

# repair\*

**Traditional Building Skills  
Courses, Seminars & Lectures  
April 2009 – March 2010**



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## background\*



Since 1997 the Historic Buildings and Conservation team at Essex County Council has run a series of one, two or three day hands-on courses in traditional building skills. The courses aim to raise awareness of the importance of protecting our historic buildings by using the appropriate methods and materials to repair and conserve them.

The courses are run from our workshop at Cressing Temple Barns, but where possible we use live sites throughout the county. Our tutors are all excellent craftsmen who run their own businesses using their skills every day, and who have a wealth of experience and knowledge.

Those attending the courses include owners of historic buildings, practising craftsmen who want to specialise in traditional repairs, and general builders and contractors as well as interested amateurs. Courses are open to all skill levels unless specified otherwise.

Running alongside the hands-on courses is a comprehensive range of short lecture sessions. Titles vary annually but their aim remains the same, to educate and inform professionals such as surveyors, architects, building contractors, self-employed tradesmen, plus the owners of historic buildings, in the technical and practical issues involved in the care and repair of our historic buildings.

# hands on courses\*



## **Lime Plaster for Plasterers 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2009 at Cressing Temple Barns**

This one-day hands-on course is aimed at working plasterers interested in broadening their experience, and amateurs with some plastering skills. The day will explain how to fix laths, prepare lime putty mixes, and plaster on to laths as well as highlighting the importance of good preparation and aftercare.

**Cost £95**

## **An Introduction to Long Straw Thatching 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at Belhus Woods Country Park**

This two-day introductory course will give you the opportunity to learn the basic method of long straw thatching. We will be working on a 'live' project in one of Essex County Council's Country Parks, using long straw, the traditional thatching material of Essex. No experience needed.

**Cost £190**

## **Timber Frame Repairs 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at Stambourne**

Those attending this three-day hands-on course will learn how to repair historic sole plates and studwork on a live project. The course has been designed for working carpenters and joiners but home owners with basic skills are very welcome. The course will also cover carpentry joints, the choice of timber and analysis of repair strategy.

**Cost £235**

## **Understanding Wrought Iron 29<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at Cressing Temple Barns**

The purpose of the course is to offer a rare opportunity to work with hot iron in the forge and to understand the art and science of wrought iron. All participants will be able to take away their forge work at the end of the day.

**Cost £95**

## **Wattle & Daub 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at Great Saling**

This two-day course shows how to use traditional materials for infill panels in timber-framed buildings. The course is intended for people who want to broaden their experience into the area of conservation and repair. No experience needed.

**Cost £190**

## **Flint Walling 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at Wendens Ambo**

Students on this three-day course will repair and rebuild a churchyard wall using flints and lime mortar. There will also be a demonstration of flint knapping with the opportunity to have a go. The course will be of interest to bricklayers, general builders and home owners alike.

No experience needed.

**Cost £235**

## **Lime Mortar & Conservation Brickwork 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at Castle Hedingham**

This three-day course aims to encourage the use of lime mortar and correct brickwork repair by repairing the brickwork of a 19th century wall. We will also look at a selection of different pointing styles. The course is aimed at home owners wanting to tackle small repairs but may also be useful to working bricklayers who would like to broaden their experience. No experience needed.

**Cost £235**



small patch repairs to their homes. The day will show how to hand-mix small amounts of lime plaster, and to repair or replace patches. No experience needed.

**Cost £95**

**Lime Plaster, Run Mouldings & Pargetting**  
**21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 at**  
**Cressing Temple Barns**

A two-day course covering the art and craft of lime plastering, mouldings run in situ, and pargetting. It is open to working plasterers who want to broaden their experience, home owners and the enthusiastic amateur. No experience needed.

**Cost £190**



**Repair & Conservation of**  
**Historic Windows**  
**25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010 at**  
**Cressing Temple Barns**

In order to keep as much of the old fabric of the historic building as possible, conservation officers will normally insist that doors and windows are repaired and not replaced. This two-day course is intended for working carpenters and joiners who want to develop their experience in this area of woodwork. Amateurs with an interest in historic joinery and who have basic woodworking skills are welcome.

**Cost £190**

**Lime Plaster for Home Owners**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> October/6<sup>th</sup> November/4<sup>th</sup>**  
**December 2009 at Cressing**  
**Temple Barns**

A one-day course, aimed at owners of historic buildings who want to tackle

## weekend courses\*



**Caring for Your Traditional**  
**Building**  
**10am – 2.00pm Saturday**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> May 2009 at Great**  
**Dunmow Maltings**

Aimed at owners of historic buildings, this course will look at sympathetic methods of repair and show you how a simple maintenance programme can avoid many of the problems associated with historic buildings. We will look at why it is so important that your building can breathe, how and why you should give your home an annual health check, and give you basic advice on making your home more energy efficient.

