



By appointment to
Her Majesty The Queen
Building Façade Restoration
and Conservation



Hoares Bank, Fleet Street

Hoares bank was founded in 1672 by Richard Hoare at the sign of the Golden Bottle in Cheapside, London.

In 1690 he moved the business to new premises in Fleet Street, still within the City of London. He continued trading at the sign of the Golden Bottle (a gilded leather bottle that hung outside the shop). Street numbering was unknown in those days and signs were used to distinguish one business from another.

In 1829 their premises in Fleet Street were rebuilt by Charles Parker and the sign of the Golden Bottle was incorporated in to the design of the façade to maintain the tradition.

A typical construction detail in the early 1800's was to tie the stones together using iron straps known as 'dog cramps'. The close proximity of the cramps to the face of the stone on the façade provided the ideal environment for them to corrode. As the cramps corroded they had the ability to expand between 7 - 12 times the size of the parent metal and this caused the stone to fracture.

The position of each of the dog cramps was located using x-ray mapping then we installed a cathodic protection system to prevent further corrosion of the cramps. The end result is an effective method of corrosion protection to an important listed façade so discreet that all you see is the sign of the Golden Bottle as you walk by.

- Cleaning
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- Conservation
- Extension
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