

Method Statement

Opening up of Existing Bricked-up Fireplace

Rev 01

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Purpose

The purpose of this document is to detail the safe method for the opening up and reinstatement of the bricked-up fireplace located in the lounge of the property.

Site

56 High St
Lindfield
West Sussex
RH16 2HL

Description of Work

Open up the previously bricked-up fireplace, and reinstate as a working fire.

The fire place is located here in purple:

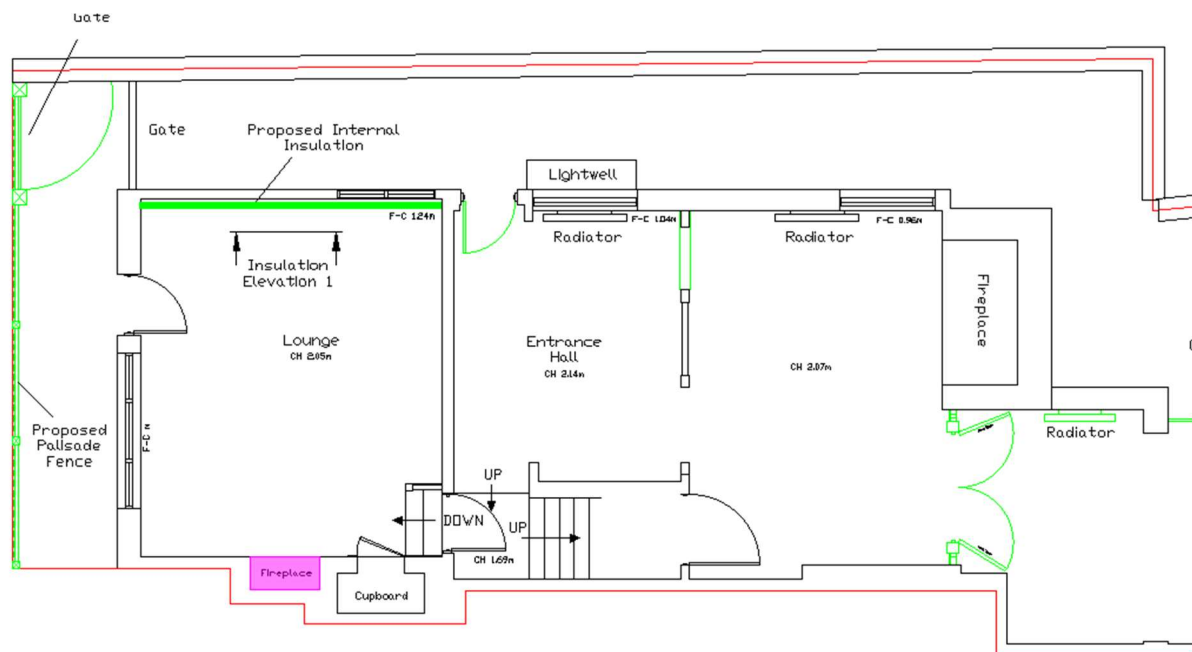


Figure 1 – Key Plan

Current image of the fireplace:



Figure 2 – Image of Bricked-up Fireplace

Current image of the chimney:



Figure 3 – Image of Chimney

Preparation

Prior to any activity, the local area is to be made clean and confirm no other work will be taking place there or above for the duration of the work.

If possible, the immediate carpet is to be lifted and roll back. Otherwise, adhesive dust sheeting to be installed.

Inspection

A visual inspection of the fireplace is to be completed.

Removal

The lounge radiator is to be isolated from the heating system, by utilising the isolation valves in the cellar. Drian and store the radiator in a safe space.

Clean an inspect the existing small chimney opening, currently located behind the radiator.

Measure the internal cavity of the fireplace and mark on the wall the true fireplace opening.

Using hand tools, remove the bricks that have been used to block up the original fireplace, until the original opening is restored. Bricks to be cleaned and stored in a safe place for potential future use.

When opening the fireplace, the proposal is to be guided by the discovery. It is expected there is a brick segmental arch rather than a flat arch or if timber lintel, oak lintels in fireplaces were imbedded into the brickwork and flush with the brick jambs.

Below is an example of what is expected:



Figure 4 – Example of Wood Burner and Mantel

Replaster to edges.

The hearth will be traditional stone.

Specialist team to clean and inspect the chimney and advise. If all is acceptable to the specialist team, installation of wood burner to be go ahead.

If anything is discovered during the works that is untoward or not expected, work to stop and a risk assessment is to take place. If considered safe, or if action has been taken to ensure the site is now safe, the works are to restart.

Disposal

All material to be disposed of to be safely stored and taken to a recycling centre, as required.