

Toxic Substances in Building Materials:

Frequently mentioned statements:

- Nothing has ever been noticed, so there could not be anything
- A restoration would be too expensive
- The building would already be old, so toxic substances would have volatilised over time
- As long as one would not drill into the walls, nothing could happen
- One could fix any issue without any help
- If one would remove or clad any wooden element, the dangers of toxic pollution would be banned.

The Facts:

- As an inhabitant of any building one gets used to any smell. Most toxic agents can not be detected with one's senses alone.
- Unnecessary dismantling of material can be associated with high costs
- Toxic agents, like asbestos can be contained in mineral building materials, i.e. mortar or plaster or boards without declaration and emanate into the air.
- Any attempts to deal with hazardous materials in buildings without training regarding methods and their application as well as protection of the executing parties and the environment should not be undertaken. Usually higher costs are associated to such attempts.
- Furniture can contain low levels of toxic materials. However, sensitive people can react to the combined levels of toxic agents of surfaces and furniture. Especially antique furniture is often treated with chemicals to protect against insects and can release high levels of toxins into the air or be transmitted to the inhabitants by touch.

For investigation of possible toxic materials, as well planning and execution of potential counter measurements, please contact Atelier Winkler at:

www.atelier-winkler.de
info@atelier-winkler.de
+49-931-66 05 04 88