

We are the public body that looks after England's historic environment. We champion historic places, helping people understand value and care for them.

Job Description: Trainee Stonemason

Job title:	Stonemason Trainee Level 2
Host Organisation:	Matthias Garn Master Mason & Partner
Location:	York
Pay:	£16,224 FTC
Length of contract:	27 months (2 years, 3 months)
Qualification Level:	Intermediate: Level 2

A summary of the role:

You will be working towards completion of your training over the course of 27 months. The role will be made up of around 80% of your time on the job, and 20% of your time will be spent off the job, completing a training programme with a construction skills College. This training may be delivered by residential block release, meaning you will spend up to one week at a time on campus at the college, or by day release, roughly 1 day each week, as well as online learning. All travel and subsistence costs will be met by Historic England for required training purposes.

As a trainee specialising in heritage skills you will be hosted by Matthias Garn Master Mason & Partner who are based in York. Your work will contribute to the management of England's unique historic environment, helping to ensure that it can be used, understood and enjoyed by a diverse range of people for generations to come. All trainees engaged in the programme will benefit from experience of construction on a heritage site. Your programme of learning will be generously grant funded by the Hamish Ogston Foundation and led by Historic England. Some of your learning will take place at Summer School in 2022, where trainees will meet each other and Historic England staff, and practice conservation as an interdisciplinary activity.

You will be supervised by a skilled expert during your training and in addition you will be supported by a variety of staff from Historic England, including a mentor and several other dedicated staff members. You will also have contact with other Hamish Ogston Foundation trainees as well as others studying at the same college as you, to share your experiences and support each other through your training journey.

What will you be doing?

Through your college training you will learn the foundation understanding of Stonemasonry, including:

1. Health and Safety on a construction site
2. Stonemasonry tools, components and equipment appropriate to the required methods of work; understanding of how to safely use and maintain tools/equipment to achieve the required performance and finish quality
3. Movement of materials and movement/storage of stone and the problems/damage that can occur and avoidance methods.
4. Environmental considerations in accordance with the Environmental Protection Act: safe disposal of waste, minimising waste (re-use and re-cycle), energy efficiency, how to contribute to zero/low carbon outcomes.

Through your day to day role with your host organisation and the Historic England/Hamish Ogston foundation Summer School you will learn a range of skills including:

1. How to research the historical, cultural and archaeological significance of specific sites through written assessment; to develop an understanding of the history of the tools and equipment, materials and methods that are used in this field and on specific projects.
2. The craft of traditional stonemasonry- including setting out, making templates, masonry and fixing of stones on building sites- as it is performed within the heritage sector (e.g, governed by strict conservation principles and methods, using traditional tools and techniques).
3. Apply skills that have been passed down from generation to generation in a manner which is entirely sympathetic to the existing fabric- minimising intervention where possible in line with The SPAB principles of conservative repair.
4. Mason stones 'like for like', matching the tooled finish, quality and accuracy of the historic fabric. Carving and lettering skills will be introduced later in the training, when your specific skills and interests become apparent.
5. Gain a general understanding of how projects are organised and managed in terms of timeframes, budget and the management of quality.

Travel

This role will require regular daily travel to work sites and college campuses with potential for planned overnight stays. Attendance of a Heritage Skills summer school experience will be required to complete your training.

What support will you have?

You will be supervised for your day to day role by your host organisation. You will also be supported by a personal Learning Mentor from Historic England. You will also receive support and guidance from Hamish Ogston Foundation Heritage Building Skills Programme Staff.

You will also benefit from the guidance of college tutors and their own dedicated support staff such as workplace reviewers.

What will you already have? (Person Specification)

Essential	Desirable
Training & qualifications	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maths and English GCSE's at Level 1 or above 	
Experience, knowledge & skills	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Passion and interest in heritage and the built environment ● Dedication, understands the importance of punctuality and reliability ● Possess good communication skills ● Curiosity and has a desire to continuously learn. ● Willingness to work and travel to a variety of locations. ● The ability to work in both indoor and outdoor settings in changeable weather conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Previous experience in a workplace setting. ● Reside geographically close to the Host organisation and college. ● Previous experience in a physically demanding role. ● Good Manual Dexterity ● Own transport for remote site working
Strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hard working - you always seek to put in the required effort and strive for the highest quality of work ● Dedicated – you are passionate about learning and helping continue the craft of stonemasonry ● Discovery - you are interested in the craft, love finding out new things and developing yourself ● Accuracy - enjoy focusing on the details and working within defined boundaries ● Communication - you enjoy actively listening and questioning where necessary ● Problem solving - you enjoy analysing situations and investigating practical solutions 	

Historic England is committed to providing equality of opportunity. If you have a disability, we would be happy to discuss reasonable adjustments to the job with you.