Special Issue

Stones, Marbles, Mortars, Ceramics and Pigments in Archaeology: Analytical Techniques for Their Characterization and Conservation

Message from the Guest Editor

The building and decorative materials used in antiquity represent a response to the specific requirements and technical needs of the particular historical period in accordance with the processing and production technologies for raw materials of that time. Therefore, the exploitation of mineral georesources is not only linked to their intrinsic characteristics and vocation in use as building materials but also to their local availability in the area. Knowledge of compositional and physical–mechanical aspects is therefore essential for understanding the choices and use of geomaterials in historical construction and their supply in the territory. The study of materials also makes it possible to increase knowledge about a civilization and its experiences, as well as to understand the growth and technological evolution of a human settlement in a particular territory. Microdestructive analytical techniques, in combination with nondestructive techniques, are essential for defining the compositional aspects of the materials used in cultural heritage, particularly their chemical, physical, mineralogical, and petrographic characteristics.

Guest Editor

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Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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