



FARCROFT
RESTORATIONS GROUP



When beginning my career in the field of specialist restoration many years ago the goal was simple & clear – to provide a restoration service of exceptional quality and expertise which in future years I would be able to pass on to others.

As we look at the Farcroft of today the hard work, dedication and sacrifice has paid off. Who could have envisaged the amazing and vast array of restoration skills in our wonderful team of restorers and conservators, providing the opportunity to undertake specialist restoration work upon many items of renowned international importance and significance including truly fine buildings of distinguished historical interest.

Farcroft has been very privileged in being called upon to serve and assist so many with their restoration needs and projects and thus preserving valued and treasured items and property for future generations to enjoy. I would like to personally thank all of our highly esteemed clientele for providing this opportunity.

Many thanks and all the best.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Clarke', written in a cursive style.

Paul Clarke
CEO

RESTORING & PRESERVING DREAMS



A distinguished Statesman once said 'I have a dream', here at Farcroft we turn the imaginary into reality

We at Farcroft are striving to become the Global Leader in preserving the world's finest heritage whilst helping humanity through the dark moments of catastrophe

In restoring the finest historical properties, antiques, art, porcelain, clocks and many more items of significance, beauty and value, we restore the emotional desire that first captured the originator and creator.

Still working under a family management structure, Farcroft place quality of work and quality of service at the heart of all that we do, remaining true to our core values of honesty, integrity, dependability and care. This has been our focus for over 50 years.





