



Occupational Profile: *Stone Restorer (Sewwej)*

A competent Stone Restorer (Sewwej) should be able to demonstrate the following skills and competences:

General Competences and Skills

1. Teamwork - The ability to work within a multi-disciplinary team
2. Health & Safety - The ability to work on site in a safe and responsible manner
3. Communication – The ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing
4. Organisational Knowledge – Understand workplace organisational structures and professional obligations

Specialist Competencies and Skills

1. A basic understanding of buildings and monuments, their artistic and historic value, the materials used and construction methods adopted
2. Understand the importance of basic documentation
3. Understand current conservation theories
4. Understand when more specialised assessments or techniques are necessary
5. Undertake reversible remedial works in a competent manner
6. Assess the risks involved and minimise them

The candidate applying to be trade tested for the Certificate of Competence should be in possession of the majority of the following knowledge, competencies & skills:

Demonstrating sensitivity to the value of a building or a monument.

Understand the importance of conservation

Carrying out documentation

Identifying the different building materials used for walls.

Identifying the different materials used for roofing.

Identifying the different materials used for flooring.

Identifying the different building materials used for apertures

Identifying the different building materials used for external plasters.

Identifying the different building materials used for interiors

Identifying the different types of construction methods adopted.

Carrying out the reading of a plan or drawing.

Understanding the deterioration of the more common building materials: stone.

Understanding the deterioration of the more common building materials: mortar.

Understanding the deterioration of the more common building materials: plaster.

Common measurement tools:

The handling, use & maintenance of:

Ruler

Compasses

Divider

Tape

Square (Skwerra)

Compassing

Divider

Tape

Square (Skwerra)

Common tools:

The handling, use & maintenance of:

Brushes

Scalpels

Microscalpels

Paper pulp

Clay packs

Pointing key

Trowels

Sponges

Levels

Health & Safety

- Selecting and using protective clothing for use in connection with the generation of dust.
- Selecting and using protective clothing for use in connection with the generation of noise.
- Selecting and using protective clothing for use in connection with the use of hazardous chemicals.
- Utilizing electrically powered equipment.
- Awareness of emergency procedures.
- Applying good housekeeping practices at all times.

Use of Measurement Tools

- Carrying out calculation of Perimeter.
- Carrying out calculation of Area.
- Carrying out calculation of Volume.

Common Cleaning Techniques

- Carrying out dry and wet brushing
- Performing removal of plaster and paint layers
- Poultices with water only and with ammonium carbonate/hydrogen peroxide.

Common Pointing/Plastic Repair Techniques

- Performing removal of loose pointing.
- Carrying out pointing with natural lime; with hydraulic lime (mixed by craftsperson)
- Performing plastic repair of: alveolar weathering; severely weathered stone
- Carrying out repair of deffun screed
- Carrying out Grouting: hydraulic lime
- Carrying out Grouting; epoxy resin
- Carrying out pinning techniques

Stereotomy (including producing templates):

- Performing drawing of flat arch
- Performing drawing of segmental arch
- Performing drawing of semicircular arch
- Performing drawing of pointed arch
- Performing drawing of three-centred arch (given height)
- Performing drawing of elliptical arch

Masonry Skills

- Carrying our work on a flat surface
- Carrying out work on a curved surface

Finishing Works

Carrying out the application of velatura.
Carrying out the application of plaster.
Carrying out the application of copertina.

Documentation

Interpreting drawings

Site Management

Carrying out instructions received

Cleaning

Performing dry Brushing.
Performing wet brushing.
Carrying out poultices (with water only).
Carrying out poultices (with ammonium carbonate/hydrogen peroxide).
Performing removal of loose pointing.
Performing removal of existing paints/plasters

Restoration Techniques

Performing pointing with natural lime; hydraulic lime
Carrying out plastic repair of alveolar weathering; severely deteriorated stone; mouldings
Using sample areas to match plaster/wash colours
Carrying out the application of velatura
Carrying out the application of plaster
Carrying out the application of lime wash (coloured if necessary)
Carrying out the application of copertina

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Stone Restorer (*Sewwej*)

1. Introduction

The following is a detailed description of the assessment criteria to be adopted by the Trade Testing Board to reach a final decision on the award of a Certificate of Competence.

2. Trade Test

The trade test is to be made up of the following components:

1. The Written
2. The Practical
3. The Interview
4. Portfolio

The Board has agreed on the sequence of the test and the markings allocated to each specific component as indicated below:

Component	Mark	Pass Mark
Written	100	50%
Portfolio	100	50%
Interview	100	50%
Practical	100	50%

The Written Component

The Board has agreed that candidates will sit for the written test which has duration of 2hrs.

This session will cover the following aspects

1. An understanding of the different building types and their chronology
2. Identifying the different building materials used and the type of construction adopted
3. Applying current conservation theories
4. Understanding the importance of documentation
5. Identifying basic structural failures and seeking assistance if necessary
6. Identifying material deterioration and understanding its causes, or otherwise to seek assistance
7. Reading a plan or a drawing
8. Carrying out basic restoration techniques
9. Assessing risks at the place of work and how to minimise them

The Interview Component

All candidates will be called to an interview so that the Board will be able to assess the proficiency of the candidate in this particular field.

The duration of the interview will be from 20 to 30 minutes during which the Board will have the opportunity to put forward questions related to the various skill requirements and work elements.

The interview questions will cover the following topics:

1. Different building types and their chronology
2. Buildings and monuments, their artistic and historic value and the materials used
3. Basic deterioration of such buildings and monuments
4. Current conservation theories
5. The importance of deterioration
6. The application of specialised assessments or techniques when necessary
7. Interpretation of drawings
8. Remedial action in a competent manner
9. Assessment of risks involved

The Board believes that the candidate should answer questions on the above topics with confidence while portraying technical skills and knowledge of the subject.

The Practical Component

Candidates will be given a particular exercise which will have duration of 5 hours.

The Practical component is based on the practical experience gained by the Candidate at the place of Work. The Candidate would be asked to demonstrate his/her ability to undertake a certain number of tasks in a competent and efficient manner.

The candidate will be assigned and assessed on a number of tasks commonly encountered in interventions and treatment on Historical Buildings.

Portfolio

The candidate will be requested to present a portfolio, compiled by him/her indicating works undertaken by him/her in the previous years together with references signed by the employer or client indicating the role of the applicant in the projects indicated in the portfolio.

The Trade Testing Board will evaluate the portfolio and will assess the following:

- 1. An adequate and suitable range of operations which could reasonably be expected during the period of employment**
- 2. An analysis of the main points of each piece of work undertaken including the historic/artistic value of the Building/monument**
- 3. The use of photographs to show the extent of the deterioration and the intervention undertaken.**
- 4. A proper presentation in terms of correct report writing and suitable, drawing or sketching.**