

Book Reviews

Building Façade Maintenance, Repair and Inspection

ASTM International Publication - STP 1444

Editors: Jeffrey L. Erdly and Thomas A. Schwartz

This highly informative publication incorporates twenty five peer reviewed papers that were presented at the October 2002, Norfolk, VA. symposium of Building Façade Maintenance, Repair and Inspection.

Section I offers a comprehensive look at the compelling reasons for, and workings of, façade inspection ordinances, primarily to protect the public from falling materials.

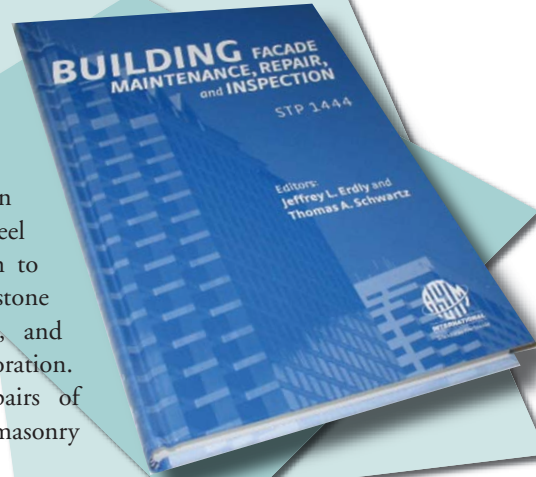
Section II deals with various aspects of historic structures, the interaction of inspection ordinances and historic preservation, inspection of historic materials, including terra cotta, and emergency repair.

Section III involves the techniques of data collection and investigation of materials to access, locate and identify existing unsafe conditions. Discussions include testing, observational and inspection techniques, covering many

materials including stone tiles, brick and terra cotta.

Section IV discusses various façade materials and repair techniques. The repairs discussed include rust jacking of masonry due to the formation of rust scale on structural steel embedded in masonry, common to early 20th century structures, stone panel warping and debonding, and glass façade cracking and deterioration. There are also papers on repairs of concrete facades and historic masonry construction.

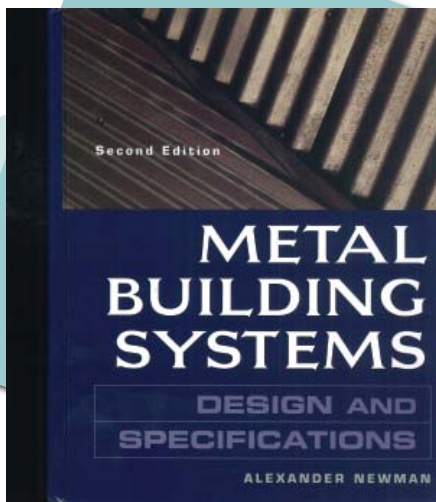
This book has valuable information to aid the engineer and building owner in making informed and meaningful evaluations of the exterior envelope of structures where deteriorating materials can become loose with the potential to fall on the public. There are numerous photographs of frightening potential



disasters, as well as discussions of actual failures, to put forth a compelling argument for more façade ordinances in other cities, especially those with aging structures.

Review by: Robert G. Wilkin P.E.

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Metal Building Systems (2nd Edition)

Design and Specification

By Alexander Newman, McGraw-Hill

This book is a compilation of published data from organizations, associations, and metal building manufacturers. The book is informative and lengthy at 576 pages, and contains frequent opinions of the author, which differ in instances from that of this reviewer. The book is best suited to the reader desiring to gain familiarity with pre-engineered buildings.

Reviewer: Ted Greenlaw, P.E.