50

YEARS ESTABLISHED

OVER

100,000

DAYS EXPERIENCE

OVER

250

YEARS COMBINED EXPERIENCE

OVER

50,000^{SQ FT}

WORKSHOP AND STUDIO SPACE

OVER

500,000

ITEMS RESTORED

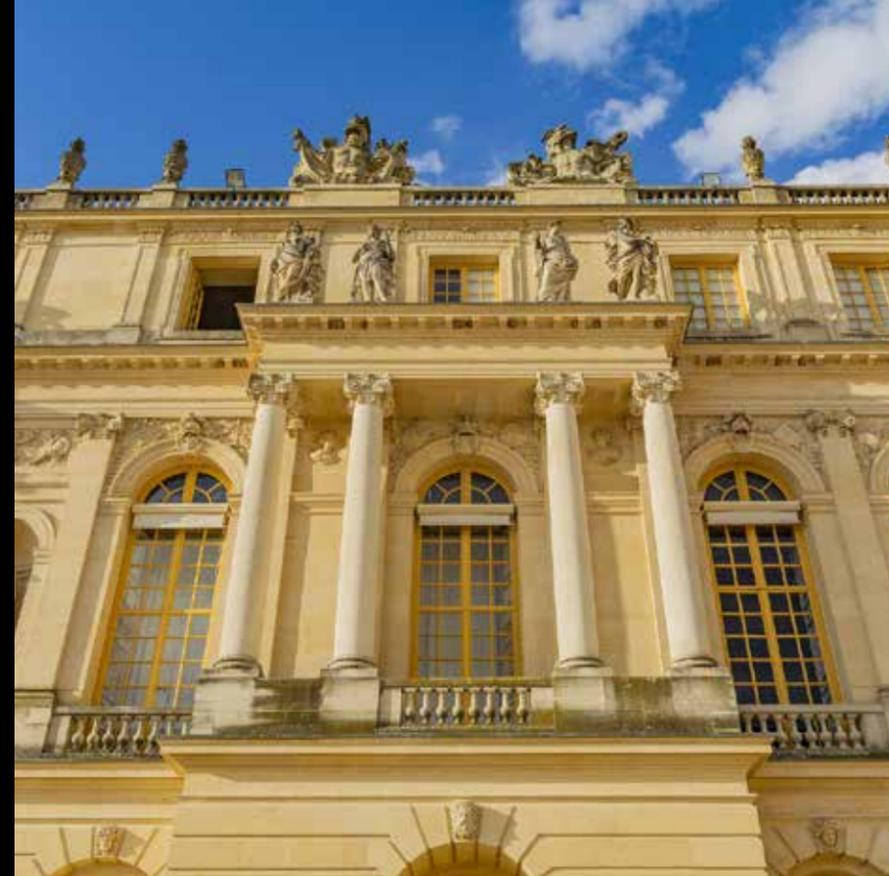
APPROACHING EVERY PIECE INDIVIDUALLY

For over 50 years, Farcroft has applied highly specialised skills to the restoration of all types of valuable or irreplaceable items. Long established as the leading source for restoration, nationally and internationally, our craftsmanship is respected by the most discerning collectors and eminent auctioneers. Every project is assigned to an appropriate craftsman and woman who will identify what's needed and then personally see it through to its final, spectacular completion. Our approach is to always undertake reversible methodology to ensure the integrity and originality of such item is preserved for generations to come. It is a fact of our very existence that the specialist restoration work we do must not be discernible in the finished work. The terminology is "Valued Yet Unseen". The only noticeable aspect is the restoration of the intrinsic dream.



THE DISCERNING CLIENT

We are privileged to work closely with a vast portfolio of highly esteemed clientele. These include blue-chip international insurance companies serving the HNW & UHNW market, Historical Trusts, Museums, Galleries, Auction Houses, Stately Homes and Private Clients. We reflect the corporate management necessary in working closely with large corporations whilst maintaining regular communication developing close partnerships for long-standing relationships.





FINE ART EXPERTISE

Our studios have developed over many decades with our established team of World-Class Craftsmen and women undertaking the finest conservation and restoration techniques. The studio facility has the capacity to undertake restoration/conservation to oil paintings, watercolours, paper, photography, framing, gilding to name just a few. We approach every project individually detailing the necessary scope required. The breadth and depth within the team underpins Farcroft's ability to offer the highest level of restoration and conservation achievable. This includes the access to material scientific analysis with x-ray microscopic examination. Given the available space within the studios we can accommodate large or heavy works of art.



PAINTINGS

We have worked upon the most prestigious artwork including work from Picasso, Monet, Matisse, Doig, Banksy, Warhol, Hirst, Emin along with many more Artists of Distinction. The vast array of skillset within the studio encompasses all areas of expertise. We re-line torn and damaged canvas's using traditional methodology including vacuum hot-table processes adhering new canvas with wax and resin-based adhesives dictated by the age and integrity of the painting. Dependent upon the condition of the existing canvas and extent of the damage occurred we would often re-weave a tear within the canvas aligning new thread within the existing structure to stabilise rather than the process of re-lining. This preserves the original significance and materials utilised. All processes employed are reversible using fine composition to re-build areas of fragmentation keeping all additional pigments and arrangements within the localised area affected. The periodic deterioration of varnishes keep our team very busy in cleaning and stabilising oil paintings where the surface is neutralised removing layers of varnish to expose the colouration within the paintwork which is then enhanced through the sympathetic application of specialist varnish to restore the inherent appeal and beauty within the painting.



PAPER & PARCHMENT

Paper conservation and restoration preserves an object's historical integrity and stability using a careful choice of materials which have superior ageing properties and sympathetic with the original materials. In restoring paper products we work upon watercolours, documents, books, paperwork, prints, maps, drawings, etchings, parchment, globes and Papier-mâché. Treatments include surface and residue neutralisation, aqueous treatment to reduce acidity, deterioration products, discoloration, and stains, alkalization to preserve future degradation, stabilising tears and infilling areas of loss with composition compatible with the product. Cosmetic restoration is undertaken to remove staining, foxing and periodic yellowing. Distortion can be removed through sensitively pressing paper products within our specialist chambers. Products are wrapped and protected upon completion using conservation recommended acid-free material to ensure the greatest attention is afforded to all aspects.



GILDING

The depth of lustre within original leaf is a sight to behold. At Farcroft we work with many grades of metal leaf dependent upon the original utilised. The substrate is firstly prepared stabilising loose particles, re-sculpting gesso, carving timber detail where required. The size will be applied either water or oil based being used as a mordant upon which to apply the leaf. We often use 23/24 carat gold applying directly to the size and burnishing to create a consistent and uniform sheen. In restoring heaving decorated mouldings and carving all leaf application is kept within the affected area and burnished blending in with the original patina and finish. We also have the equipment available to fully re-frame paintings and prints offering a vast selection of mouldings to the desired choice of the client.





