

Shakespeare's Globe



Client: Shakespeare Globe Theatre

Location: South Bank, London

Budget: £15,000

Duration: 4 months

Category: Lime Plaster

The scenario: Shakespeare's Globe is a reconstruction of the Globe Theatre, an Elizabethan playhouse for which William Shakespeare wrote his plays, in the London Borough of Southwark, on the south bank of the River Thames. Construction took place between 1993 and 1996 and was opened by HM Queen Elizabeth in 1997. The original Globe Theatre was built in 1599 by Shakespeare's playing company but was destroyed by fire on 29 June 1613.

Artisan Plastercraft were commissioned to carry out an inspection of the condition of the lime-plasterwork at Shakespeare's Globe. The site inspection of the property took place over the course of several visits during August and September 2019.

Our Scope: The purpose of the inspection was to assess and provide an experienced opinion on the following:

- Inspect and ascertain the condition and structural integrity of the lath and plaster panels internally and externally.
- To create a record of the individual panels comprising of their condition, previous repairs and any remedial.
- To make recommendations as to what remedial works are required and how these would be achieved.

Our Solution: We carried out the survey over the course of 4 months attending weekly site inspections. The external walls were examined first via a visual and tap test and a written and photographic report was recorded. The internal panels were also inspected by a visual and tap test. Survey samples were taken of the render and sent away for analysis to establish the exact specification and composition of the lime used in the construction.