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Salt Weathering on Buildings and Stone Sculptures

Editors:
I. Ioannou & M. Theodoridou

EDITORS:

Ioannis Ioannou, PhD
University of Cyprus
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Building Materials & Ledra Laboratories
PO Box 20537
1678 Nicosia
Cyprus
ioannis@ucy.ac.cy

Magdalini Theodoridou, PhD
University of Cyprus
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Building Materials & Ledra Laboratories
PO Box 20537
1678 Nicosia
Cyprus
mtheodo@ucy.ac.cy

SalzWiki – A Specialized Wiki with Repository on “Salt Decay”- Knowledge Transfer and a Virtual Research Environment

Schwarz H.-J.^{1*} and Weyer A.¹

¹HAWK University of Applied Sciences and Arts Hildesheim/Holzminden/Göttingen, Faculty of Preservation of Cultural Heritage, Hornemann Institute, Kardinal-Bertram-Straße 36, 31134 Hildesheim, Germany,

*corresponding author's email: schwarz@hornemann-institut.de

ABSTRACT

The identification of the salt damage, the analysis of the salts, the determination of the salt distribution and the implementation of remedial measures are all steps which need in-depth knowledge. Despite the intensive research and investigations being undertaken in this field of cultural heritage research, only a small amount of the research outcome is currently available. In response to this, in February 2008 at a workshop of the German Federal Foundation for the Environment (Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt), it was agreed by a group of experts to embark upon a common initiative to compile a specialist Wiki on salt decay. SalzWiki is intended to make the current specialist knowledge available to all, to publish research results and practice knowhow free of charge. Information can be shared quickly and efficiently, new results of research and practice posted immediately and viewing or editing an article is possible at any place and any time. In addition the repository of SalzWiki serves for experts as a virtual research environment, where they will find not only literature as full text PDF's but also the scientific primary data behind, not published data, images, diagrams, research papers, etc. The content of SalzWiki will be under editorial supervision and a quick reviewing process ensures the quality of the articles and the data. Starting with a German version in 2010 an English version is planned to setup in 2011. The current development of SalzWiki is being undertaken as a project of the Hornemann Institute and is co-financed by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft).