

Introduction to Practical Building Conservation

Longford Academy's Autumn Program

Monday 6 – Saturday 11 May 2024



Introduction to Practical Building Conservation is a six-day program in the conservation of traditional buildings, structures & fabric, held at the World Heritage-inscribed Woolmers and Brickendon Estates at Longford, Tasmania. It offers a unique mix of theory, demonstrations and involvement in practical conservation works, benefiting both the participants and the sites.

The six-day course includes structured workshops on days 2–6 as per the following **draft** program:

1. Mon. 6 Introductions, site inspections, paint stripping
2. Tues. 7 Dealing with damp: salt attack and rising/falling damp
3. Wed. 8 Lime: quicklime and putty mortars, repointing
4. Thurs. 9 Lime (contd.): plasters, plastering and limewashes
5. Friday 10 Roofing: repair and conservation of corrugated iron
6. Sat. 11 Repair of structural and joinery timbers.

There are two models of participation:

- ◆ full six-day program as above
- ◆ one or more one-day workshops, chosen from days 2–6 above (note: Lime is a two-day workshop).

We encourage participants to get a well-rounded overview of building conservation practice by attending the full six-day program, for which the cost will be \$1,250 (\$1,150 APT members).

All enquires and expressions of interest to info@longfordacademy.org.au



Activities

Activities include talks, inspections, demonstrations and some hands-on work. Participants are introduced to the practical aspects of building conservation.

The workshops – draft program

Please note that inclement weather may force program changes at short notice.

Dealing with damp – salt attack and rising/falling damp: Tuesday 7 May

This workshop covers understanding dampness and the deterioration of masonry due to salt attack, managing salt damp, salt removal by poulticing and captive-head washing, site inspections of damp treatments and demonstration of captive-head washing.

Lime mortars, repointing, plastering and limewashing: Wednesday 8 & Thursday 9 May

Lime-based mortars and plasters are the focus of this **two-day** workshop. Topics covered include lime putty and quicklime binders, what makes a good sand, mortar mix proportions, sand-slaking (hot-mixing) quicklime mortars, repointing mortar joints, preparation and use of lime plasters, the importance of good curing and the use of limewater for consolidating weak masonry. Practical work includes hot-mixing of mortars, repointing mortar joints, lime plastering and limewashing.

Roofing: repair and conservation of corrugated iron: Friday 10 May

Roofing materials, particularly corrugated galvanised iron. Corrosion of galvanised iron and approaches to its preservation, repair and replacement. Demonstrations of traditional galvanised steel fabrication using solid riveting and soldering. Extensive walk around the sites discussing the wide and often unique range of existing and replacement roof types and materials.

Repair of structural and joinery timbers: Saturday 11 May

The wonderful 1820s woolshed at Woolmers sets the scene for this workshop, which focuses on the investigation, deterioration, preservation and approaches to repair of structural timber. What to do when fungal rot decays the main sill beams that support a large building? What are the clues that tell of decay to a hidden beam? Conservation of timber joinery is also covered in this workshop.



Presenters

Our presenters are a broad group of highly experienced conservation professionals and tradespeople who are on hand to teach and guide. Conservation specialists demonstrate techniques and lead hands-on activities at selected sites in the field and in the workshop.

Depending on availability, presenters for the Autumn 2024 session will include:

