



Conference Programme

**Tenth Annual Conference of the
Construction History Society**

***Queens' College, Cambridge
12-13 April 2023***

Wednesday 12 April
DAY ONE

09.00-9.15 ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION

9.15 WELCOME

9.30 -11.00 Session 1: **Materials**
FITZPATRICK HALL
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Nigel Isaacs

Building Paper 1868 to 1884: a growing child

Benjamin Schmid, Christiane Weber

New Materials for Model Analysis of Engineering Structures – Micro-concrete versus Acrylic Plastic

Mauro Volpiano

*Building in industrialising Italy.
Decorative cement and artificial stone in the constructions of Enrico Petiti (1832-1898)*

11.00 - 11.15 BREAK *Tea, Coffee, and Biscuits served in the Bar*

11.15-12.45 Session 2: **Medieval Vaults**
FITZPATRICK HALL
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Clemens Knobling

Building a vault on an unusual layout: the gothic church of Greifensee (CH)

Silvia Beltramo

Pointed arches and ribs in the cross vaults of twelfth and thirteenth century religious buildings in northwest Italy

David Wendland, Mark Gielen

Some considerations on the early development of cross vaults and rib vaults in medieval architecture)

12.45-1.45 LUNCH. *Cripps Dining Hall*

2.00-3.00 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
FITZPATRICK HALL
Register in advance for this webinar:

Professor Tom Peters
Vicat and the Development of Hydraulic Cement

3.15 -3.30 BREAK Tea, Coffee, and Biscuits served in the Angevin Room

3.30-4.30 Session 3: **Roman Vaults**
FITZPATRICK HALL
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Luise Albrecht and Marina Döring-Williams
Roman Concrete Groin Vaults: Design and Construction Principles, Formwork and Falsework for the so-called Cenotaph of Annia Regilla, Rome

Carla Maria Amici
Opus Caementicium in the Roman Age [4th/3rd Century BC – 4th/5th Century AD]: a Revolution in Building Techniques

Session 4: **Environmental Design**
ANGEVIN ROOM
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Mathumitha Madalena Rohan
The changes in architectural design: adoption of environmental innovations for comfort and conservation. Case Study: Canterbury Cathedral's Heating System Retrofit, 1942-48.

Taban Shirani, Henrik Schoenefeldt
Lighting Design of Semi-permanent Building for the 1862 International Exhibition

4.30-4.45 BREAK Tea, Coffee, and Biscuits served in the Angevin Room

4.45-6.45 Session 5: **Contractors**
FITZPATRICK HALL
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Matthijs Degraeve
Transient or resilient? Long-term change in firm longevity in the construction sector (Brussels, 1830-1970)

Tian Zhang
The Modernisation of the Constructors: A Study of the Transformation of Construction Company Guilds in Shanghai 1843-1949

Jelle Angillis
Building a profile? Belgian general contractor Van Coillie and its construction activities in the 1960s

Johan Lagae, Robby Fivez
Tracing Mobutu's Spectre in Kinshasa's Concrete Skyline through a builder's archive: the case of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Session 6: **Transmission of Technology**
ANGEVIN ROOM
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Kylie M. Russnaik and Jasmin Schäfer
Leonhard Zeugheer and his English-inspired roof structures in Zurich

Mariana Esponda, Catherine McBain
Laying The Foundation: The Use and Evolution of Concrete as Ottawa's Primary Building Material

Vladimir Ladinski
The UK Contribution to the Post 1963 Skopje Earthquake Recovery and Reconstruction

Vladimir Korensky
Contribution of Europeans to the Further Development of Reinforced Concrete in the Russian Tsarist Empire

7.00-7.30 **DRINKS IN THE OLD KITCHENS**
[FOR THOSE THAT HAVE BOOKED DINNER]

7.30 **GALA DINNER IN OLD HALL**
[FOR THOSE THAT HAVE BOOKED DINNER]

Thursday 13 April
DAY TWO

09.00 REGISTRATION DESK OPEN FOR NEW ARRIVALS

9.15-9.30 WELCOME

9.30-11.00 Session 7: **Canals and Harbors**
FITZPATRICK HALL
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Robby Fivez

‘Des millions à l’eau’: European
*‘experts’ and the construction of the Ango-
Ango harbour, the Belgian Congo, 1925-
1930*

Mike Chrimes

*Canal tunnel mortars-1760-1830: an
addendum to Thomas Telford and the
construction of canal tunnels 1794-1830*

Yunlian Chen

*Supply and Manufacture of Concrete in
Harbour Construction in Modern East
Asia: A Case Study of Yokohama*

Session 8: **Inventions and New Techniques**
ANGEVIN ROOM
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Feng Kunquan, Feng Wenjun, Yuan Xiaomei

