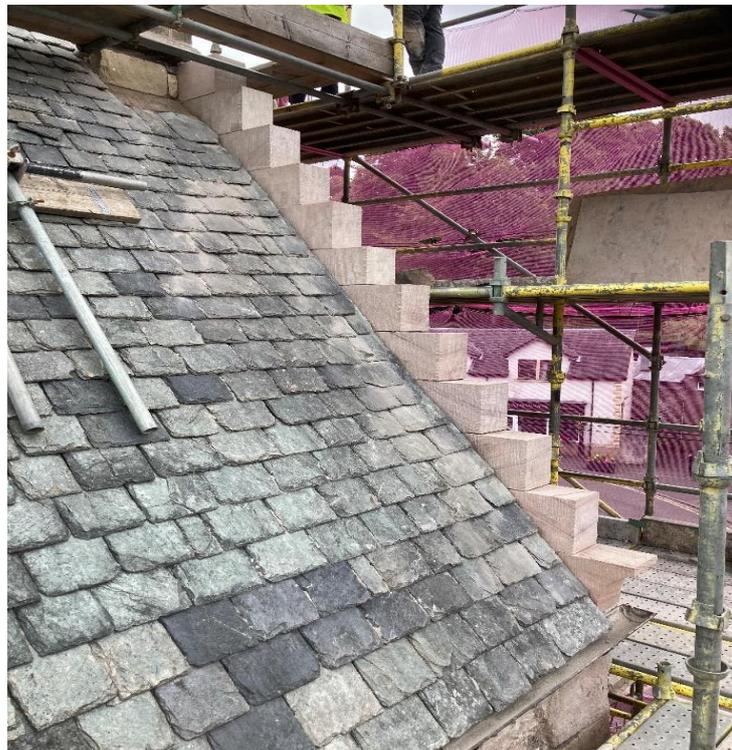


Progress by August 2023

The crow steps and the chimney at the South end have just been completed. Five chimney pots can now be seen – a third flue was discovered at the North end during works. All chimneys have been cleared of centuries' worth of debris and capped. The south chimney material differs from the north, having an ashlar finish (large square cut stones), suggesting it was rebuilt in the 19C.



New crow steps



Now to the roof, where work will start on Monday 7 August. We don't know what we'll find when the slates come off. The slates will be carefully stripped, assessed and sorted. Good ones will be reused. Readers of earlier editions will be aware we purchased a stock of matching old Aberfoyle slates some time ago. Once the slates are removed, a full

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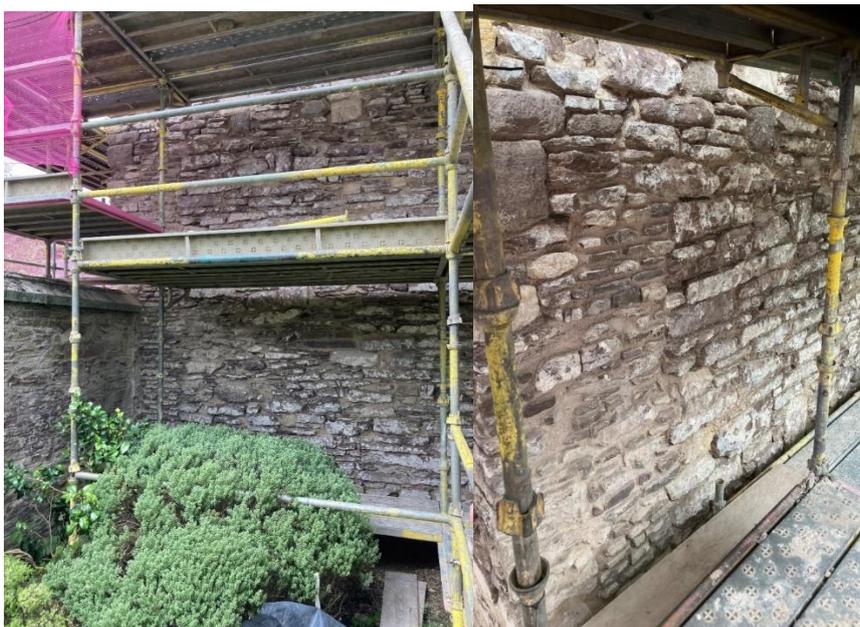
assessment can be made of the woodwork beneath. A joiner will also check the lintels using an endoscope.

The stone around the South end window (looking down the High St) will be dressed. This window was altered some considerable time ago from a rectangle to an arched window. As the wall has been explored, it has been found this window and the wall area above are supported by a series of wooden lintels in a poor state of repair. These will be replaced with new steel supports, to be embedded within the wall.



Looking in through the window opening into the library room (press 7 on left and the chandelier visible)

The two long fissures in the North wall have been consolidated. East and west walls will be attended to in the coming weeks.



THE LEIGHTON LIBRARY RESTORATION NEWS

The burglar alarm still hanging in there!



We have exciting plans for the Undercroft to develop it into a reception and information/activity space, but for the moment it is still following its traditional function as a store!

