

# Preface

Rehabilitation is a strategic area that is concerned not only with the monumental heritage and historic buildings, but also with other buildings that have been in use for sometime and need to be adapted to the demands of the present. The following areas should also be considered: rehabilitation of the constructed heritage, hygrothermal performance of buildings and constructions, diagnostic and design methodologies, energy efficiency, effects of climate change, restoration of public spaces, rehabilitation technologies and analysis of case studies.

The main purpose of this book, *Case Studies of Building Pathology in Cultural Heritage*, is to provide a collection of recent research works, case studies of building pathology, to contribute to the systematization and dissemination of knowledge related to construction pathology, hygrothermal behaviour of buildings, durability and diagnostic techniques and, simultaneously, to show the most recent advances in this domain. It includes a set of new developments in the field of building pathology and rehabilitation, bridging the gap between current approaches to the surveying of buildings and the detailed study of defect diagnosis, prognosis and remediation. It features a number of case studies and a detailed set of references and further reading.

The book is divided into several chapters that intend to be a resume of the current state of knowledge for the benefit of professional colleagues, scientists, students, practitioners, lecturers and other interested parties to network. At the same time, these topics will encounter a variety of scientific and engineering disciplines, such as civil, materials and mechanical engineering.

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