FURNITURE EXPERTISE

Our team of furniture restorers and conservators undertake a wide variety of craftsmanship including a vast range of finishing both traditional and modern, intricate inlay and marquetry work, carving, caning, re-upholstery and leather restoration. Each item is individually assessed to ensure we approach the work fully replicating the original application and methodology. With the portfolio of skills being utilised Farcroft can restore contemporary high value designer furniture along with saving fine examples of antique heritage restoring the original lustre and patina which has matured and developed over years of mellowing and seasoning. The workshops can accommodate large items of furniture with dedicated spaces assigned to each area of restoration.



SYMPATHETIC FINISHES

Our workshops include a dedicated finishing area with bespoke booths for spray applied lacquers along with dedicated extraction to the relevant areas. Traditional polishes are applied using specialist rubbers along with shellac dissolved in denatured alcohol. We have the capacity to recreate bespoke paintwork and designs dovetailing the skillset of the fine art team to assist with hand-painted applications. All substrates are fully prepared prior to any application stabilising joints, infilling fissures and treating infestation where applicable. The preparatory work is fundamental to achieving a flawless finish and patina radiating the required depth.



MASTER CRAFTSMANSHIP

Intricate marquetry can be susceptible to periodic degradation following years of exposure to ever-changing atmospheric conditions. From design right through to delivery Farcroft can replicate inlay patterns and motif using exotic and reclaimed timber veneers. The remedial work often required upon furniture includes stabilisation of joints where furniture have to be taken apart and re-adhered incorporating strength within joints and using specialist adhesives promoting reversible methodology where applicable. Where parts of have to be replaced or reconstructed, reclaimed timbers are sourced and utilised carving the necessary profile recreate the original design.



SOFT FURNISHINGS EXPERTISE

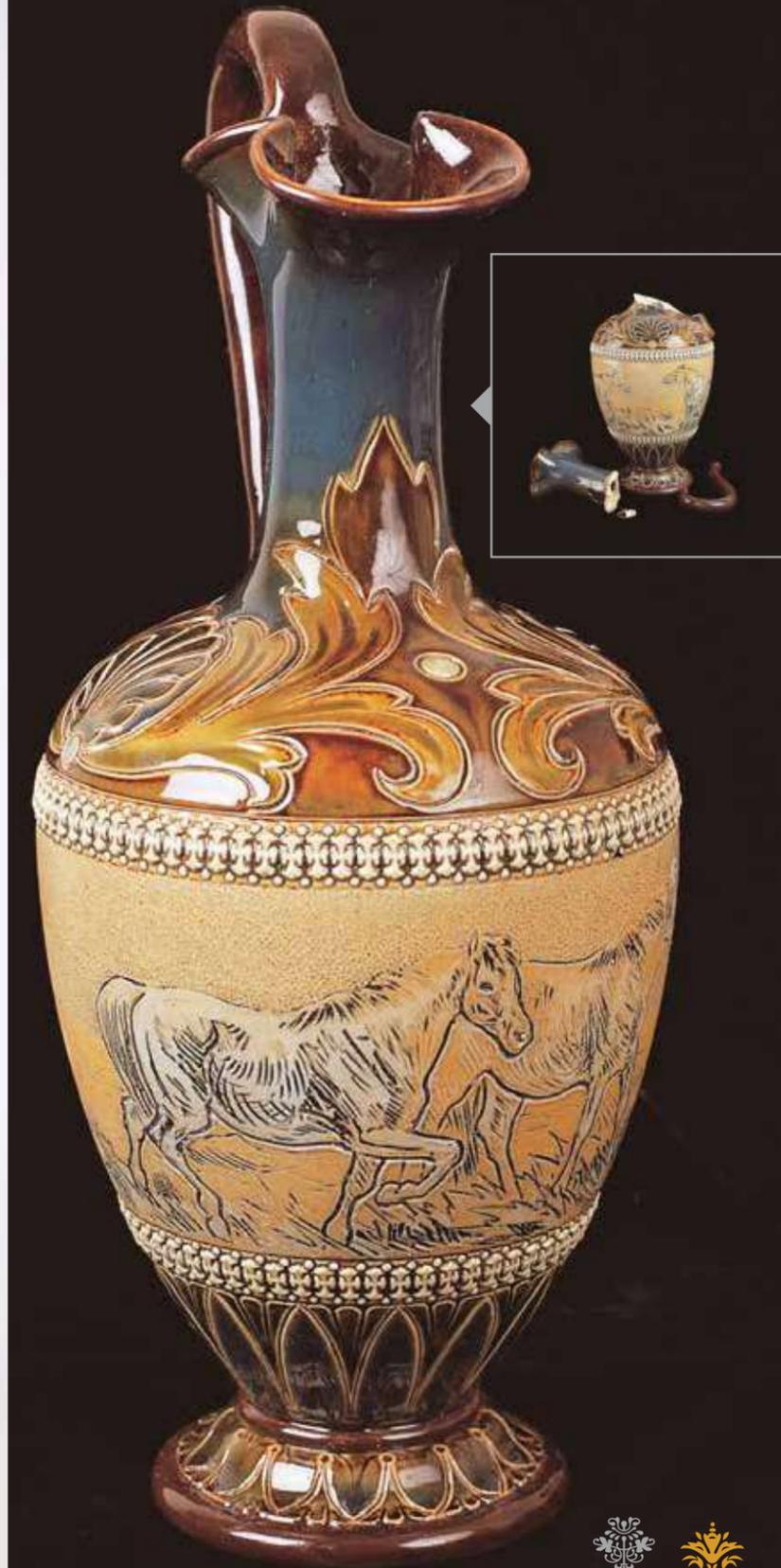
Farcroft has a dedicated area focused on soft furnishings. The team undertake re-upholstery, sensitive deep cleaning, localised repairs and leather restoration. With access to a wide range of fabrics representing all styles, periods of design, Farcroft can offer our clientele a solution to reflect the desire. In re-covering suites, dining pads and soft furniture we source the right material to complete all repairs. This will involve horsehair filling, hessian strapping, specialist linings, original spring systems reflecting the original structure and assembly retaining the originality within the item. Contaminated fabrics can be treated through deoxygenated chambers to neutralise odour and residue penetration. We have the latest equipment to extract and treat all areas of fabrics removing staining and residue deposits.