*Explication of the Working Mechanism of the Water
Organ in European Classical Gardens*

Renzo Chiovelli, Giulia Maria Palma, Vania Rocchi

*An early reinforcement intervention disguised in the
architectural restoration: the reinforced concrete beam of the
Papal Loggia of Viterbo*

Ilaria Giannetti, Stefania Mornati

*The Development of Compressed-air Foundations in Italy:
the Tiber River Embankments (1876-1900)*

11.00 - 11.15 BREAK Tea, Coffee, and Biscuits served in the Bar

11.15 -12.45 Session 9: **Lighthouses, Canals
and Aqueducts**
FITZPATRICK HALL
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Tullia Boggero

History of an aqueduct

Mike Chrimes

*The Boughs and the mechanisation of
construction in the Canal Age 1760-1820*

Dermot O'Dwyer

*The Halpins – Irish Lighthouse Builders
1810-1862*

Session 10: **17th Century Masonry and Vaulting**
ANGEVIN ROOM
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Caterina Carocci, Valentina Macca

*Masons, nobles and viceroys. Building techniques in ancien
régime Sicily. The Granfonte district in Leonforte.*

Renata Finocchiaro, Cesare Tocci

*Masons, nobles and viceroys. Building techniques in ancien
régime Sicily. Catalan vaults in Poggioreale.*

Rebecca Erika Schmitt

*The geometric design of Christoph Dientzenhofer's ‘radical’
vaults*

12.45-1.45 LUNCH CAFETERIA LUNCH Cripps Dining Hall

1.45 -3.15
Session 11: **Timber**
FITZPATRICK HALL
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Jonas Lengenfeld

Some points on the construction of high medieval slewing cranes in towers in Germany based on Building archaeology and a new find from the early 13th century

Nicoletta Marconi, Ilaria Giannetti

The revolving scaffolding for the restoration of the Pantheon dome (Giovanni Corsini, 1756). Historical survey, virtual and physical models

Valentina Burgassi

Floor construction techniques at the Savoy court in the 17th and 18th centuries with a focus on craftsmen and manufacture of wooden floors

3.15- 3.30 BREAK Tea, Coffee, and Biscuits served in the Bar

3.30-4.30 **International Symposium**
Reports from International Societies of their Activities

4.30 -6.00
Session 13: **Codes and Professions**
FITZPATRICK HALL
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Nicholas A. Bill

British Military Engineering Publications and the Transfer of Construction Technology: 1812 – 1914

Nigel Isaacs, Andre Brown

The Odious and Vexatious History of Building Code Requirements for Openable Windows

Laurens Bulckaen, Rika Devos

The Belgian Architects' Act of 1939: turning point or gradual shift? Professional discussions and legal framework affecting the historical collaborative efforts of the building professionals.

Session 12: **Concrete and Cement**
ANGEVIN ROOM
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Tom Packet

Concrete proposals: the reception of Thomas A. Edison's monolithic concrete house and discussions on mass-produced housing for the working classes in pre-war Belgium, 1911-1913

Stephanie Van de Voorde, Christine Wall

Fast, cheap and durable; the use of monolithic no-fines concrete for housebuilding in the UK and Belgium 1920-1975

Maria Cristina Loi, Vittorio Paris, Monica Resmini

From Italy to Ethiopia: in search of the perfect cement

Session 14: **Steel**
ANGEVIN ROOM
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Marc-Allan Wery-Maury

The evolution of the construction principles of microwave towers between 1949 and 1984: Comparative study of the French and British contexts

Hubert Un, Zeng Chuqing, Huang Zhanlin, Xia Heng

Tectonic Study of the Diverse Tie-rod Arch Systems in South PRC (1960-1970s)

Ankathrin Heinrich, Volker Mende, Sebastian Hoyer, Klaus Thiele

Material Lightness in Steel Building Construction: Lightweight Construction in the GDR - Aerated Concrete

6.00-7.00

Session 15: **Brick and stone**
FITZPATRICK HALL
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Valentina Guagliardi

Nineteenth-century architecture and building traditions in the territory of Cosenza: the ancient village of “Silvana Mansio”

Louis Vandenabeele, Clemens Voigts, Marius Pfister, Stefan M. Holzer

Deciphering 800 years of brick history at the Basilica of St Anthony in Padua: production, finishing and bonds

Session 16: **Bridges**
ANGEVIN ROOM
SESSION CHAIR: TBC

Jørgen Burchardt, Steffen Elmer Jørgensen

Transferring bridge and road construction technology in the late 1700s: French engineer Jean Marmillod as an innovator in Denmark

Yichuan Chen

From industrialised prefabrication to ‘mobilising the masses’: Soviet influence and the dissemination of prefabricated concrete bridges in China, 1957-1966

7.00

David Yeomans and James Campbell
CLOSING REMARKS