

Hot Mixed Lime Mortars

Seminar & Workshop

Thursday 20th October 2016 9.00am - 6.00pm

The Chapter House, Coventry Cathedral

This event is organised by the Building Limes Forum and sponsored by Historic England



Supported by



Hot Mixed Lime Mortars

This event is suitable for contractors, professionals and their clients who have an interest in the appropriate repair and conservation of traditional buildings and structures.

The day will consist of a combination of talks and practical demonstrations, delivered by a diverse team of craftspeople and consultants from across the UK & Ireland, sharing their knowledge and experience.



Hot mixed lime mortars are essentially those prepared by mixing quick-lime, aggregate and water together to make a mortar. The quicklime reacts with the water, generating heat and, if enough water is added, simultaneously binds together with the aggregate to form a mortar. The mortar is 'hot' from the slaking reaction and can be used whilst still hot, warm or after it has cooled. There are various methods for making hot mixed lime mortar, and each has its benefits. Mortars for stonework, brickwork, plasters and renders may have different requirements, so the method can be adapted to give the best results.

Over the last few years there has been a growing appreciation of the extent to which hot mixed lime mortars were used in the past, and a revival of interest in their use across the UK and Ireland.

Previous 'hot lime' events, including those organised by the BLF, have reignited the debate within the on-going 'lime revival', which started some 40 years ago. It is recognised that most lime binders and mortars have their place, but the lime-revival hasn't been without its obstacles - many practitioners have experienced the limitations of lime putty based mortars which in some cases have proved too sacrificial. Conversely, there are questions to be answered on the compatibility of many NHL based mortars for traditional buildings, which may be overly strong and hard.

The performance of hot mixed lime mortars, and indeed other types of lime mortars, is the subject of on-going research and heated debate. What is certain, is that hot mixed lime mortars play an important role within the ever-expanding palette of lime binder and mortar types. When correctly specified and used, evidence suggests that they are appropriately durable and compatible with most traditional masonry buildings. Practitioners using hot mixed lime mortars cite many advantages of these mixes, including being economical and providing superior workability.

Quicklime can also be added to earthen mortars to stabilise the clay binder. Such mortars are particularly compatible with earth-built structures and earth-mortared masonry buildings, the latter of which are common in many parts of the UK. Lime-stabilised earthen mortars were also used in the past for plastering of both walls and ceilings, and (to a lesser extent) for external renders.

Nigel Copsey, Stonemason & Building Conservator

Pat McAfee, Stonemason

David Wiggins, Structural Engineer: Curtins

Alan Gardner, Chartered Building Surveyor

Nick Durnan, Stone Conservator

Richard Jordan, Master Roofer

Simon Swann, Stone Conservator & Chair of BLF

Bill Revie, Building Materials Scientist

Ed Morton, Structural Engineer

Craig Frew, Historic Buildings Consultant

To reserve your place, please complete the BLF event booking form.

 $Enquiries\ to\ admin@buildinglimes forum.org.uk$

All bookings are provisional until full payment is received.

When?	Where?	How much?
Thursday 20th October 2016	Chapter House	£80 for BLF members.
	Coventry Cathedral	£100 for non-members.
09.00 registration & coffee	Priory Street	Lunch & refreshments included.
09.20 start	Coventry	
18.00 finish	CV1 5FJ	Booking form at:
		buildinglimesforum.org.uk