The available skillset within the team includes the ability to weave cane furniture where panels have been compromised. Again the right materials is established and sourced along with the fine weaving the replicate the existing patterns. Our leather specialists have years of experience where they can refinish and condition existing hides, removing imperfections, damages and blemishes. Leather inlays can be restored or replaced subject to recommendations following the initial analysis.



PORCELAIN/ CERAMICS EXPERTISE

Farcroft was established 50 years ago offering fine china and porcelain and this department has been the foundation upon which the company has grown. With the reputation having developed over decades of experience work has been sent to our team from around the globe seeking to realise the world-class expertise. The department has two clear principles upon which it operates, one is conservation where we complete the realignment of detached sections, infilling of fragmentation using specialist composition and sealing of cracks. This approach is fully reversible and completely sympathetic to all areas of ceramic, china, pottery or porcelain. Two is restoration where the initial process is completed and we can then undertake sympathetic pigmentation technique and re-colouring to create an invisible restoration eliminating visual defects and damage. There are many techniques involved within this highly skilled craftsmanship with ceramic glazes and paints used to fully replicate original design being cured through either cold or heat applied processes.



RUG & TAPESTRY EXPERTISE

Our conservators have the ability to undertake the necessary treatment required to restore a fine carpet, rug, tapestry and embroidery. Firstly this involves analysing the inherent condition within the item establishing the strength within the warp and weft. A recommended treatment is documented and scheduled within the existing work program. The treatments vary from preventative conservation which includes sensitive neutralisation where the items can be treated, sanitised and deoxygenated through to stabilisation and conservation of damages including remedial weave incorporating new thread within the existing structure to repair tears or fissures and replacing missing tufts.





CHANDELIER EXPERTISE

There is little to compare with the lustre and sparkle of a freshly polished crystal chandelier. The reflection can fill a room with a wide array of tones and colours adding whole new dimensions to the décor. The team undertake full restoration projects throughout to straight forward clean and polish. Items can be re-wired restoring the chandelier to current specification along with full testing and certification. Damaged crystal sourced and replaced. Where bespoke sections have been damaged crystal can be pro-formed to fully replicate the original profile and be incorporated within the chandelier. We offer an onsite cleaning process with regular maintenance program implemented. Our Technicians have the capacity to remove and install chandeliers with the necessary qualifications in place.





