

Heritage Masonry: An introduction to traditions and techniques for heritage buildings

Free workshop in Fernie offered on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28.

[Registration](#)

The North American masonry traditions that were used in the construction of historic masonry buildings in the Columbia Basin have complex international and multicultural roots that go back many centuries. Understanding the methods and materials that were used in their construction is fundamental to the successful repair and conservation of the regions' buildings.

This two-day course will provide a practical and theoretical introduction to masonry conservation, looking specifically at materials, methods and repair strategies for the care and repair of the local masonry buildings.

Led by two practicing experts from England and Canada the workshop will be split between site and classroom, and include classroom lectures, a group tour of local masonry buildings, and a site- based practical workshop where participants will get hands-on experience with materials and repair methods.

The workshop considers topics such as – surveying buildings for masonry repair • historic mortars and the lime cycle • repointing traditional masonry • mortar repairs • cleaning and poulticing • parging and renders • and selecting compatible and sympathetic materials for repair. Participants are encouraged to bring additional topics or case studies for discussion.

This workshop is for all tradespeople, architects, designers, inspectors, consultants, property managers and owners, and anyone who has an interest in heritage techniques.

This workshop is offered free of charge ([register here](#)). Participants will receive a travel subsidy of \$0.52/km (residents of Fernie and Sparwood excluded).

The workshop is sponsored by the Columbia Basin Trust and Heritage BC and supported by Heritage Fernie.

Dates:

April 27, 10:00am – 4:30pm

April 28, 9:00am to 1:00pm

Where:

The workshop will begin at Fernie Archive Centre, Suite 201, 502 3rd Avenue.

Instructors:

Nigel Cosey began working with stone as a drystone waller in Cornwall. After eight years, he trained as a stonemason and carver at Weymouth College in Dorset,

becoming established as a lettercutter and stonemason working mainly in the field of stone and building conservation. Based originally in the South-West, the company has carried out projects across England and more recently in Vermont and Andalucia. Nigel Copsey is a fully accredited member of the United Kingdom Institute of Conservation.

Ben Gourley is a building conservator and archaeologist with a BA in classical archaeology from Queen's University, an MA from the University of British Columbia, and an MA in architectural conservation from the University of York. He and has worked on a range of buildings and landscape related projects in both the educational and private sectors, with a geographical focus split between the UK, the Mediterranean and Canada. He is currently an instructor with the Cultural Resource Management program at the University of Victoria, and a research associate with the Department of Archaeology at University of York.

About Columbia Basin Trust

The Columbia Basin Region Historic Places interactive map is made possible through Columbia Basin Trust funding. The Trust supports the ideas and efforts of the people of the Columbia Basin through a range of services, programs, initiatives and financial investments on behalf of the social, economic, and environmental well-being of the Basin, now and for generations to come.

About Heritage BC

Heritage BC is a charitable not-for-profit supporting heritage conservation across British Columbia through education, training and skills development, capacity building in heritage planning and funding. We are passionate about building links between heritage conservation and tourism, economic and environmental sustainability, community pride and an appreciation of our common history.

About Heritage Fernie

Through workshops, awards and tours, Heritage Fernie promotes the conservation of heritage buildings that preserve our sense of place and identity and foster community and environmental sustainability. Heritage Fernie is a program delivered by the Fernie & District Historical Society, a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to promoting and preserving what is unique about our community and region. Heritage Fernie in partnership with the City of Fernie is leading the development of the Fernie Heritage Strategy.

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