**Cost £20 or £25**  
**Including lunch.**

**The House Detective**  
**10am to 2.00pm, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**July at Great Dunmow Maltings**

Many of us would like to know more about the houses we live in. During the day we will take you through from medieval timber framed to Victorian buildings and show you how to read the building you live in as well as how to find out about the social history of your home. There will be a guided tour of the maltings at the end of the day.

**Cost £20 or £25**  
**Including lunch.**

# CPD Lecture Programme\*



Each lecture will consist of two one-hour talks. They will be of interest to architects, surveyors, conservation professionals and planners for specification writing and site supervision, as well as owners of historic and listed properties. All lectures take place at Crossing Temple Barns near Braintree.

A light lunch and refreshments are included.

## **Energy Saving and Historic Buildings** 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009

This session will explore how to improve the energy efficiency of historic buildings without damaging its historic character or fabric. It will consider what measures are

compatible with the traditional behaviour of historic buildings and provide an update on insulation products and energy saving methods suitable for traditional construction, with case studies. The problem with measuring energy performance (such as for HIPs) will also be discussed.

**Cost £50**

## **Energy Generation and Historic Buildings** 17<sup>th</sup> June 2009

This session will consider how to introduce renewable energy systems, such as solar panels, wind turbines, biomass boilers and heat pumps, into the historically sensitive context of a listed building or conservation area. It will consider which methods are most effective and therefore most justified, and which might be most acceptable in the wider planning context.

**Cost £50**

## **From Tree to Timber Frame (Timber Conversion and Geometry)** 8<sup>th</sup> July 2009

Medieval buildings, even vernacular ones, were carefully designed using geometrical principles. This seminar, will demonstrate how buildings were laid out by masons and carpenters in buildings as diverse as Ely cathedral and the Crossing Temple Barns as well as explaining how carpenters converted trees to buildings. The morning session will be followed by a guided tour of Crossing Temple for those who are interested.

**Cost £50**

## **Saving a Historic Building – Dunmow Maltings Case Study** 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Buildings fall into disrepair for many reasons including changing agricultural, industrial and social patterns. This session will discuss the various problems and strategies involved with securing the future of a vulnerable building, and will illustrate them with the successful example of the Dunmow Maltings.

**Cost £50**

## **Design for Conservation Areas** 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2009

This session is aimed at local authority planning officers and is devoted to the design of new development in conservation areas. The appraisal of conservation areas and the analysis of local character and context are discussed, as is

the role and effectiveness of local authority guidance, such as the Essex Design Guide and the Urban Place Supplement.

**Cost £50**

## **Heritage Law is Changing! The Heritage Protection Review** 21<sup>st</sup> October 2009

This session will provide an update on the status and content of the Heritage Protection Bill which proposes to change the legislative framework for listed buildings, conservation areas, schedule ancient monuments and registered parks and gardens. It will explore the key changes in how “heritage assets” are protected and how this will work in practice, at an immediate, local level.

**Cost £50**

## **Structural Repair of Historic Buildings** 11<sup>th</sup> November 2009

A brief look at some repairs to the structure of masonry and timber buildings and the philosophy behind the decisions which led to those repairs.

**Cost £50**

## **Landscaping for Historic Buildings** 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Planning guidance recognises the importance of the setting of a listed building. Hard and soft landscaping, boundary treatments and garden design can have a decisive effect on



the appearance of listed buildings and conservation areas. This lecture will examine the legislative framework affecting these issues, and will look at solutions suitable in the context of a historic setting.

**Cost £50**

### **Damp Proofing and Timber Treatment**

**10<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

The session will dispel the myths about damp and timber decay by looking at how to assess the problems and then find an appropriate solution for traditional buildings, without necessarily using chemical treatments.

**Cost £50**

### **Building Regulations and Historic Buildings**

**17<sup>th</sup> March - 2010**

Building regulations and listed buildings often seem to be in conflict, a situation more apparent than real. These two talks will address the application of the Building Regulations to listed buildings, covering disabled access, insulation, fire and sound.

**Cost £50**

### **Buying and Selling a Listed Building**

**31<sup>st</sup> March 2010**

This lecture will be of special interest to new or prospective owners of listed buildings and Estate Agents. We will help you through the law surrounding listed buildings and the other issues involved in owning a listed property, separating fact from fiction.

**Cost £50**

## special events\*

### **Analysing and Consolidating a Masonry Building Spring 2009**

Held at the ruined St Peter's Church at Alresford near Colchester, this session will look at how to analyse and record historic fabric, the use of lime mortar in consolidation and flaunching, consolidation techniques and soft capping. CPD event.

