

Special Issue

Applied Research on Modern Materials in Cultural Heritage: Characterisation, Decay, and Conservation Studies

Message from the Guest Editors

Modern materials, such as plastics, foams, elastomers, films and coatings, have been increasingly found in cultural heritage artefacts since the 19th century. This Special Issue aims to present cutting-edge research that addresses the characterization, decay mechanisms and conservation strategies for these modern materials in cultural heritage. We invite contributions that include new or established approaches to studying the ageing of plastic-based materials, as well as methodologies for identifying, preserving or conserving these materials in heritage contexts. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The identification of plastics, foams, elastomers, films and coatings in heritage artefacts, including sampling and non-sampling techniques;
- Ageing mechanisms and the degradation of modern materials, including comparative studies of natural and artificial decay;
- Preventive approaches, including environmental, storage and exhibition conditions;
- Conservation and restoration methodologies, such as cleaning, consolidation, adhesion and the use of protective coatings.

Guest Editors

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

Editor-in-Chief

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