

Illuminating Cultural Heritage: From research to preservation

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Speaker's biography: Callum Graham, Historic Environment Scotland



Callum Graham is a geologist who graduated with an honours degree in Earth Science at The University of Glasgow in 2011. Callum continued his studies at Glasgow University by undertaking a PhD specialising in the effects of de-icing salts on historic sandstone masonry, in conjunction with Historic Environment Scotland.

His research involved the characterisation of the physical properties of common replacement sandstones in Scotland, using traditional and novel techniques, with a view to recognising the most important properties that influence the durability and resilience of sandstone to salt crystallisation damage.

On completion of his PhD in 2015, he joined the Scottish Lime Centre Trust as their building materials analyst, undertaking laboratory analysis of traditional building materials. He joined Historic Environment Scotland in 2017 as a conservation scientist. Callum is involved in undertaking on-site and laboratory based analysis of traditional building materials, specialising in the petrographic and X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) analysis of stone and mortar.

He teaches on their building conservation postgraduate diploma, is co-supervisor on various PhD projects, and works in conjunction with other research institutes on current heritage-related research projects.

In 2020 Callum became an Honorary Research Fellow at Stirling University.