

Geomaterials Consultancy Services

Checking for Mundic Concrete to RICS Recommended Methods

The equity value and resale potential of many, mainly pre-1950s, houses in Cornwall and Devon can be adversely affected by uncertainties about the nature of the concrete building material used in original construction.

The concern is whether or not the buildings were made with *mundic* concrete and if so the extent of deterioration or potential future risk of failure.

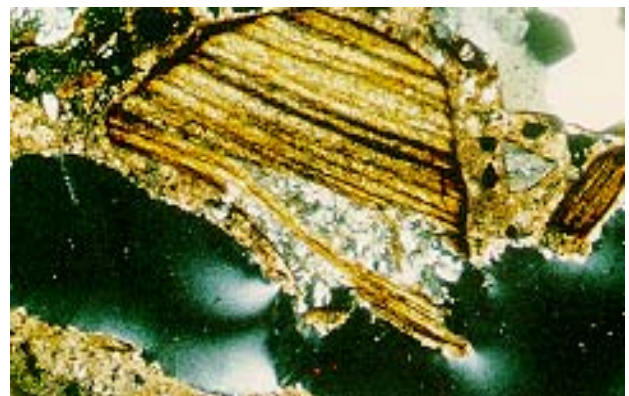
Sandberg has extensive experience with construction in South-West England and assisted both the Department of the Environment and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in preparing *mundic* guidelines.

The RICS document specifies a reliable procedure for identifying *mundic* concrete and for classifying the condition of the material. The purpose of this classification is to assist professional advisors, home owners, prospective purchasers and lending bodies in risk assessments for individual properties.

Sandberg is UKAS accredited for the recommended petrographic analyses referred to in the RICS guidelines.



Cracking of render caused by deterioration of mundic concrete



Aggregate expansion in concrete caused by gypsum formation (petrographic microscopy)

- Visual inspection of samples
- UKAS accredited concrete petrographic examination
- Identification of secondary reaction products
- Aggregate type and concrete condition assessment
- Classification of concrete to RICS guidelines
- Chemical analysis
- Expansion testing