

## **Pargetting information sheet**

### *What is pargetting?*

Pargetting is specialist, decorative plasterwork where decoration is either incised or raised and moulded. Moulded pargetting is found at several houses in Port Sunlight where it has been used for everything from relatively modest but elegant motifs with tulips to richly ornate figurative friezes.

All pargetting is important to the Arts and Crafts character of the village and is protected.

Removal or large scale repair of pargetting will require Listed Building Consent from Wirral Council and permission from PSVT. Inappropriate alterations damage pargetting and adversely impact the character of your house.

### *What to look for?*

- Ensure that gutters, downpipes and hopper heads are clear and not leaking onto the pargetting.
- Look for moss, dark staining or other evidence of damp.
- Look for cracked or bulging sections of pargetting.
- Look for losses in the pargetting.
- Check finish coatings for peeling, cracks or flaking. Pargetting should be limewashed. Other finishes may not be compatible with the decorative plasterwork and may trap moisture against the wall.

### *Maintenance or repairs*

- Repairs to pargetting require a highly skilled tradesperson with experience working on decorative plasterwork.
- If your pargetting is limewashed, you may be able to reapply a limewash that has failed.

### *Lead paint advisory*

Paints found in older buildings may contain lead. Lead can be harmful to health, particularly for children. Sometimes lead paint has been covered by later, modern paints. If you are unsure if the paint used in your house (including windows, doors, walls, trim and other surfaces) contains lead, it should be assumed to be present and precautions should be taken when stripping, sanding or otherwise preparing painted surfaces.