

Programme



Living with your old building

An introduction for building owners and users

Date: **Time:** 9.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Venue:

Course Trainer: **Course Assistant:**

9.30	Registration and welcome
10.00	Old buildings and Conservation – an introduction <i>What is conservation? Key concepts: locality, understanding, care and repair</i> <i>Putting conservation ideas into practice</i>
10.45	The construction and performance of old buildings <i>Typical forms of construction and materials – why old buildings are different</i> <i>The need for old buildings to breathe</i> <i>Spotting and tackling common issues and problems</i>
11.30	Short Break
11.45	Maintenance matters! <i>What is maintenance and why is it important?</i> <i>Planning for maintenance and good practice</i>
12.30	Lunch
1.30	The legal framework: an introduction to historic building controls <i>Planning and Listed Buildings, Building Regulations – what they are and what they're for</i> <i>Working with your local authority Conservation Officer</i>
2.00	Working with professionals <i>Navigating the planning and consents process</i> <i>Working with an architect or other specialists</i> <i>Working with contractors</i>
2.30	Out and about <i>Practical exercise looking at the THI area. (Timing allows going to/return from site.)</i>
3.45	Tea
4.00	Questions and discussion <i>An opportunity to review the day and ask any further questions</i>
4.30	Finish

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Course description

This one-day beginner / intermediate level course is designed to help old building owners and users understand their building, and take practical action to look after it.

It explains how traditional buildings were constructed, how they work and how they can decay, and introduces the ideas underpinning 'conservation' and good practice in making repairs.

The course emphasises the value of carrying out regular maintenance. It also aims to demystify the legal framework that building owners and custodians need to be aware of when carrying out work to their property, and offers advice on working with professionals and a local authority.

The day includes a practical exercise looking at local building types (their construction and materials) and giving maintenance pointers. Participants have an opportunity to discuss their own building with the tutors and with others attending.

About the SPAB

This course is provided by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB).

Founded in 1877 by the designer, writer and campaigner William Morris and the architect Philip Webb to oppose the needless destruction or damaging alteration of old buildings, the SPAB is the country's longest-established buildings conservation organisation. A registered charity, it has around 6,500 members who enjoy a lively programme of events, access to a network of regional groups, and a full-colour quarterly magazine. The Society has a branch in Scotland and a section devoted to the repair and protection of historic water- and wind-mills.

Education, skills-sharing and enjoyment of historic buildings has always been at the heart of the SPAB and today it continues to offer training and technical expertise to building owners, users and professionals. It offers a varied annual programme of courses, seminars and hands-on masterclasses in traditional building crafts, and its annual working party is an unrivalled opportunity to learn and develop skills on-site under expert guidance. The SPAB's free technical helpline (weekday mornings on 020 7456 0916) answers thousands of queries every year on all aspects of repairing and caring for old buildings.

The SPAB continues to champion old buildings, campaigning on heritage issues and buildings at risk. It also plays a formal role in the planning system and must be notified of all applications to demolish listed buildings in England and Wales.

Website: <http://www.spab.org.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SPAB1877/>

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