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Method Statement

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Site Address

8 Paul Row,
Temple Lane,
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OL15 9QG.

Prepared by

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Introduction:

This method statement outlines the procedures for re-opening an existing doorway that has previously been blocked up. The work will be performed to a standard that will ensure that no undue damage to stone fabric is incurred during works.

2. Scope:

This method statement is applicable to the re-opening of a blocked doorway. It covers the steps to be taken for the removal of the blocking material using handheld tool and the procedures for installing stone head and jambs in a masonry opening, sympathetically to match the fabric of the rest of the exterior. The York stone head and jambs proposed will be sourced from the fletcher bank quarry in the town of Ramsbottom. The mortar used for re-pointing after the installation of the York stone head and jambs will be Womersleys Ironstone Lite Pre mixed Mortar NHL 3.5, this mortar is cream in colour and has a mix composition of 5 Liters of water for every 25Kg of mortar.

3. Safety Precautions:

Before commencing any work, ensure the following safety precautions are in place:

All personnel involved in the work must wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including safety goggles, gloves, and dust masks. The work area should be cordoned off to prevent unauthorized access and to protect others from falling debris. All tools should be in good working condition and regularly inspected for safety.

4. Tools and Materials:

The following tools and materials will be used for this task:

Hammer
Bolster
Pry bars (if necessary)
Womersleys Ironstone Lite Pre mixed Mortar NHL 3.5
Stone head
Stone jamb
Dustpan and brush
Trowels
Spirit level
Tape measure
Shims or packers
Masonry saw
Bucket for water
Mortar jointer

5. Creating the opening:

Safety Check: Ensure that the work area is safe and secure, and all safety precautions have been taken.

Preparation: If necessary, provide shoring to support the structure during removal.

Marking and Measuring: Measure and mark the exact dimensions of the doorway opening to ensure precise cutting.

Removal:

- a. Start by using the hammer and bolster to carefully break away the existing mortar, working from the top down.
- b. Use the bolster to chisel away at the mortar joints and create a clean opening.
- c. All stone is to have all excess mortar removed and is to be re-used for the internal party wall.
- d. All dust created from the breaking of excess mortar is to be collected and disposed of.

Clean-up: Continuously clean up dust and debris using a dustpan and brush, ensuring the work area remains clean and safe.

6. Installing the Stone Head and Jambs:

Safety Check: Ensure that the work area is safe and secure, and all safety precautions have been taken.

Preparation:

- a. Clean the surfaces of the opening and the stone head and jambs to remove any dirt or debris.

Mix Mortar:

- a. Prepare Womersleys Ironstone Lite Pre mixed Mortar NHL 3.5 mix with a mix composition of 5 liters of water for every 25kg of mortar used.
- b. The mortar should be of the appropriate consistency for laying the stone.

Setting the Stone Head and Jambs:

- a. Apply a layer of mortar to the bottom of the structural opening.
- b. Carefully position the stone head in place, ensuring it is level and plumb. Use a spirit level to check for accuracy.
- c. Insert timber packers as needed to ensure a snug and level fit.
- d. Apply mortar to the sides of the opening and position the jambs, ensuring they align with the headstone.
- e. Use a trowel to pack mortar around the stones and create a strong bond.
- f. Check for proper alignment and levelness during the installation process.

Finishing:

- a. Use a pointing trowel to smooth the mortar joints between the stone head, jambs, and the surrounding masonry.
- b. Clean off any excess mortar from the stone surfaces using a damp sponge or brush.

6. Conclusion:

Creating a doorway opening using a Hammer and bolster can be done while minimizing damage to the existing stonework by following this method statement. Safety check and, precise measurements are essential to ensure the work proceeds without incident. Always adhere to local regulations and guidelines.