



STBA & SPAB Conference 2024

Tuesday 5th November

New ideas for Old Buildings

York

Sponsors

Exhibitors



#stbaspab24

Programme

Our traditional and historic buildings are facing unique challenges in the face of climate change, technological advancements, skills shortages, and economic pressures.

With this year's theme, we're exploring where tradition meets innovation, and how the past informs the future.

You'll hear from a wide array of experts sharing the latest research, ideas and innovations to give our built heritage a sustainable future.

As a bonus, participants will have free entry to the nearby Yorkshire Museum during the lunch break.

This conference is aimed at building and heritage professionals, as well as students in relevant fields.

The SPAB is an IHBC-recognised CPD provider and certificates of attendance are available on request.

9.30: Arrival

10.00: Welcome - Douglas Kent (SPAB) & Cypren Edmunds (STBA)

10.20: Penny Randell, Ecological Building Systems

10.30: Barbara Entwistle, Velux

10.40: New Ideas for Old Buildings: The National Trust - Jo Lugg, The National Trust

11:05am Jankes Barn: An Essex Barn Non-Conversion

Rachel Elliott, Lynch Architects

11:30am Morning Break

11:50am Transforming Homes & Houses for Future Generations research project

Laura Brain & Joel Cady, Welsh School of Architecture

12:15pm Reinventing Heritage: Empowering Old Building Conservation with Best Practice 3D Geospatial Surveys

Andy Beardsley, Terra Measurement

Programme

12:40pm Lunch

2:00pm Lightning Talk: Paints and coatings for conservation: research overview
Domenico D'Alessandro, Historic England

2:15pm Panel: Conservation, Crafts and the Changing Climate: Pilot Project
Dr Louise Cooke, Saahithi Sanjana Kande, Hasan Mahdi, Hilton Marlton, Mandy Wrenn
University of York

2:40pm New Ways of Assessing & Managing the Thermal Performance of Historic Church Buildings (Diocese of Sheffield Project)
Katie Steele, Cheribim

3:05pm Afternoon Break

3:25pm Panel: Meeting the Heritage Craft Skills Shortage Head On
Megan Breen (Place Services)
Owen Bushell (R. G. Bushell)
Dale Copley (Lode Heritage)
Lynn Mathias (Mathias Brick & Flint)
Joe Orsi (Historic Buildings Consultant)

3:50pm Dalmeny House: Not Without Foundation
Christian Clarkson & Nicholas Uglow, Simpson & Brown

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4:25pm Keynote Talk: New Stories Old Buildings
Tonkin Liu

5:10pm Final Questions

5:45pm Assemble outside Hospitium (those attending reception)
Andy Davey, Simpson & Brown

6:00pm York Art Gallery

8:00pm Reception closes

With special thanks to Simpson & Brown for hosting the evening reception.

Speakers

Andy Beardsley

Founder and Managing Director of Terra Measurement Limited, with over three decades of experience in geospatial surveying. Pioneer in integrating cutting-edge technological practices with building conservation methods. Has led numerous notable conservation projects across the UK, providing precise digital records for historic structure preservation. Specialises in non-invasive surveying techniques for sensitive heritage sites.

Laura Brain

Research Associate at Welsh School of Architecture and 2024 SPAB scholar. Specialises in conservation-led retrofit and bio-based materials, co-developing practical conservation retrofit courses with UK Hempcrete and Nottingham Energy Partnership. Passionate advocate for environmentally and socially just built environment transformation, focusing on regenerative and circular design practices.

Joel Cady

Research Associate at Welsh School of Architecture with over 10 years' architectural experience. Previously Senior Architect at Rural Office and Niall McLaughlin Architects, specialising in sustainable buildings and complex multidisciplinary public sector projects. Significant teaching experience at WSA and the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL. Expertise spans museum exhibitions to large university buildings.

Christian Clarkson

Architectural historian at Simpson & Brown since 2020, with a PhD from University of St Andrews. Specialist in heritage significance assessment and conservation planning. Led crucial research into Dalmeny House, informing optimal placement of needle piles. Expertise in detailed historical analysis and practical conservation solutions.

Dr Louise Cooke

Senior Lecturer in Conservation at University of York and internationally recognised expert in Earth Buildings conservation. Research focuses on

sustainability and historic building preservation. Leads innovative pilot project with postgraduate conservation students. Known for combining academic expertise with practical conservation approaches and sustainable building practices.

Domenico D'Alessandro

Conservation Architect and Joint Head of Building Conservation at Historic England. Trained at University of Rome La Sapienza as structural engineer and architect. Ten years' UK experience leading research programmes and providing technical guidance. Specialises in coordinating complex conservation projects from concept to completion, emphasising best practice dissemination.

Speakers

Rachel Elliott

Associate Director at Lynch Architects. Qualified architect since 2005, specialising in historic building projects including Cambridge and Oxford colleges. SPAB member since 2017 and RIBA-accredited Conservation Architect. Led planning process for Jankes Barn, working with master carpenter Dr. Joseph Bispham on historic timber frame repairs. Holds masters in Building History from Cambridge University. Recently completed extension of Grade II listed Westminster Coroner's Court in 2024.

