



NSAI
Standards

Irish Standard
I.S. EN 16096:2012

Conservation of cultural property - Condition survey and report of built cultural heritage

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I.S. EN 16096:2012

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Conservation des biens culturels - Évaluation et rapport sur
l'état du patrimoine culturel bâti

Erhaltung des kulturellen Erbes - Zustandserhebung und
Bericht für das gebaute Kulturerbe

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Foreword

This document (EN 16096:2012) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 346 "Conservation of cultural property", the secretariat of which is held by UNI.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by February 2013, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by February 2013.

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Introduction

Knowledge and understanding of the material evidence of built cultural heritage and the information on its current state is important as it helps to specify measures necessary to preserve structures in an appropriate condition and ensure that the maintenance required to keep them at this level is well defined. Built cultural heritage in this document refers to standing structures which have an architectural, cultural or historical value.

A condition survey is a management tool. This condition survey of structures and materials is the first step in a process to develop plans and measures needed to keep built cultural heritage in a stable well-maintained condition. It acts as the basis for recommending preventive conservation, maintenance and immediate repairs and for a more detailed planning and consideration for further measures or studies. When damage is detected and the causes are not evident, it will be necessary to carry out a more detailed investigation or diagnosis outside the remit of this standard in order to execute further remedial measures of an appropriate quality.

Preventive conservation, regular condition surveys and maintenance is the best way to conserve and maintain the significance of built cultural heritage, while ensuring that its authenticity and integrity are retained.

A combination of scientific, architectural, historic, structural and cultural knowledge and conservation experience of built cultural heritage is advisable in order to execute this survey.

This European Standard is for use by the surveyor as requested by the end-user. The results are for use by the owner and/or the manager of the built cultural heritage. This does not preclude that the owner/manager may use this standard as a guide for assessing the condition.

This European Standard has been prepared taking into account European and International conventions, charters, declarations and guidelines. References are given in the Bibliography.

For the purposes of data management it is advisable to have a digital system.

For decorative elements integrated into the building (e.g. stained glass, mural paintings etc.) the condition survey may be extended by a condition report in accordance with EN 16095. Other standards for assessing the condition of built structures should be considered.

1 Scope

This European Standard provides guidelines for a condition survey of built cultural heritage. It states how the condition of the built cultural heritage should be assessed, documented, recorded and reported on.

It encompasses evaluation of the condition of a building or other structure mainly by visual observation, together – when necessary – with simple measurements. The relevant data and documentation on the built cultural heritage should be collected and included in the report.

This European Standard can be applied to all built cultural heritage such as buildings, ruins, bridges and other standing structures. Built cultural heritage comprises both protected and non-protected significant buildings and structures. Archaeological sites and cultural landscapes are not dealt with in this standard.

This European Standard does not specify how to carry out a diagnosis (3.7) of the built cultural heritage. For listed/protected immovable heritage, specific national rules for expert documentation and works may apply.

This European Standard may be applied in order to:

- a) identify maintenance measures and the need for further investigation and diagnostics of damage;
- b) define procurement needs and the requirement for detailed specification;
- c) provide a unified method to obtain comparative data, when carrying out a condition survey for a group of buildings or a region.

2 Normative references

Not applicable.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

condition

physical state of an object at a particular time

Note 1 to entry: Assessment of the state of an object depends on the context and thus on the reason why the assessment is being made.

[SOURCE: EN 15898:2011]

3.2

condition class

categorisation of the condition

3.3

condition report

record of condition for a specific purpose, dated and authored

Note 1 to entry: A condition report normally results from a condition survey.

[SOURCE: EN 15898:2011]

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