

BUILDING CONSERVATION MASTERCLASSES
MANAGING WILDLIFE IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT
B3D07334 14-17 MAY 2018 (3 day course)

This course is intended for architects, surveyors, contractors and site managers. The teaching is divided between illustrated lectures and local site visits to a hill fort, church and ruined priory and unique access to the West Dean bat tunnel accompanied by a licensed bat handler.

The course aims to give an understanding of the plants and animals which are found on and in historic buildings and sites and the implications of legislation in their management. These are not only important for wildlife conservation but they also contribute to the aesthetic appeal of sites and are a valuable educational resource. While some may be damaging to masonry or artefacts, others are benign and might actually give protection from erosion or decay.

The course will look at the flora and fauna of historic structures and their surroundings, the use of vegetation to protect ruined wall-tops ('soft capping') and the implications for site management with special reference to bats and their conservation requirements.

Please remember to bring a torch, waterproofs and strong footwear for use on the excursions.

Course Leader: Alan Cathersides,
National Landscape Advisor, Historic
England

Tutors:

John Baker, Herpetologist; George Bemment, Bat Ecologist; Mike Edwards, Entomologist; Malcolm Emery, former Senior Reserve Manager, Natural England; Vince Giavarini, Lichenologist
Chris Wood, Head of Building Conservation and Research Team, Historic England.

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

Recommended Reading:

English Heritage Practical Building Conservation: Conservation Basics, 2013, Ashgate Publishing
Andre Berry & Ian Brown (Eds.) *Managing Ancient Monuments: an Integrated Approach* Clwyd Archaeology Service 1995
Arnold Darlington *Ecology of Walls* Heinemann Educational Books 1981
Timothy Darvill *Ancient Monuments in the Countryside* English Heritage 1987
Oliver Gilbert *Rooted in Stone: the natural flora of urban walls* English Nature 1992
Jane Grenvill (Ed) *Managing the Historic Rural Landscape* Routledge 1999
George Lambrick (Ed.) *Archaeology and Nature Conservation* Oxford University Press 1985
John Watkins & Tom Wright (Eds.) *The Management & Maintenance of Historic Parks, Gardens & Landscapes* Frances Lincoln 2007

OUTLINE PROGRAMME

Day 1 Monday

14.00-14.30 Registration at College and check-in to room

15:00	Lecture. Introduction to course Lecture. Wildlife, Health and Safety, Pesticide and other legislation and the implications for historic site management
17.30	Check-in to room (alternative time)
Evening	Introduction to reptiles and amphibians
Day 2	Tuesday
Morning	Lecture. Trees on monuments Lecture. The flora of historic walls – bryophytes and lichens
Afternoon	Lecture. Climbing plants on walls Lecture. Bats in historic buildings
Evening	Excursion. Bat Walk on the West Dean Estate, including a visit to a hibernation site in a disused railway tunnel
Day 3	Wednesday
Morning	Lecture. The flora of historic walls – flowering plants and ferns Lecture. Grassland ecology and management
Afternoon	Excursion. To The Trundle – An Iron Age hill fort illustrating different grassland flora and management techniques and Boxgrove Priory – a partly ruined medieval priory and functioning parish church illustrating a wide range of micro-habitats for flora
Evening	Lecture. The insect fauna of historic walls
Day 4	Thursday
Morning	Lecture. Soft-capping: Using vegetation to protect wall tops Lecture. Dealing with problem species on monuments
Afternoon	Project. A group desk exercise, followed by feedback Final questions, event evaluation and close
16.00	Issue of certificates and depart.

Non-residential course fee £645

Fully inclusive residential course fee:

Shared bathroom facilities £816

Standard room with private bathroom facilities £876

Superior room with private bathroom facilities £936

This course qualifies for BASIS (British Agrochemicals Standards Inspection Scheme) CPD points

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: cpd@westdean.org.uk or +44 (0) 1243 818219.

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

Website: www.westdean.org.uk