

## BUILDING CONSERVATION MASTERCLASSES CONSERVATION AND REPAIR OF MASONRY RUINS

BC3D225 27-30 MARCH 2017 (3 day course)

This course is primarily designed for those concerned with the conservation of ruined structures, although the principles and skills are also applicable to roofed buildings.

It will include assessment of the structural and surface condition of masonry walls, identification of traditional materials, fault diagnosis, removal and control of organic growth, consolidation and treatment of wall tops, specification of mortars and grouts and the preparation and placing of mortar, with practical exercises using the Ruinette.

**Please remember to bring work clothes/overalls and shoes for practical sessions.**

Course Leader: To be advised  
Principal Tutor: Colin Burns, Master Mason and consultant in the conservation and repair of historic buildings. former Senior Training Officer at English Heritage

Alan Cathersides, National Landscape Advisor at Historic England  
Catherine Woolfitt, archaeologist, conservator, and director of Catherine Woolfitt Associates Ltd, providing consultancy services in the conservation of the built heritage, including ancient monuments and sculpture  
Duncan Williams, Flint Mason at Knepp Castle in West Sussex.

**All students on this course will receive a copy of *English Heritage Practical Building Conservation: Stone*.**

Recommended Reading:  
*English Heritage Practical Building Conservation: Stone*, 2012, Ashgate Publishing  
Ashurst J and Dimes F, *Conservation of Building and Decorative Stone*, 1998.  
Ashurst J, *Conservation of Ruins*, 2006.

## OUTLINE PROGRAMME

Day 1	Monday
16.00-18.00	Register at Reception Desk
18.45	Welcome Talk
19.00	Dinner
Evening	Lecture. Introduction to ruined masonry: ethical and practical problems relating to its conservation; brief outline of conservation history in the UK; the vital nature of assessment and recording and the development of conservation and management plans.
Day 2	Tuesday
Morning	Lecture and Practical Work. Ancient masonry construction: evolution and development of the composite masonry wall; common structural problems; fault recognition and diagnosis; survey of the masonry reconstruction (the ruinette); investigation of voids.

Lecture. Characterisation of traditional mortars: history of use; examination of specimens of limes, pozzolanic materials and aggregates; problems related to mortar joints and approaches to remedial work.

Afternoon Demonstration. Preparation, storage and maturing of lime putty and coarse stuff; slaking lime putty and preparing mortar by hand and in the mortar mill.  
Demonstration and Practical Work. Preparation of hydraulic lime; mixing non-hydraulic and hydraulic lime mortars – comparative techniques; curing procedures.

Lecture and Practical Work. Examination of samples of stones and mortars in the laboratory; discussion on sampling procedures; use and limitations of a range of analytical techniques relating to stones and mortar; demonstrations of the use of hand lens and optical microscope.

Day 3 Wednesday

Morning Demonstration and Practical Work. Treatment of exposed core work, forming new core; lifting and resetting wall head stones; water disposal from wall heads; soft wall capping.

Afternoon Lecture and Demonstration. Grouting masonry walls: principles and procedures; large and small voids; practical grouting and grout recording.  
Demonstration and Practical Work. Cutting out a range of joint thickness in a variety of masonry types; joint filling and protection.

Day 4 Thursday

Morning Lecture. Vegetation on masonry walls; identification and control; health and safety.  
Demonstration and Practical Work. Recording rubble and ashlar walls using the tracing frame; preparing to take down and rebuild.  
Lecture and Demonstration. Plastering rubble and ashlar walls as part of a conservation/maintenance programme; materials and techniques.

Afternoon Practical Work. Finishing joints and plaster.  
Lecture. Care of architectural detail on ruined masonry: repair, cleaning, conservation, protection.

15.30 Issue of certificates and depart.

**Non-residential course fee £620**

**Fully inclusive residential course fee:**

**Shared bathroom facilities £791**

**Standard room with private bathroom facilities £851**

**Superior room with private bathroom facilities £911**

## HOW TO BOOK

Please complete one booking form, or copy of form, per person per course and enclose a deposit for each course booked. On receipt of your booking, we will send all the further details you will need for your visit, including the course details and your final payment slip. Travel instructions will be sent to all students.

For further information about the course, please contact the Course Organiser: +44 (0)1243 818219 or [cpd@westdean.org.uk](mailto:cpd@westdean.org.uk)

For further information about booking, please telephone the Bookings Office: +44 (0)1243 818300.

Website: [www.westdean.org.uk](http://www.westdean.org.uk)