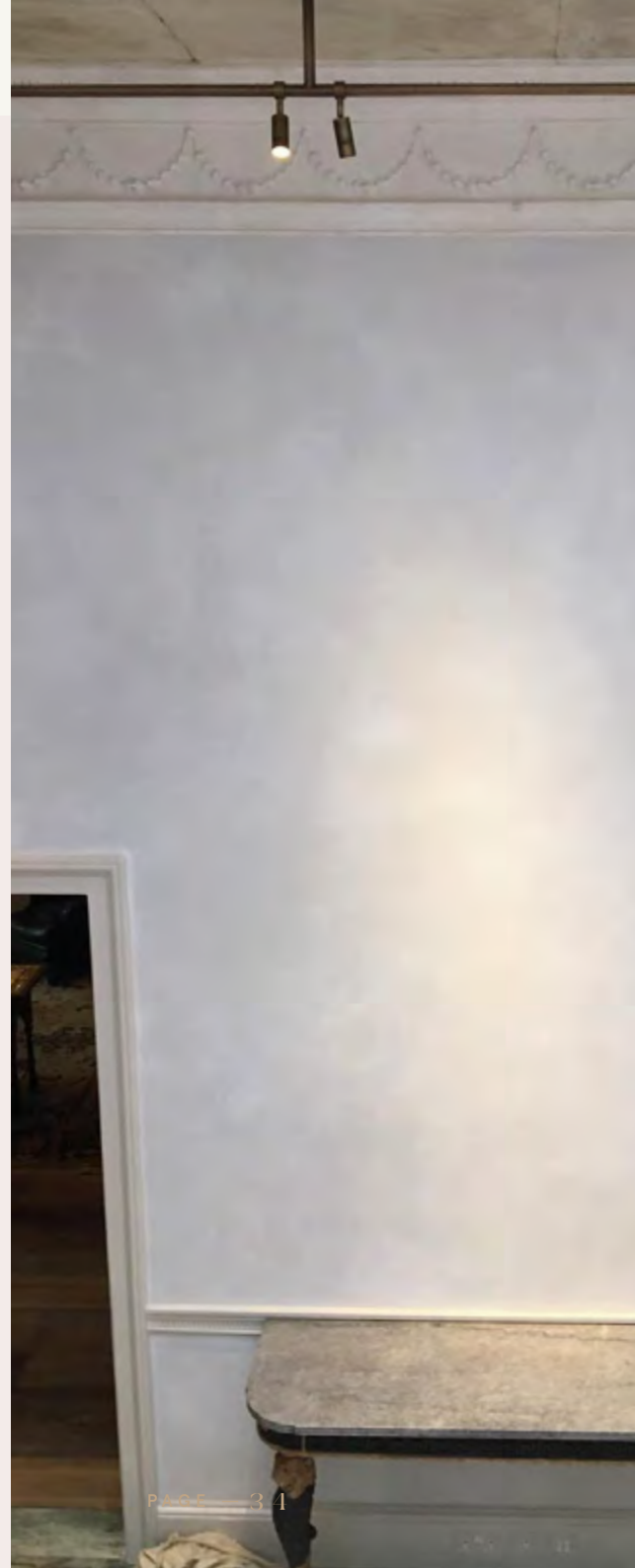
*Brief:* To hide/  
blend unsightly  
stubborn areas  
of paint.

The stripping was carried out by another sub-contractor who were unable to remove all the paint and had left Stripaway that had hardened and dried over time.

The client specified that they wanted it to look natural and not like a trompe l'œil

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## Method

Removed any loose flakes of paint and dried stripaway that had not been removed.

Sealed the most problematic areas with sodium silicate 1 part to 10 parts water.

To knock back the white and stubborn areas of paint that had not been removed during the stripping process we added pigments and blanc fixe to 1 part sodium silicate and 10 parts water.



# *O&M:* Portland Stone Manual

STAIRCASE HALL

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## CLEANING

Dust soft duster

Clean with a damp cloth and non-caustic  
PH neutral soap

## REDECORATION

Refer to Rag Arts or specialist  
decorating company

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CHAPTER FOUR

# HAND RAIL





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*Brief:* To stain and re-varnish the handrail.

