

BCA Spring meeting 2007

Abstract - Cultural Heritage session

Conservation and Restoration - XRF brings the past into our future

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The remit of English Heritage is “to protect and promote England’s spectacular historic environment and ensure that its past is researched and understood”. In practice this has often been interpreted by planners and conservation officers as “minimising change”. However, as scientists we know that facts are a vital component in any decision making process and this is where XRF analysis offers assistance to those charged with making decisions and offering guidance.

This presentation will demonstrate how analysis of building materials and methods used by our forebears has assisted in maintaining the balance between conservation, restoration and repair with the economic and social needs and aspirations of communities today and tomorrow.