Paint Removal

Manufacturer's Details of the Proposed Method of Paint Removal

The proposed method for paint removal on historic brickwork is the use of Peelaway 7 Paint & Varnish Remover, a product designed specifically for sensitive surfaces including historic masonry. Full manufacturer's information is provided and confirms its appropriateness for use on historic buildings.

Product Suitability and Non-Damaging Properties

Peelaway 7 is a non-caustic, methylene chloride-free poultice-based paint remover that is:
- Specifically formulated for use on brick, masonry, and plaster
- Architecturally specified for sensitive historic substrates
- Free of highly aggressive solvents such as NMP, caustic soda, and flammable agents
- Biodegradable and low-odour, with minimal environmental impact

It is considered safe for use on historic brickwork, provided appropriate dwell times and application procedures are followed. Unlike traditional paint strippers, Peelaway 7:
- Does not require neutralisation
- Will not burn or damage underlying substrates when applied correctly
- Helps contain hazardous particles (e.g., lead-based paints) via its poultice cover system

The product is recommended by the manufacturer for external and internal surfaces and is particularly suited for removing multiple layers of modern and older paints, including oil-based and synthetic coatings.

Method of Application

- Applied to the surface at a thickness of 1–3mm using a spatula or brush
- Covered with the proprietary Peelaway poultice blanket to prevent drying out and allow safe removal
- Dwell time varies from 30 minutes to 48 hours depending on coating type and ambient conditions
- After use, the poultice and softened paint are removed together, ensuring no airborne particles are released
- Final cleaning of the brick surface is completed using a damp sponge and soft brush – no aggressive water jetting or chemicals required

Test Patch Requirement

Prior to full application, a mandatory test patch will be undertaken on an area representative of the existing painted brick surface. This will be:
- Sized 1m², in accordance with LPA requirements
- Located on a discreet part of the building

- Used to determine the optimal dwell time and verify there is no adverse effect on the substrate

Only upon written approval of the Local Planning Authority following the assessment of the test patch will wider use be permitted.

Conclusion

Peelaway 7 is a conservation-grade solution for paint removal that aligns with best practice and statutory expectations for listed buildings. It has a proven track record for safe use on historic masonry and offers a non-destructive method of removing paint without harming the integrity of the underlying fabric.