The handrail had pieces missing (these were replaced by another subcontractor). The new pieces of wood as well as any discoloured or unsightly areas needed to be blended in with the handrail. The overall look needed to be matte and varnished to protect the wood.

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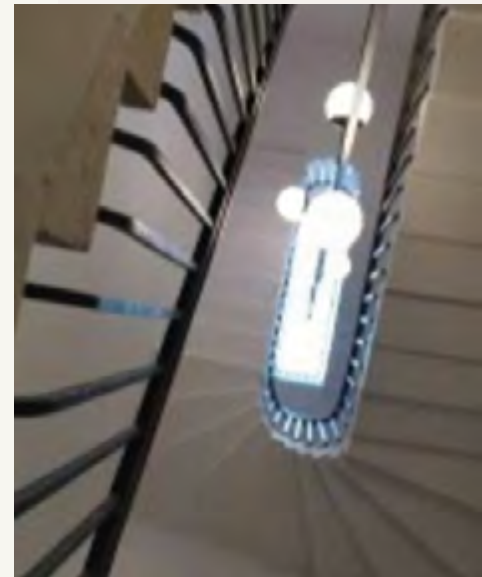
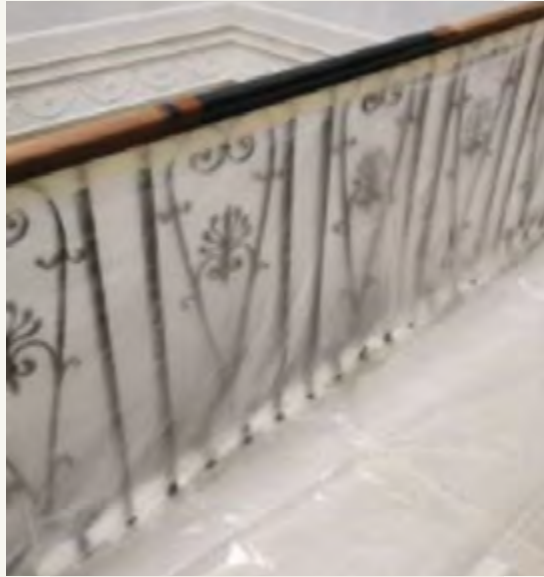


## Method

Stripping off old finish.

Applying layers of stain and pigments to match wood.

Polishing and varnishing with 2 layers of semi matte finish.





# O&M: Hand Rail Manual

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## CLEANING

For best results clean only with dry or damp antistatic cloth

Do not use multi surface cleaning wipes or spray as these tend to damage the finish with time

Any contact with solvents or chemicals will damage the finish

## REMOVAL


If removal is required use wood stain remover/ sanding/ or bleaching in a well-ventilated area

## MAKING GOOD

Contact Rag Arts for making good damage.

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CHAPTER FIVE

# EBONY CUPBOARD



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*Brief:* The client requested Rag Arts to ebonise an antique cupboard which had been stripped and repainted blue by the antique dealer.

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## Method

Stripping off blue paint

Re-staining and re-finishing  
wooden cupboard previously

Applying 2 layers of bespoke black  
stain to obtain ebonised look

Polishing and varnishing with  
3 layers of finish





# *O&M:* Ebony Cupboard Manual

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## CLEANING

For best results clean only with dry or damp antistatic cloth

Do not use multi surface cleaning wipes or spray as these tend to damage the finish with time

Any contact with solvents or chemicals will damage the finish

## REMOVAL

If removal is required use wood stain remover/ sanding/ or bleaching in a well ventilated area

## MAKING GOOD

Contact Rag Arts for making good damage.

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CHAPTER SIX

# CLIENTS COMPLIMENTS

“ ”

THE MOST  
BEAUTIFUL  
WALLS IN  
THE WHOLE  
WIDE WORLD



“ ”

ALL THE  
WORK YOU  
HAVE DONE  
IS AMAZING

”



“ ”

THE  
HANDRAIL  
IS STUNNING,  
IT LOOKS SO  
BEAUTIFUL



PLEASE GET IN CONTACT  
FOR ENQUIRIES OR MORE  
SAMPLES OF OUR WORK



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