



Mortar Sample Removal Recommendations

- Remove mortar from locations on the structure that are protected and show limited weathering. Check behind gutters, overhangs, and in sheltered areas.
- Weathered samples are difficult to examine as elements may have leached from the mortar and testing results may not be accurate. We discourage sample removal from easy to access or areas from the roof or chimneys that often experience extreme conditions
- Take samples from deep within the joint. In older structures more recent pointing mortar is common and you need to get beyond that to get a good viable original sample. (Unless you want information about the modern pointing mortar).
- Do not mark on the top surface of the mortar.
- Sample sizes to perform petrographic and chemistry analysis need to be around 50 grams, which is about 3 x 3 inches and 3/8 inches thick, or of course larger is even better. Good sound large samples provide the best sample to be able to analyze. Without chemistry, a sample closer to 30 grams is recommended.
- Provide the following information along with the sample:
 - o Date(s) of construction.
 - o Location (address or at least city and state) where the structure is located
 - o Type of masonry, the more information on these specifics is helpful.
- Package mortar samples in zip lock bags clearly labeled with the project name, sample number, and date removed.

Samples should be sent to:

Centurywerks
Attn: Restoration Lab
3210 N Troy St
Chicago, IL 60618