Jo Lugg

National Trust sustainability specialist with over 16 years' experience as Project Manager within the Sustainability team. Current STBA Chair and Chair of Heritage Estates EPC/MEES Roundtable Group. Specialises in low carbon solutions, EPC compliance, and sustainable construction practices. Responsible for setting national policy and guidelines. Extensive experience in

research and sustainable procurement.

Katie Steele

Founded Cheribim in 2022 after six years in Church Support and Advisory Committee roles. Focuses on making technology accessible for historic building custodians. Expertise in information management and environmental monitoring services. Visiting Tutor at Birmingham City University's Conservation courses. Leads projects exploring AI applications in heritage contexts.

Nicholas Uglow

Heritage consultancy team leader at Simpson & Brown since 2009. Holds undergraduate and master's degrees in Architectural History from Edinburgh University. Award-winning expert in heritage documentation, leading team that won 2022 SAHGB-IHBC Heritage Research Award. Has authored hundreds of heritage statements and conservation plans, specialising in complex historic building projects.

Panel Members

Heritage Craft Skills Panel:

- Megan Breen - Place Services
- Owen Bushell - R. G. Bushell
- Dale Copley - Lode Heritage
- Lynn Mathias - Mathias Brick & Flint
- Joe Orsi - Historic Buildings Consultant

University of York Panel:

- Dr Louise Cooke
- Saahithi Sanjana Kande
- Hasan Mahdi
- Hilton Marlton
- Mandy Wrenn

Panel Session speakers:

Conservation, Crafts and the Changing Climate: Pilot Project:
Dr Louise Cooke
Saahithi Sanjana Kande
Hasan Mahdi
Hilton Marlton
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University of York

Speakers

Meeting the Heritage Craft Skills Shortage Head On:

Megan Breen (Place Services)

Owen Bushell (R. G. Bushell)

Dale Copley (Lode Heritage)

Lynn Mathias (Mathias Brick & Flint)

Joe Orsi (Historic Buildings Consultant)

Keynote Speaker

Tonkin Liu

Founded by Mike Tonkin and Anna Liu, Tonkin Liu is an award-winning architecture practice known for their innovative approach to sustainable design and heritage projects. The practice combines cutting-edge technology with nature-inspired solutions, creating distinctive architecture that responds sensitively to historic contexts while embracing contemporary needs. Their keynote "New Stories Old Buildings" will explore their unique approach to architectural heritage.

Douglas Kent

SPAB Technical and Research Director. Chartered Building Surveyor with MSc in Conservation of Buildings. Oversees technical activities, publications, and

research. Member of multiple heritage organisation technical panels. Owns and is renovating a grade I-listed medieval house in Essex, bringing practical experience to his advisory role.

Michael Netter

Michael Netter is the Director at the Sustainable Traditional Buildings Alliance (STBA), the Professional Services Officer at the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC), and Hon Secretary and Trustee at the Council on Training in Architectural Conservation (COTAC). Michael holds an MSc in Historic Building Conservation from Kingston University and a BSc in Construction Engineering and Management from Purdue University. He has also worked on several home retrofit/renovation projects, takes part in the Climate Heritage Network (CHN), and has produced a podcast for the IHBC that raises awareness and understanding of how conservation philosophy and practice contributes

towards meeting the challenge of climate change.

Cypren Edmunds

STBA Project Coordinator. Qualified carpenter and sustainable building expert. Chair of Strawbale Building UK, President of European Strawbuilding Association, and Director for William Morris House, Merton, London. Strong advocate for social housing as Chairperson for the High Path Community Association, combining practical skills with community engagement.

Mary Henn

SPAB Technical Officer since 2018. Chartered Building Surveyor and 1994 SPAB scholar. Experience spans National Trust, Natural Building Technologies, and Oxley Conservation. Specialises in vernacular crafts, sustainable building practices, and natural building products. Extensive expertise in energy efficiency for traditional buildings.

Catherine Rose

SPAB Training Officer since 2022. PhD from QMUL in History of Childhood in Mamluk Society. Former National Trust London Head Office staff member. Experienced oral historian, contributing to NHS at 70 and Our Covid Stories projects. Currently recording oral history interviews for SPAB's archive, preserving heritage craft knowledge.

Sponsors**Barbara Entwistle MSc FCIQB - Velux**

Product Development Manager at Velux since 2024, joined in 1997. MSc in Construction Management, Fellow of CIOB. Former CIOB Chair (2019-2023) and current External Affairs and Policy Board member. Visiting lecturer at University of Bolton and vice chair of their Industrial Advisory Board. External board member for Lancaster Farms Prison.

Penny Randell - Ecological Building Systems

Director at Ecological Building Systems since 2015, joined as General Manager in 2008. Over 20 years' experience in sustainable building products and business management. Passionate about environmental construction solutions. Maintains family tradition of preserving native Cumbrian fell ponies alongside professional responsibilities.



Image: York Hospitium © Sean Richardson

Location:

**York Hospitium
Museum Gardens
YO30 7DR**



STBA
SUSTAINABLE TRADITIONAL
BUILDINGS ALLIANCE

Sponsored by



Exhibitors