MUSICAL INSTRUMENT EXPERTISE

Music to my ears! Given the portfolio of skills available within our teams we undertake all forms of restoration to pianos, guitars, brass, sitars, violins, cellos, drums, harps and woodwind. Musical instruments reflect the culture of a nation or city therefore the style, appearance, functionality can be so diverse. Our furniture teams have the training and experience to undertake all finishing and restoration to casings, bodies and frameworks whilst our Metallurgy Team have the ability to fulfil restoration throughout brass and woodwind items. We employ specialists to fully restore movements and actions including re-stringing, replacement of felts, leathers, cloths, and hammers through to more complex repairs or structural work such as bridge or soundboard rebuilding. Once all remedial work is complete the movement and instruments are calibrated and regulated throughout. Our Logistic Teams have the capacity to collect and deliver with items set-up and tuned onsite.



HOROLOGY EXPERTISE

The extent of our experience in horology underpins our strength in clock restoration, providing Farcroft with the opportunity to offer full restoration throughout all styles and types of timepieces and barometers. Our studio is a humdrum of noise from longcase Grandfather clocks to mantel, bracket, carriage, wall or table timepieces. The team completes all manner of restoration from sensitive cleaning and set-up of movements through to full disassemble of an action and re-building creating missing sections, components and fully calibrating all parts. Again our Furniture and Metallurgy teams assist with the case restoration polishing all parts recreating the original patina and preserving the original features. Our teams also have the capacity to touch-in and sympathetically paint dials replace missing decorative parts to ensure the item is returned to the way it once was. Within our service offering we also undertake onsite restoration including the opportunity to have timepieces maintained and monitored to ensure you never lose the track of time.





METALLIC EXPERTISE

Farcroft has become very renowned for the prestigious projects we have completed over the years particularly in the field of metallurgy. Having fulfilled high profile restoration work preserving items which have been deemed beyond repair, this has developed our reputation to a point where we now have a dedicated team of committed metallurgists stabilising, forming, pressing, polishing and re-establishing metals to include silver, brass, bronze, copper, and many more such precious metals. Projects have included military medals, memorabilia, ecclesiastical items, coins, armoury and more. Our approach is to always preserve the original patina which is developed over years especially upon bronze sculpture where the value is determined by the lustre and finish. All methodology is sympathetic to the item being worked upon replicating the true appearance which the item deserves. We also lacquer surfaces where necessary along with providing a range of finishes to items such as architectural brass.



MEMORABILIA & SPECIAL PROJECTS

Given the huge array of skillset at our disposal, our clients often enquire as to unusual items requiring restoration and whether there is a prospect of returning such a piece to its former glory. This has led to Farcroft having completed many restoration projects to glass, LP collections, teddy bear and soft toys, collectible memorabilia, antique vending machines, stone, composites, clothing and many more substrates and items which require tender loving care. With the diverse skillset we are able to call on restorers and conservators from different departments to create the desired result which has consequently enabled many items be saved which had been labelled 'un-restorable'.



COMPLEMENTARY SERVICES

In order to deliver the fantastic work the teams complete, here we have a whole support system and structure in place to ensure we fulfil the promises we make and continually improve and develop. All projects have internal dedicated Project Coordinators who see a project through to completion making sure all items are restored, job specifications are delivered, combining the storage, logistical and restoration teams for a seamless experience throughout. Within our teams we have the capacity to advise on values, condition reports, proposed storage recommendations, diminution if applicable, salvage opportunity hand holding clientele at all times to maintain expectation and client satisfaction. The whole business is brought together through an online system which captures every move, operation, action within the life of a project and has the ability to report through all areas providing visibility at all levels.





LOGISTIC EXPERTISE

Our Logistics Teams are fully trained on all levels to collect and deliver all items for restoration. They follow a very strict protocol documented throughout the 'Farcroft Way' with every item barcoded, labelled, photographed and inventoried at point of collection and delivery. The client is afforded the opportunity to view all documentation and photography providing clarity throughout all areas. Presentation is hugely important to our success, therefore all Technicians are trained to reflect the brand and the values. The teams collect and deliver grand pianos, large works of art with specialist packaging materials and timber lined crates supplied. They have the ability to set-up clocks, remove and install chandeliers seeking to provide the least inconvenience at all times.