**Cost £25**

**Date to be advised.**

### **Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation Canal Talk and Cruise**

**17<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at Paper Mill Lock, Little Baddow**

The Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation runs through a largely unspoilt part of rural Essex and connects the county town of Chelmsford with the tidal estuary of the River Blackwater at Heybridge Basin. Designed by the renowned canal engineer John Rennie, most of his original structures are intact together with the entire length of the original waterway.

The day will start with two talks about the waterway's history and how it is being preserved today, followed by lunch during a relaxing three-hour cruise.

**Cost £55**

**Including a light lunch.**

### **Caring for Churches 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

Parish Churches are our most notable historic buildings, being not only architecturally important but also symbols of the life and aspirations of the communities in which they stand. This series of lectures will help those involved in caring for church buildings through the labyrinth of legal controls and give advice on making them more comfortable and versatile buildings.

**Cost £25**

**Including a light lunch.**

### **A tour of a traditional brick works & a guided walk through Bury St Edmunds 11<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

A rare opportunity to visit Bulmer Brick & Tile Company and Bury St Edmunds in the company of one of the country's leading traditional brick-makers. You will look at and discuss the conservation and repair of historic rubbed and gauged work. The day will help professionals to specify and oversee work in the correct manner, and will also be of interest to the enthusiastic amateur.

**Cost £95**

**Not including lunch.**

## Build Your Own Bread Oven

Take out-door cooking to the next level by learning how to build a traditional brick bread oven for your back garden. This course would be suitable for homeowners or brick layers and builders who would like to offer their clients something different. If you are interested in this course please contact us for more details.

**Cost and date to be confirmed**

## Also of interest...

### Traditional Buildings of Essex and Beyond

Ten Tuesday evenings from 6<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at Trinity Methodist Church, Chelmsford.

Essex boasts a wealth of smaller buildings of early date. Discover when, why and how they were built, and how they compare with buildings in other areas.

This course is run by the Essex Historic Building Group. For details and to book, contact 01245 256102

**Cost £50**

## Terms and conditions of booking

### Paying for courses

Payment must be made in full at the time of booking. Please note we can only accept payment by cheque.

### Cancellation of course by Essex County Council

If the course is cancelled by Essex County Council we will refund you in full or you may transfer on to another course within the same programme.

### Cancellation of booking by attendees

If a booking is cancelled more than four weeks in advance of the start date of the course we will refund you in full.

If a booking is cancelled fewer than four weeks before the course, booking fees will not be refunded unless, the course is full and the place can be resold.

### Changes to published information

At the time of publishing all information is correct, however Essex County Council reserves the right to make changes to the programme if necessary.

Any people booked on these events and affected by changes will be contacted as soon as possible.

## Essex County Council Heritage Publications

Regional Variations in Timber Framed Buildings in England & Wales down to 1550 - £16

### Information booklets produced by Essex County Council - £1 each

Looking After Your Old Buildings

The Conservation and Renewal of Timber Windows

Pointing with Lime Mortars

### Conservation in Practice information booklets 50p each

Weatherboarding

Plastering & Limewash

Wattle & Daub

Repointing

### Conservation in Essex Series

No4 - Historic Buildings - 50p

No5 - Shopfronts - £1.50

No6 - Signs & Lettering - £1

No7 - Conservatories & Historic Buildings - £2

No8 - Infill in Historic Areas - £2

### Traditional Building Materials in Essex – Pargetting £1

The Changing Church - £3

Mr Pink – the architectural legacy of W.F. Crittall - £10

P&P included

To order publications please contact Katie Seabright on 01245 437672 or at Historic Buildings and Conservation, Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH. Please make cheques payable to Essex County Council.



# respond\*

## Booking Form

To confirm your booking return this form with a cheque, payable to Essex County Council, to: **Katie Seabright, Historic Buildings & Conservation, Essex County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH.**

Tel: **01245 437672** Fax: **01245 437213**

Email: **Traditional.BuildingSkills@essex.gov.uk**

*Please check availability before sending in payment. Course details and booking forms are also available at: [www.cressingtemple.org.uk](http://www.cressingtemple.org.uk)*

Course name: .....

Date of course: .....

Name: .....

Company/organisation: .....

Address: .....

Post code: .....

Tel: .....

Email: .....

We may use your details at a later date to gain feedback on the courses. Help reduce the amount of paper we use. Please tick to receive course information via email.

Thank you.

**This booklet is issued by**  
Essex County Council Heritage Publications  
You can contact us in the following ways:

**By post**

Katie Seabright, Historic Buildings & Conservation, Essex  
County Council, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH

**By telephone**

01245 437672

**By fax**

01245 437213

**By email**

Traditional.BuildingSkills@essex.gov.uk

**Visit our website**

[www.essex.gov.uk](http://www.essex.gov.uk)

The information contained in this leaflet can be translated,  
and/or made available in alternative formats, on request.

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