



# Conserving Buildings: Guide to Techniques and Materials, Revised Edition

*By Martin E. Weaver*

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## **Conserving Buildings: Guide to Techniques and Materials, Revised Edition**

By Martin E. Weaver

The updated paperback edition of Weaver's landmark work--the essential manual on materials and procedures for restoring buildings

Conserving Buildings, Revised Edition, is the ideal resource for anyone involved in the maintenance, restoration, or rehabilitation of historic buildings. The book combines practical information on the characteristics, composition, and deterioration of building materials with detailed coverage of state-of-the-art conservation methods, fully updated in this edition with current developments in research and practice.

The book contains:

- \* Systematic treatment of all major building materials--stone, ceramics, masonry, cement-based materials, metal, glass, synthetic resins, and polymers
- \* Valuable instruction on the restoration and renewal of foundations and footings, slate roofing systems, materials, and other structural details
- \* Easy-to-follow procedures for conducting structural building surveys
- \* Over 150 photographs and line drawings, plus case studies from Columbia University's acclaimed Center for Preservation Research
- \* Newly expanded references, with accessible sources of further information

Whether used as a hands-on sourcebook or a technical desktop reference, Conserving Buildings, Revised Edition, is the manual of choice for architects, engineers, preservation professionals, historic building owners, and students.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **From the Publisher**

Offers coverage pertaining to historic buildings along with the deterioration and conservation of all major building materials such as stone, ceramics, masonry, metals, paints, cement-based materials metal, glass, synthetic resins and polymers. Each chapter explains the characteristics of material, various forms of deterioration and a review of appropriate conservation techniques. Features information on using temperature and humidity to conserve materials and how to protect them against acid rain, earthquakes, fire, birds and other natural hazards. Also includes numerous photographs and illustrations.

### **From the Inside Flap**

Reflecting Martin Weaver's nearly 30 years of experience in the field, *Conserving Buildings* provides uniquely detailed insight into the technology involved in the conservation of historic and modern materials and structures, particularly as it is represented in North America. Packed with 350 photographs and line drawings and illustrative case studies, this comprehensive new work focuses on a wide range of major building materials—from wood, stone, and ceramics, through cement-based materials and metalwork, to paints, coatings, glass and wallpapers. Each chapter covers a particular material, systematically describing the material's physical and chemical characteristics, the various forms of deterioration common to it, and the application of effective conservation methods. Among other benefits, professionals involved in the conservation effort learn how to use temperature and humidity control to preserve materials and how to protect materials against a host of natural enemies, including earthquakes, acid rain, and fire. *Conserving Buildings* first offers overviews of building materials and systems, covering the nature of materials, their manufacture and processing, and methods of examining and testing those materials. The next several chapters then examine the deterioration and conservation of such materials as:

- wood types and species: physical, mechanical, and chemical deterioration of wood; the biodeterioration of wood as a result of molds, bacteria, and insects; and wood preservatives
- igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic rocks: their deterioration and durability in various environments; stone cleaning and repair; coatings and water repellants; the options of conservation or replacement
- architectural ceramics: brick and terracotta, clays, fillers, fluxes, slips, and glazes; the use of attachment, reinforcement, or suspension systems
- cementitious materials: mortar, lime, and gypsum; natural cements; Portland and Roman cements; pozzolanic cements and admixtures; plasters and stuccos
- architectural metalwork: iron and steel; copper, bronze, and other copper alloys
- paints and coatings: vehicles, binders, solvents, pigments, extenders; water and oil-based systems; natural and synthetic oils and resins; varnishes and lacquers (contributed by Frank G. Matero)
- architectural glass: plain window glass; cylinder or muff glass; bevelled glass; engraved and sandblasted glass; glazing systems

In addition, *Conserving Buildings* highlights myriad techniques for cleaning all types of masonry, and provides methods for restoring old foundations and footings, historic wallpapers, old slate roofs, as well as today's synthetic resins and polymers. In many instances, coverage of state-of-the-art conservation techniques is enhanced by relevant case histories drawn from the prestigious Center for Preservation Research at Columbia University. Vivid testimony to the rapid progress in the science of building conservation since the early 1970s, *Conserving Buildings* is an essential reference for architects, engineers, builders, preservationists, and materials manufacturers.

From the Back Cover

## **Architecture/Home Improvement.**

**The updated paperback edition of Weaver's landmark work—the essential manual of materials and procedures for restoring buildings.**

*Conserving Buildings, Revised Edition*, is the ideal resource for anyone involved in the maintenance, restoration, or rehabilitation of historic buildings. The book combines practical information on the characteristics, composition, and deterioration of building materials with detailed coverage of state-of-the-art conservation methods, fully updated in this edition with current developments in research and practice.

The book contains:

- Systematic treatment of all major building materials—stone, ceramics, masonry, cement-based materials, metal, glass, synthetic resins, and polymers.
- Valuable instruction on the restoration and renewal of foundations and footings, slate roofing systems, materials, and other structural details.
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- Over 150 photographs and line drawings, plus case studies from Columbia University's acclaimed Center for Preservation Research.
- Newly expanded references, with accessible sources of further information. Whether used as a hands-on sourcebook or a technical desktop reference, *Conserving Buildings, Revised Edition*, is the manual of choice for architects, engineers, preservation professionals, historic building owners, and students.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

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