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February
2010

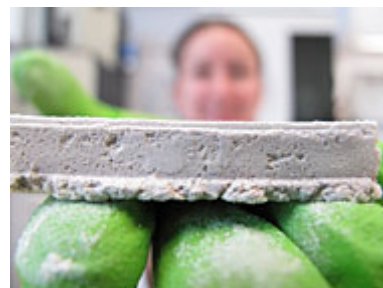
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PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Earthen Architecture Initiative

The GCI has a long history of contributing to collaborative efforts to advance the study and conservation of earthen architecture through training, research, planning and implementation, and advocacy. Activities that are part of its current Earthen Architecture Initiative include development and dissemination of [seismic retrofit measures](#), analysis of noninvasive [structural grouting](#) of seismically induced cracks, and assessing [consolidants for earthen finishes](#).

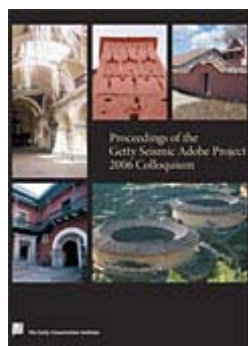
The initiative also organizes [strategic regional efforts](#) to identify areas for project research and implementation. A 2009 experts workshop, convened by the GCI in Sardinia, focused on challenges facing the conservation and management of earthen sites, and on earthen architecture for sustainable development. The [final report](#) is available.



A sample produced to replicate earthen finishes found at Mesa Verde National Park with a thicker plaster layer covered by very thin wash layer. The sample will be treated with various ethyl silicates and subjected to tests to assess the performance of the consolidants. Photo: Amila Ferron

PUBLICATIONS AND VIDEO

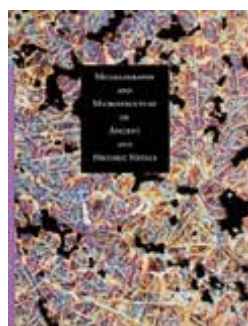
Proceedings of the Getty Seismic Adobe Project 2006 Colloquium



As part of the Earthen Architecture Initiative, in 2006 the GCI hosted the Getty Seismic Adobe Project Colloquium, which brought together professionals with expertise in conservation, seismic retrofitting methods, and building codes and standards. The colloquium was a forum for discussion of key issues and identification of further research needed to preserve earthen cultural heritage in seismic regions while ensuring safety.

[Access the proceedings online.](#)

Metallography and Microstructure of Ancient Historic Metals



By David A. Scott

Now available as a free PDF.

This book provides an introduction to the structure and morphology of ancient and historic metallic materials. It deals extensively with many practical matters relating to the mounting, preparation, etching, polishing, and microscopy of metallic samples, and includes an account of the way in

which phase diagrams can be used to assist structural interpretation.

[Access this publication online.](#)

The Conservation of Artifacts Made from Plant Materials



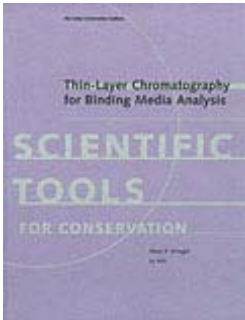
By Mary-Lou E. Florian, Dale Paul Kronkright, and Ruth E. Norton

Now available as a free PDF.

This teaching guide covers the identification, deterioration, and conservation of artifacts made from plant materials.

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Thin-Layer Chromatography for Binding Media Analysis



By Mary Striegel and Jo Hill

Now available as a free PDF.

This volume consists of a handbook and protocols. The handbook serves as a primer for the basic application of thin-layer chromatography to the analysis of coatings, binders, and adhesives found on cultural objects. The protocols provide step-by-step instructions for procedures involved in typical analyses.

[Access this publication online.](#)

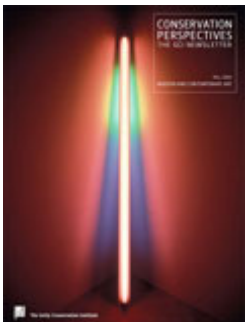
**Video of Panel Discussion
Art as Evidence: The Scientific Investigation of Works of Art**



On December 4, 2009, moderator David Bomford, associate director for collections at the Getty Museum, and a panel of experts, including conservators and scientists, discussed the impact of scientific analysis on how we understand, interpret, and care for art.

[Watch the video online.](#)

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GCI Mission Statement

The Getty Conservation Institute works internationally to advance conservation practice in the visual arts-broadly interpreted to include objects, collections, architecture, and sites. The Institute serves the conservation community through scientific research, education and training, model field projects, and the dissemination of the results of both its own work and the work of others in the field. In all its endeavors, the GCI focuses on the creation and delivery of knowledge that will benefit the professionals and organizations responsible for the conservation of the world's cultural heritage. The GCI is a program of the J. Paul Getty Trust, an international cultural and philanthropic institution that focuses on the visual arts that also includes the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Research Institute, and the Getty Foundation.

About the GCI Bulletin

The GCI Bulletin is published electronically six times a year to keep partners and supporters up-to-date with GCI programs and activities.

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