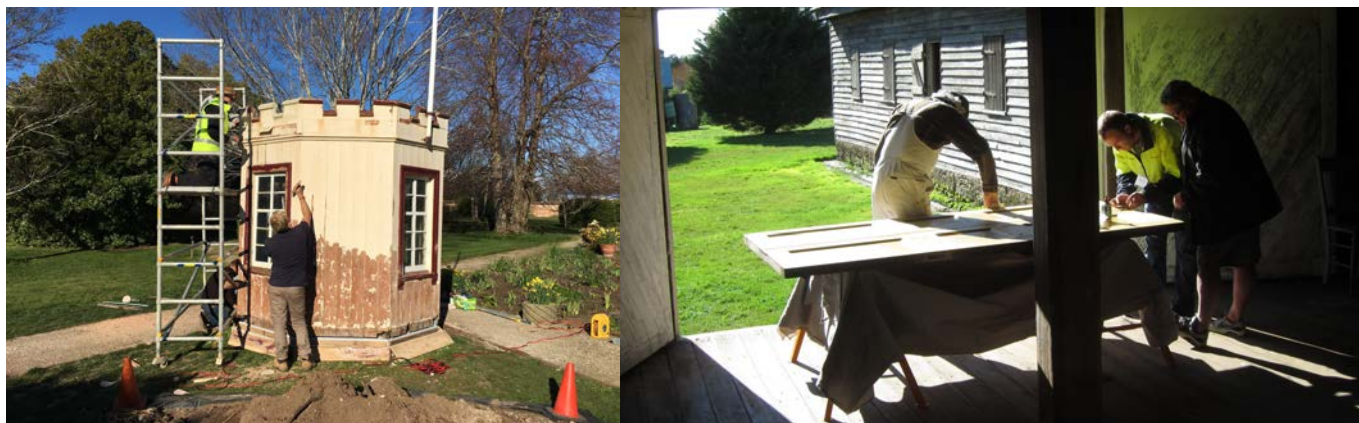
- ◆ Pamela Hubert, conservation architect, Port Arthur
- ◆ Brian Maxwell, solid plasterer, Brisbane
- ◆ Anthony Mitchell, cultural heritage manager, Sydney
- ◆ Marty Passingham, carpenter and project manager, Hobart
- ◆ Richard Senior, stonemason, Bermagui
- ◆ Gary Waller, carpenter/joiner and conservation builder, Sydney
- ◆ Ray Wiltshire, solid plasterer, Melbourne
- ◆ David Young, scientist and educator, Melbourne.

Who should attend?

All those involved in building conservation, or who wish to be, and who want some hands-on practical and theoretical exposure to a range of topics that they're likely to come across in the industry. The Autumn program is the ideal entry activity for both professionals and trades, who can then progress further via our intensive Summer School and specialist short courses.

Benefits and outcomes

- ☑ Investigate significant building fabric, structures and sites.
- ☑ Learn how to obtain long term sustainable conservation outcomes in real life situations.
- ☑ Share knowledge and experience with conservation practitioners.
- ☑ Understand environmental impacts, deterioration and how to deal with complex challenges.
- ☑ Participate in hands-on activities with experienced practitioners.
- ☑ Relax and learn in an outstanding cultural landscape.



Dates, times and venue

The 6-day course commences with coffee at 8.00am on Monday 6 May, for 8.30am introductions and will finish by 4pm Saturday 11 May. Participants travelling long distances should arrive by Sunday 5 May. The one-day workshops are also conducted from 8:30am – 4:00pm followed by optional (but very useful) debriefing discussions over evening drinks.

Each day begins in the Nigel Peck Centre at Woolmers, site visits will include Brickendon.

Costs

Course fees are charged to cover program development & delivery costs, lunches and morning teas.

6-day course: \$1,250 (\$1,150 APT members) which includes the five days of workshops.

1-day workshops: \$300 (\$250 APT members) each (\$600 or \$500 for the 2-day Lime workshop).

The cancellation policy and a COVID-safe policy are detailed on the Application Form.

Funding support

Tasmanian builders and tradespeople may be eligible for support from Keystone Tasmania (the former Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board) who have supported previous Longford Academy programs. Contact them on: 03 6223 7804 or email@keystone.com.au (<https://keystone.com.au>).

Longford Academy may be able to offer reduced fees to students and apprentices who should contact the email address below and explain your training objectives and limitations in achieving them.

Accommodation

LA is grateful to Woolmers and Brickendon Estates for their ongoing support of our programs and, in return, we encourage participants to use their on-site accommodation. LA staff stay at the properties and are always very comfortable. Additional accommodation is available in Longford and the surrounding district. For those wanting extra comfort we recommend the Racecourse Inn at Longford. Accommodation costs are the responsibility of participants.

Continuing Professional Development

CPD points may be available for credit through your registration body or industry association.

Transport

Launceston Airport is twenty minutes away. Jetstar and Virgin fly direct to/from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. Qantas flies direct to/from Melbourne. Hire cars are available at Launceston Airport. Participants are encouraged to share cars.

Applications and enquiries

To apply, complete the Application Form & email to the Longford Academy, at info@longfordacademy.org.au. Enquiries can also be made to this contact.