COLLECTION MAINTENANCE

We are passionate about many things but our goal would be to act proactively prior to deterioration or degradation takes place, saving and preserving valuable collections. Our maintenance offering includes the opportunity to implement an ongoing program to monitor collections of art, documents, furniture, silver, chandeliers, rugs, wine etc. The program starts with a full catalogue of a collection or property documenting items per room with description of all significant details. Once the catalogue is complete the items will be assessed in their current condition which is documented and any potential conservation or restoration identified and acknowledged. The collection will then be periodically cleaned stabilised and monitored to prevent any deterioration keeping all items looking pristine and perfect the way they were made.



HISTORICAL BUILDING CONSERVATION

We hold the conservation of historical buildings and monuments close to our heart. The opportunity to restore and conserve some of the world's greatest heritage keeps us very humble in the face of what has been fought for and preserved. Our expertise has developed over the year to encompass the full range of architectural joinery, stonework, masonry, decorative finishes and more. We feel a great sense of pride in playing a key role in supporting the custodians of our historic buildings to protect the beauty and originality of structural and decorative woodwork and stonework, as well as decorative interior finishes. Our highly skilled artisans are dedicated to repairing and stabilising interiors and exteriors that have been damaged or where their condition has deteriorated over time, bringing them back to their former glory. Just like a piece of fine art or a valued antique, we believe property has its own intrinsic beauty which has be preserved, protected and cherished. We have extensive experience in working with surveyors, heritage trusts and conservation experts being able to understand the importance of how far to proceed with the remit and authority of the Graded listing.





