

Treatment Record

Monument: Dunglass Collegiate Church	Collection No.:	File No.:	Area: South
Description & Measurements: Rectangular graveslab broking into two fragments, dedicated to 'ROBERT SIMPSONE WHO DIED 3 OF SEPT 1663' The original slab would have measured approx. 1975mm length x 825mm width x 130mm depth			
Area of object Only the frontal surface is carved. The surface is surrounded by a moulded border. The inscription at the top of the upper fragment reads: 'HERE LYES ROBERT SIMPSONE WHO DIED 3 OF SEPT 1663 AND... Fragments of further lettering are visible. The lower fragment displays memento mori: an hourglass, cross bones and skull	Material The rectangular graveslab is carved from grey-buff medium-grained sandstone. On weathering a rusty coloured iron-rich finer-grained surface crust has developed. The stone displays poorly bonded mica – rich laminae.	Condition The stone is broken into two parts of roughly equal dimensions: Upper fragment: 890mm (H) x 810mm (W) x 130mm (D) Lower fragment: 990mm (H) x 810mm (W) x 130mm (D) Both fragments suffer from severe disaggregation and contour scaling. This has led to the delamination and loss of much carved detail, particularly on the upper part of the lower fragment. Many surface areas are at imminent risk of loss and very fragile. The denser and harder iron-enriched surface crust is lifting off the more porous, poorly bonded and disaggregating substrate.	Treatment, Materials used and results Initial emergency consolidation was carried out by facing the surfaces with Japanese Tissue applied with methyl cellulose paste for temporary protection during transport to the conservation workshop where the facing was carefully removed by dampening the tissue with water spray. Once dry, surface delaminations were secured by locally injecting acrylic resin solutions (10% w/v Paraloid B72 in acetone) Detached stone samples from the back of the stone were crushed and analysed by XRD to determine the presence of salts. This showed a low (approx. 2%) salt content (see attached report) which did not require further salt reduction measures. action. The stone was treated with 3 courses of wet on wet applied Funcosil 100 silane to re-introduce silica binder and improve stone cohesion. The delamination edges were pointed with acrylic mortar consisting of 10% Paraloid B72 in acetone mixed with colour-matched and graded sands.
Date, Conservator, Section: Christa Gerdwilker; Stone Conservator; Conservation Group; March 2014			



Stone fragments prior to removal for conservation



Stone fragments post treatment, laid out adjacent to each other as proposed for site (inside a box)



Inscription illuminated on treated stone



Memento mori illuminated on treated stone