



The Re-emergence of Lime Based Materials

The appearance of 'modern Portland type' hydraulic cement in the mid to late 19th C practically 'did for' traditional lime based building and finishing materials which generally took longer to harden and came to be viewed as being somewhat problematical in wet conditions. So, end of the line for lime?..... certainly not!, lime and cement based materials just do not mix, fine in their own right, but simply not compatible, as demonstrated by the significant amount of damage (cracking, water ingress/moisture problems and surface disruption), caused to historic buildings and structures as a consequence of the use, in the 20th C, of cement based mortars and renders for repair and restoration of older, predominantly lime based construction.



Lime materials are well and truly back, the 'second coming' aided and abetted by the re-discovery of their advantageous and environmentally friendly qualities. The re-emergence brings a need for testing and analysis to provide investigative or quality control information prior to the use of such materials under particular circumstances:



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How can we help?

Matching and replicating existing historic materials for restoration and repair

- Identification of the specific nature and type of existing lime binder (hydraulic, non-hydraulic, lime putty)
- Calculation of the binder concentration and mix proportions
- Confirmation of the composition and grading of the fine aggregate
- Overall characteristics and condition of the matrix

Quality control of modern lime based materials

- Verification of compliance with contract specifications
- Identification of cause of failure or sub-standard performance



How to contact us

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we will get straight back to you. Why?
Because we like to help>

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