

# "Stone materials and conservation of built heritage"

## Exam questions of the 2014 autumn semester

### Oral examination, in groups

room INF119 EPFL, 19.12.2014 14h15-16h

*For each group: xx min for the presentation x min questions*

#### - Building/monument:

On Friday 31th October the building/monument "subject" of the exam is selected.

#### - Short history:

Find some historical information that could help you for the next questions (date of construction, uses, restorations?, modifications?..).

#### - Building materials:

Identify a maximum of the used building materials on the façades of the chosen building/monument. Mention which criteria (or even which tests) allow you to identify these materials.

#### - Conservation state of the building materials and explanations:

Qualify the conservation state of the identified materials. If some weathering forms are visible, please qualify them. Observe the building/monument in order to determine the possible causes of the damages you can see. Are the processes that provoked the damages still active? Or can they be attributed to old defects? Please, argue.

If you observe the building/monument when it rains and when it snows and if you compare the façades that are differently exposed to the weather you probably will better understand the weathering forms you can see.

#### - Restoration/conservation materials/methods:

Do you think that / Do you know if / restoration and/or conservation works have been done on this building/monument? If yes, what kind of interventions were made?

What is your opinion about these interventions? (to answer this question, think about the kind of materials you can see (original or not), their age, their conservation state, their exposition conditions,...).

#### - Interventions to be done:

Thinking about all your observations concerning the building materials, the exposition conditions, the damages you can see, what kinds of restoration/conservation interventions would you suggest to do? Please, argue.

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#### Practical details:

The mark will be given depending on the quality of your observations, the pertinence of your interpretations and the solutions you will propose, as well as the quality of your reports presentation. Each member of your group will have to speak. The mark of the group will depend on the active participation of each member.

#### Additional advices:

The topics of this examination are following the planning of the lessons. I advice you to go and see regularly your building/monument in order to target your observations on the more recently studied things. And please, do not hesitate to ask your questions whenever they occur.

If "unfortunately" scaffolding should be put up at your building/monument before the end of your study, try to have access to it. If you can't, inform me as soon as possible.

Please, inform the people in charge of the building/monument why and when you are around and in case of you have some problem with them give them my address, especially in case of security guards protecting the building/monument.