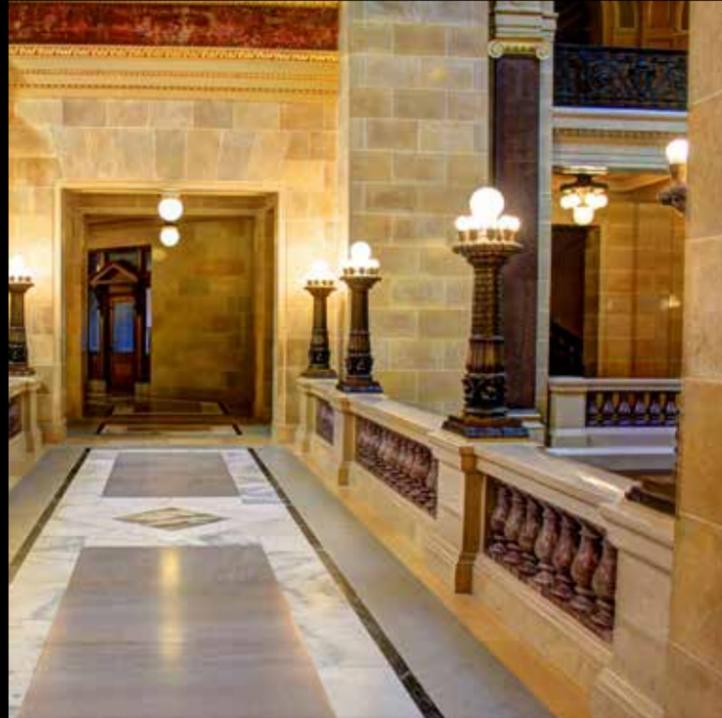
TIMBER EXPERTISE

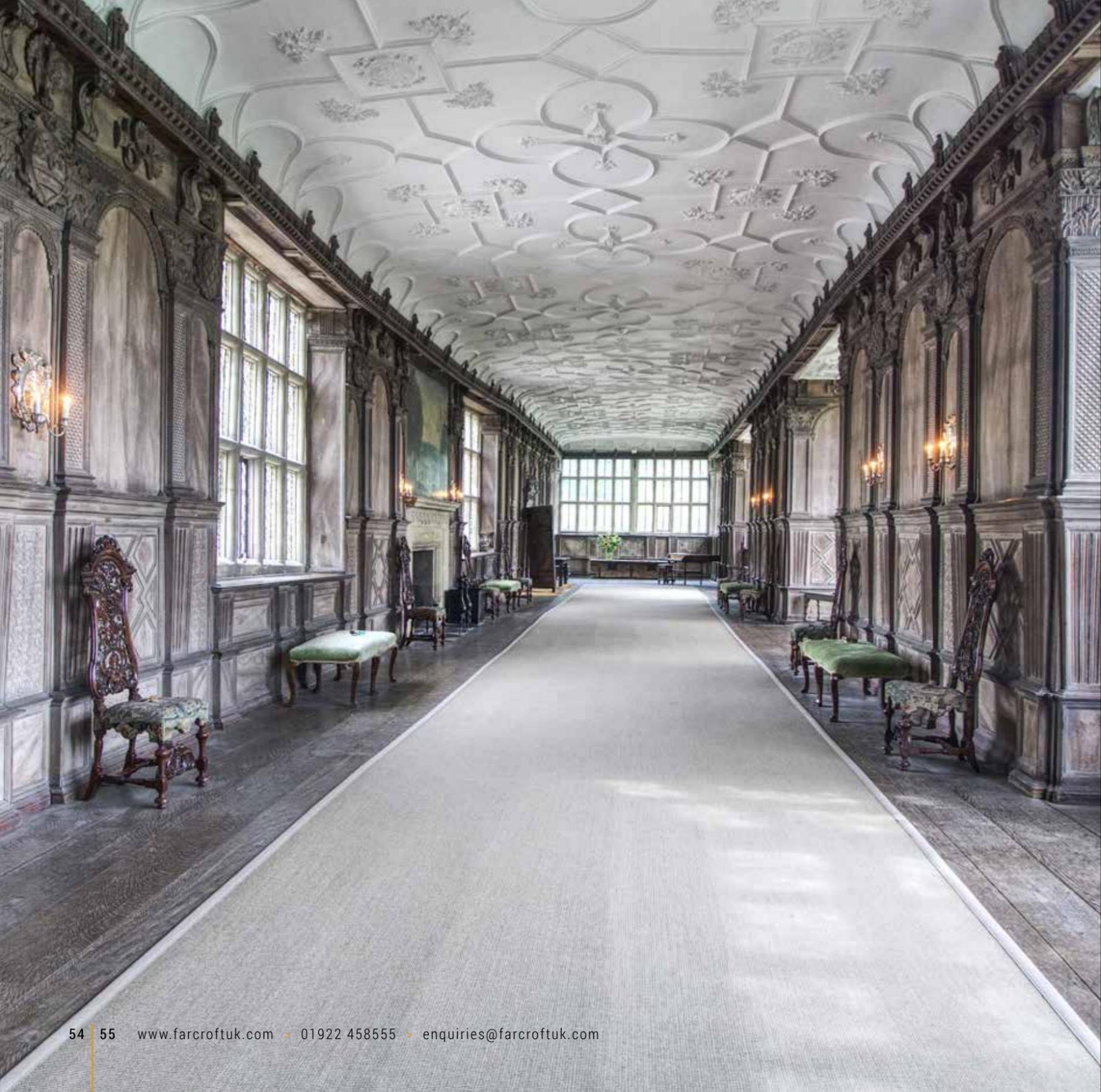
We have always had a very close relationship with timber, having preserved and nurtured many varieties over the decades. Our expertise in this area is vast having grown out of the furniture restoration teams to enable us to develop our current offering. We have many projects proceeding at any one time restoring timber floors, panelling, joinery and frameworks as well as installing new flooring and panelling. Our teams have worked upon many prestigious properties both of historical interest and high-end new builds. This has included Google headquarters, Ralph Lauren, Stately homes, castles, HNW private residences, many hotels, schools and universities. The beauty of timber can be fully appreciated once a floor has been finely sanded throughout removing all imperfections, blemishes and wear. Once the surface is finished with the desired product whether that is a lacquer or oil the depth and tonal splendour is deeply enhanced. When restoring panelling that may date back 200/300/400 years the sympathetic hand-applied finishes enriches the original inherent features and patina having matured over centuries of history and loving care.



