RECOMMENDATIONS

The members of the second meeting of the Joint Committee convened to study stones in monuments organised by the Rome Centre, ICOM and ICOMOS, Brussels, December 20-21, 1967,

consider that in order to advance the study of the conservation of monuments, it is essential to improve the knowledge of methods of identification of stones and to improve the knowledge of the factors involved in their alteration and conservation;

recognise the importance in this connexion of having the assistance of institutions specializing technical and scientific research in the construction of buildings;

emphasise the value of the continued collaboration with these institutions and those who are responsible for the conservation of monuments;

express the hope that finances will be made available to undertake the necessary study in this field;

recall the importance of maintenance work since the methods of conservation presently available cannot be guaranteed to afford protection over a long period of time;

decide to establish a working committee to report by September 30 charged with the task of specifying the methods best adapted for the examination of stones that will provide information on their identification, their alteration and their conservation with the aim of establishing a common terminology that will make comparisons more rational, under the following headings:

1. Architectural factors
2. Climatological factors
3. Petrology
4. Physical studies - mechanics - thermo-hygrometry
5. Chemistry
6. Biology
7. Ageing tests

hope that those having practical experience in scientific and technical methods for the conservation of stones will be invited to the next meeting in order to increase the number of interested persons;

hope that the three organisations that have taken the initiative in arranging the present meeting will include studies of mortars and plasters in the programme of subsequent meetings.