Call for Abstracts
History of Building Construction
Eighth Annual CHS Annual Conference in collaboration with the Cambridge Faculty of Architecture
Queens’ College, Cambridge, 27-29 August 2021

As in previous years the 2021 Annual Conference will be held in Queens’ College, Cambridge and at this stage the committee invite abstracts on any aspect of construction history. The first day will be devoted to Professionalism and the Building Trades (see separate call). General papers will be limited to day 2 (Saturday). Possible subjects for this general call include:

- Construction in the Ancient World
- Roman Construction
- Building in the Middle Ages
- Bridges
- Arches, Vaults and Domes
- Stone construction
- Steel construction
- Concrete construction
- Building Accounts and Contracts
- Writing on Building Construction
- Transmission of building technology
- Bricks and brick Construction
- Terracotta and tiles
- Guilds, labour relations and trade unions
- Roof structure and coverings
- Foundations
- History of Building services
- Fixings and joints
- Curtain walling and cladding
- Glass and structural glazing
- Plasters, Cements and mortars
- Railways and canals
- Lightweight structures
- Scaffolding, cranes and temporary works
- Prefabrication
- Long span structures
- Development of structural theory

Papers will not be accepted that do not address the history of construction but are simply descriptions of conservation projects or techniques. Nor will a paper be accepted that consists of modern structural calculations proving that a historic structure can stand up (which is self-evident). Papers on the development of structural calculations are, by contrast, perfectly acceptable.

Abstract submission

Abstracts should be 300-500 words long and should include the full names, academic affiliation or employer, a description of the subject proposed, the sources to be used, and where it fits within or how it relates to the current literature on the topic, together with address and email contact details. Submissions should be made to chs@aha.cam.ac.uk. The submission date for the abstracts is 15 October 2020.

Process and Paper Submission

The abstracts will be peer-reviewed and the authors informed of the results by 1 November. The final paper must be submitted by 2 April 2021. Final papers will be 5000 words/30,000 characters and can include up to 10 images. The editors reserve the right to reject papers that do not meet the necessary standards at this stage.
Publication

Successful papers will be prepared for publication in May and printed in July. The proceedings are published as an edited book.

All final accepted papers must be presented at the conference by at least one of the authors

Papers will only be accepted by those who are prepared to pay the full registration fee (in the region of £65-100 per day) and are able to attend the conference. The conference runs from 27-29 August 2021 in Queens' College, Cambridge. If COVID-19 conditions still persist the conference will be held online on those dates. Please do not submit an abstract if you are unable to attend.