

HMC 08

HISTORICAL MORTARS CONFERENCE

PORTUGAL | LISBON | LNEC | 24th TO 26th SEPTEMBER 2008

CHARACTERIZATION | DIAGNOSIS | CONSERVATION | REPAIR | COMPATIBILITY

THEMES

The Conference, is based in four main themes, related with the central objectives of four research projects, financed by Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT), that are being developed by the organization institutions of this event:

I.Characterization of historical mortars: chemical, mineralogical, micro-structural, physical and mechanical characterization of historical mortars, including techniques and methodologies of testing and case studies.

II.Decay and diagnosis of historic masonry structures: damage, decay mechanisms, diagnosis, case studies.

III.History, protection and conservation of historical renders and plasters: history of the technology, protection of the historical heritage, consolidation materials and techniques, restoration and conservation of architectural heritage, case studies.

IV.Design of compatible repair mortars: compatible materials and techniques for conservation and repair, compatibility requirements, testing methods, case studies.

SCOPE

Historical mortars have proved to be very durable and present an extremely good performance as part of ancient masonry, in the role of renders, plasters or joints. Therefore, the knowledge of their composition, behaviour characteristics and decay mechanisms is a very relevant issue from the cultural point of view but also for the planning of conservation interventions and the design of techniques and materials to be employed.

The spread and discussion of the conclusions of four research projects recently developed by the organizing institutions, together with the need at an international level, of increasing the knowledge in this area, with the aim of promoting the protection of cultural and historical heritage, have set the background for this conference.

The research projects, financed by FCT- Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia, are the following: Cathedral - Characterisation and Conservation of Traditional and Historical Mortars from Alentejo's Religious Buildings; Development of methodologies for the evaluation of the effects of humidity in old walls; Conservarcal - Lime renders conservation - improving repair techniques and materials on architectural heritage; Study of compatible mortars for the preservation of the built heritage.

An objective of HMC08 is to bring together scientists and technicians related with the Cultural Heritage preservation field, promoting interdisciplinary discussion for the scientific studies in conservation of historical mortars as historic heritage. Therefore, professionals of the area are invited to participate in the Conference and to transmit their knowledge and experiences in the processes and forms of old mortars' decay, as well as in the application of scientific methods for their conservation and preservation.

Organization
Institutions:



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Photography: Nossa Senhora da Assunção Church, Elvas (ssalema)