

Swedish National Heritage Board

Heritage Laboratory

Building capacity – Sharing knowledge



The **Heritage Laboratory** of the Swedish National Heritage Board is the central facility for the development and application of heritage science. As a national laboratory resource we foster implementation of best practice and collaboration on a national and international level.

The **Swedish National Heritage Board**, as an agency of the Swedish government, works proactively to coordinate and promote access to and preservation of cultural heritage and historic environments.



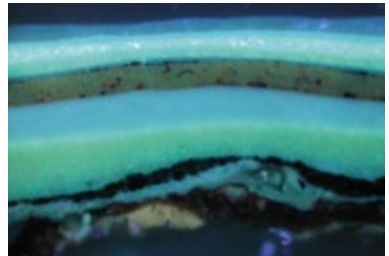
Photo: Helle Sten

Building Capacity

The Heritage Laboratory provides professional support for research and networking. Our work aims to advance preservation, accessibility and the sustainable management of cultural heritage.

Our collaborative endeavours span:

- conservation science and method development
- archaeometry and heritage research
- collections management and care
- built environment and historic landscapes
- sustainable development and impact of climate change on cultural heritage
- participation in the European Committee for Standardization (CEN)

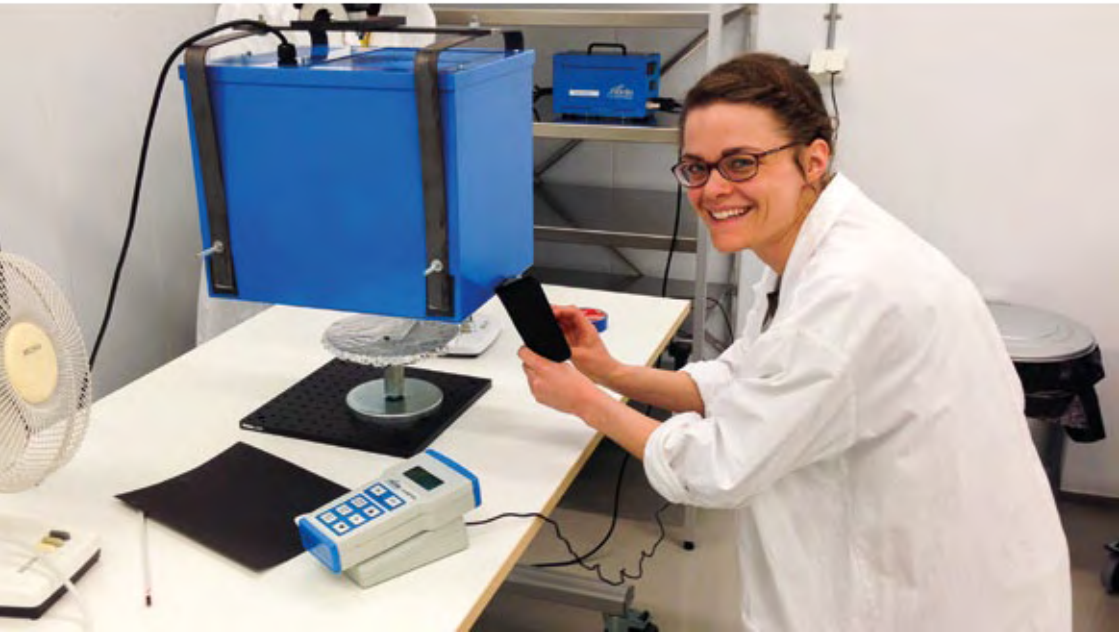


Research and Development

Our staff of advisors includes conservators, chemists, biologists, archaeologists, engineers, architects and conservation scientists. We conduct and participate in research and development projects, ranging from single day visits by guest colleagues to multi-year international engagements.

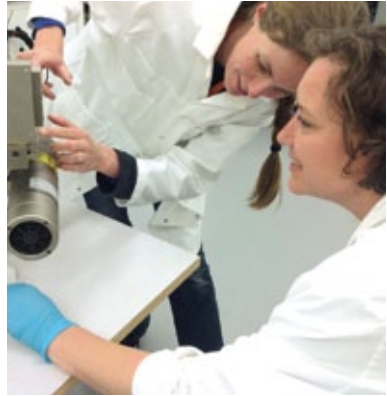
Our prioritized areas are:

- architectural paint research
- collections management and care
- poisonous and hazardous substances in collections
- modern materials research
- methods and solutions for conservation



Sharing knowledge

Collaboration We host guest colleagues on a regular basis. This popular format lets us solve heritage science queries in an open and cooperative manner. We value international projects and invite collaboration involving specific problems or areas of interest, and the establishment of networks or programmes to further the development and exchange of knowledge. We specifically support research projects with a focus on conservation science.



Networking The provision of platforms for professional networking is an important aspect of the Swedish National Heritage Board's work, and includes the organisation of conferences and workshops, and the development of open access databases and forums.

Research funding The Swedish National Heritage Board is active in the European Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) on Cultural Heritage. The Board also issues its own calls for the funding of research and development projects.



Meeting place



The Heritage Laboratory of the Swedish National Heritage Board is situated in Visby – a former Hanseatic town on the island of Gotland – in the middle of the Baltic Sea. Its unique environment and historical connections make Visby an attractive meeting place. The well preserved medieval town is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



Facilities

The Heritage Laboratory facilities are geared towards flexibility to accommodate different projects and meetings in a modern fully climate controlled environment. Many of the instruments are portable and also allow for non invasive analyses.

- stereomicroscopy with UV/Vis/Pol
- VP SEM/EDS
- high resolution digital X ray
- FTIR with ATR and microscopy
- XRF with micro spot and mapping
- advanced imaging documentation including RTI, spectrophotometry, colourimetry and micro fadometry
- instruments for climate measurement and accelerated ageing
- tensile and compression testing



Photo: Pelle Sten

Conservation equipment for a variety of purposes, including freeze drying, large scale freezing, air abrasion, desalination, vacuum and anoxia packing, is also available for research and development.



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E mail: kulturvardsavdelningen@raa.se

Phone: +46 851 91 8000

www.raa.se/heritagescience

