

## EISENHOWER EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING, SECRETARY OF WAR SUITE Washington DC, USA

Hayles and Howe, Inc. is pleased to have been a part of the recreation of historic wall finishes in the Secretary of War Suite in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building. This French Second Empire-style behemoth was originally built as the State, War and Navy Building. Construction began in 1871 and was completed in 1888. The design was controversial from its inception for departing from the accepted norm of Greek Revival style and by the time it was completed, the Second Empire style had almost entirely fallen out of vogue.

The low-relief wall decoration in the Secretary of War's suite was used extensively in the rooms in various decorative motifs. The decoration was known as "mudwork" and is attributed to a Baltimore interior decorating firm of Emmart and Quartley. It is thought that the material was a sort of gesso consisting of chalk, linseed oil and perhaps hide glue and was worked in situ on the wall while the material was



*Pictured above is a detail of the beautiful mudwork decoration.*

warm from a double boiler. Fine textures and patterns were applied with trowels and spatulas while larger ornaments were cast of the material or cast in plaster of Paris and applied to textured backgrounds. Emmart and Quartley was a well-regarded firm and their mudwork graces a number of significant buildings in Baltimore such as Lovely Lane United Methodist Church and many elegant Gilded Age mansions.

During the 2004 modernization and restoration, Hayles and Howe were contracted to restore the existing mudwork including removal of 115 years of accumulated paint and infill patching of many different decorative patterns, ornaments and textures.

The mudwork in the two rooms in the Secretary of War's suite that were restored in this project had been completely erased at some point and were not restored in 2004. Hayles and Howe recreated the original design in cast plaster panels and installed them on existing walls. Our collaborator and contractor, Olin Conservation Studios of Great Falls, Virginia applied the decorative paint and glaze finishes.



*Pictured above is the original War Office interior.*

*Pictured left is the War Office Interior following the recreation of the wall finishes.*

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## SCAGLIOLA IN THE CREDITON WORKSHOP

Hayles and Howe are busy in the Crediton workshop creating some fantastic scagliola products for some private clients. The photographs show some of the intense processes involved in the hands on manufacture of scagliola from the initial blending of pigments and materials to the final result prior to the polishing.



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## OLD POST OFFICE HOTEL *new project USA*

Hayles and Howe, Inc is excited to announce we have been awarded an extensive contract at the Old Post Office Hotel. This historical building is located in Washington DC and is owned by the real estate mogul and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump.

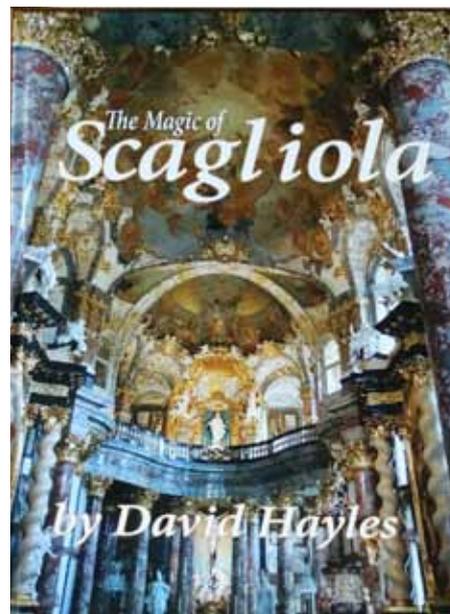


## 'THE MAGIC OF SCAGLIOLA' a scagliola reference book by David Hayles



Pictured above celebrating the publication of 'The Magic of Scagliola' are from left to right: Jim Hayles, David Hayles and David Harrison (Hayles and Howe, MD).

Hayles and Howe is proud to announce that David Hayles much anticipated book the 'Magic of Scagliola' is now available. The book represents the tale of a life dedicated to the pursuit of this fascinating yet difficult material and contains historical references alongside valuable techniques and recipes to inspire you, as he has been inspired by the 'Magic of Scagliola'.



### Employee of the moment... Jamie Houlston

Congratulations to Jamie Houlston our employee of the moment this time. Jamie has worked for the company for five years and is a valued member of the scagliola workshop team in Crediton, Devon.

Jamie says he enjoys working for Hayles and Howe and in particular creating samples for clients which enables him to be creative. In his spare time Jamie's interests include wildlife photography.

Jamie is pictured left with his bottle of champagne being congratulated by the workshop manager Mark Burston and the rest of the scagliola manufacturing team.

The Hayles and Howe scagliola team based in Crediton, Devon are pictured left. They are from left to right: Ben, Florence, Richard, Kiri (kneeling), Jamie, Lukasz, Mark Burston, Ed and Charlotte.

### Holburne Museum Workshop Visit .....

Hayles and Howe recently welcomed the Friends of the Holburne Museum, Bath, to visit the Bristol workshop and witness first hand some of the techniques that go into delivering ornamental plasterwork features. With Bath being well known for its prestige Georgian architecture, our guests were offered a presentation on Georgian plasterwork conducted by Martyn Watchurst. The visit concluded with demonstrations delivered by our craftsman.



### UK Employee and workshop NEWS

Over the past few months Hayles and Howe has welcomed two placement students to work alongside craftsmen in our busy workshop. The students were from varying backgrounds.

Nicholas Knapp is a student from Germany interested in learning stucco.

Emma Teal is a SPAB conservator Fellow (Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings).

Both Emma and Nicholas enjoyed their experience in the workshop, as did the H&H team enjoy meeting, working with and training these guys.

### More baby news from the stork .....



Congratulations to Lukasz on the birth of his beautiful daughter, Alicja.

### Congratulations .....

Many congratulations to Russell Hempstead on his marriage to Kate in early October 2015.

The happy couple are pictured below cutting their wedding cake.



## ARCHIVE PROJECT - Missenden Abbey - A Plaasterers' Award winner from 1988



Pictured above is the complex vaulted ceiling in the reception area of Missenden Abbey.

Following the major fire in 1985, the entire interior was gutted and faithfully restored to its earlier splendour: vaulted rooms, the ceremonial staircase, stained glass and ornate plasterwork, all were recreated with the aim of following the architectural traditions of the original building. The restoration was completed in 1988 winning Hayles and Howe the Plaasterers' Trophy and the Humber Salver for fibrous plaster. Hayles and Howe's brief required the reconstruction of the plasterwork to resemble the original Neo-Gothic as accurately as possible. In general the work carried out covered the following: The production of all working drawings for approval; modelling all enrichments with reference to the surviving fragments, the photographs and research into the genre; producing moulds and templates; casting all fibrous and decorative plasterwork both at our Bristol workshop and the site workshop; flat plastering where required; setting out all rooms; installation of suspension systems; levelling with lazer levels, formwork for the vaulting; E.M.L; production and fitting of all enrichments and at all times co-ordinating with other trades.

The judge's comments were as follows:

*'Messrs Hayles and Howe have provided a finished work with which we could find little if any fault, be it the Gothic detail of the Garden Room, with its cut and ornamental trusses, through the varied rectangular vaults of the entrance hall and corridor, the shallow vaulted dining room, with its groin and arch mouldings, the elliptical (plan and section) of the central dome to the sitting area, where the geometry of the outline was computerised. The restoration in this instance sensibly moving away from slavish reinstatement, so often the blinkered demand of many conservationists, rather here modelled and preserved for posterity those associated with this work, itself reflecting the extension of all involved towards true excellence.'*

## HEALTH AND SAFETY AUDIT OF OUR WORKSHOPS IN BRISTOL AND CREDITON



On December the 16th and 17th, 2015 Hayles and Howe Ltd successfully underwent their annual Health and Safety Audits of both the Bristol and Crediton workshop and offices. The Audits were completed by Charlie Cribbes from Safety Services Ltd, who provide our organisation with ready access to Health and Safety Advice and ensure we adhere to all the legal requirements and standards of competency for todays Construction Industry.

The Audits found some areas of improvement in the minor category that can be rectified immediately. The provision of this thorough service provides the necessary infomation to complete a Management Review and renew our CHAS accreditation.

*Pictured left discussing the Health and Safety Audit at our Crediton workshop are from left to right: Charlie Cribbes (Safety Services Ltd), Martyn Watchurst (Hayles and Howe's internal Health and Safety Advisor) and Mark Burston (Hayles and Howe's Crediton Production Manager).*

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