NATURAL STONE EXPERTISE

Our internal expertise provides Farcroft with the opportunity to identify the most unusual of stone being able to identify the sources, location and quarry. Having developed strong partnerships with stone suppliers globally this provides a far higher opportunity to restore and conserve the existing rather than remove and replace. Many areas have been preserved and saved from complete destruction having been written off as un-restorable. We undertake fine diamond grinding removing surface imperfections and blemishes along with removing staining and penetrative discolouration through the application of specialist products and poultice. Our teams are able to infill, reconstruct areas of fragmentation and degradation, stabilising the original substrate and incorporating the same stone. Polished marble, limestone and travertine is hugely popular therefore we complete many areas of polishing developing a deep lustre and sheen.





LIME FINISHING & TRADITIONAL PLASTERWORK EXPERTISE

Traditional skills can be difficult to source, at Farcroft we have harnessed different skillsets with individuals and brought them together to create a wealth of experience, knowledge and capacity to enable us to undertake a vast portfolio of projects. Whilst the promotion of modern gypsum-based plasters has led to the almost complete demise of lime plastering lime application dates back to 2500BC and the methodology is still carried out today. Our craftsmen carry out many projects completing localised repairs through to full plaster application within properties. Knowledge and understanding of historic properties is key. Most have a vague grasp of the utilisation of lime but may not consider the benefits or need for a building to 'breathe'. Unfortunately there are many buildings suffering because they have been coated with inappropriate materials. There is compelling evidence that modern gypsum plasters encourage condensation and consequent mould growth if used on walls that need to 'breathe'. From scratch coat, floating coat and through to finish coat our conservators are fully trained to apply at all levels.





FINE DÉCOR EXPERTISE

Our decorative specialists have the privilege of working within some beautiful buildings, seeing craftsmanship at the highest level right up close. Our teams carry out oil and water gilding, marbling, silk and wallpaper hanging/lining, carving, painting, murals, Trompe L'oeil, sign writing and polished plaster. Having the expertise readily available from other areas within the company enables Farcroft to fulfil the complete range of specialist décor restoration and conservation. All projects are scoped individually taking into consideration access and protection requirements. Details of all materials are selected with the clients full approval using the highest quality at our disposal to reflect the desire of our client to achieve the dream.





STAINED GLASS EXPERTISE

We have completed many restoration projects upon stained glass throughout buildings of significance and historical interest. From localised repairs completed onsite to the removal of full panels, our craftsmen and woman have the ability to complete all types of repairs. The experts are able to replicate colouration within glass using finely ground particles of glass mixed with metallic oxides, cadmium and fluxes to help the paints flow and fuse into the glass when fired. They can recreate the original texture to facilitate localised repairs replacing just the damaged sections. Where it is not possible to carry out glass repairs within the existing lead structure we remove the panel from the framework and cut new glass sections re-constructing the lead light in traditional lead. Using traditional lead light cement and chalk powder the whole panel is affixed with the cement cured through the chalk powder drying agent. All areas are sympathetically polished fully creating the exact specification as the original panel.





DAMAGE MITIGATION EXPERTISE

The breadth and depth within the teams enables Farcroft to offer assistance in the aftermath of tragic incidents involving fire, water and flood. The internal ability provides opportunity for our corporate clients to instruct Farcroft in dealing with sensitive building decontamination from fires removing carbon deposits and neutralising all areas. Specialist air monitoring equipment is installed filtering the air quality to create a safe environment. Where water has penetrated a property through either a leak or flood specialist drying can be implemented stabilising the fabric sensitively to prevent secondary damage. Our expertise available allows Farcroft to install the right system given the circumstance. The importance of historical building knowledge is fundamental to ensure a building is dried successfully. Conversely the consequences of a wrong implementation can be catastrophic to a property. Our internal team can provide advice, consultancy and independent review for proposed mitigation programs. Latest state of the art equipment is available with all methodology applied relevant to the damage.





FARCROFT

RESTORATIONS GROUP



Farcroft Restorations Ltd

Farcroft House, Middlemore Lane West, Aldridge
West Midlands, WS9 8BG

Head Office

01922 458 555

London Office

0207 868 2420

www.farcroftuk.com > enquiries@farcroftuk.com

