



Building Envelope Inspection

How to Manage Risk and Reduce Liability

**Atlanta Workplace
Georgia International Convention Center
Friday February 28, 2020**

Learning Objectives

- **Façade Inspection**

- Why
- Behavior
- Inspection
- Reporting

Innovative Engineering, Inc.



- **Scott L. Weiland PE**
 - **BSCE University of Michigan**
 - **Graduate Studies:**
 - San Jose State University
 - Georgia Institute of Technology
 - **Level I sUAS Thermographer**
 - **Articles:**
 - Structure Magazine – Building Façade Inspection Part I & II
 - Georgia Engineer – Building façade Inspection Part I & II
 - AIA Design Equilibrium – Building Façade Inspection
 - BOMA Georgia Insight magazine - Falling Building Façade Closes Atlanta Streets



Innovative Engineering, Inc.



- **Trey Thomas PE**
 - **BSCET, Southern Polytechnic State University**
 - **15 Years in Design and Restoration Engineering**
 - Co-author of Forensic articles
 - **OSHA Qualified Fall Protection Engineer**
 - **OSHA Competent Person for Boom & Scissor Lifts**
 - **SPRAT Level 2 Rope Access Technician**
 - **FAA Part 107 Remote Pilot Certificate**
 - **FAA Part 107 Daylight Waiver**
 - **Level I Thermographer**
 - **Expert estimator (within 5% of actual)**



Innovative Engineering, Inc.



- **Keith Brasher PE SE**
- **BSCE Mississippi State University**
- **MSCE Georgia Institute of Technology**
- **Roofing Consultants Institute Certification**



Façade Collapse - Cleveland



- 2015
- Father & 4 Boys had just left car parked 10 minutes before to have dinner.
- High Winds Blamed

Midtown Façade Collapse - Atlanta



- 2016 Façade Collapse
- Woman Transported to Grady
- People Trapped Inside

Façade Cornice Collapse – 2017 Atlanta Sidewalk



Fall Building Façade Closes Atlanta Streets



Façade & Building Envelope Inspection

Falling Building Façade Closes Atlanta Streets



- 2017 34 Story Building
- Basis of Façade Article

Façade Ordinances



- New York, NY
- Columbus, OH
- Boston, MA
- Chicago, IL
- Milwaukee, WI
- Detroit, MI
- Pittsburg, PA
- St. Louis, MO
- Philadelphia, PA
- Cleveland, OH
- Cincinnati, OH
- San Francisco, CA

The International Property Maintenance Code



SECTION 304 EXTERIOR STRUCTURE

304.1 General. The exterior of a structure shall be maintained in good repair, structurally sound and sanitary so as not to pose a threat to the public health, safety or welfare.

Purpose of Façade & Building Envelope



- **Structural resistance to wind, seismic & gravity loads.**
- **Environmental protection from the elements, including moisture & temperature.**
- **Architectural appearance and aesthetics.**

Source of Deficiencies

- **Movement of Materials**

- Thermal
- Moisture
- Elastic Deformation
- Creep

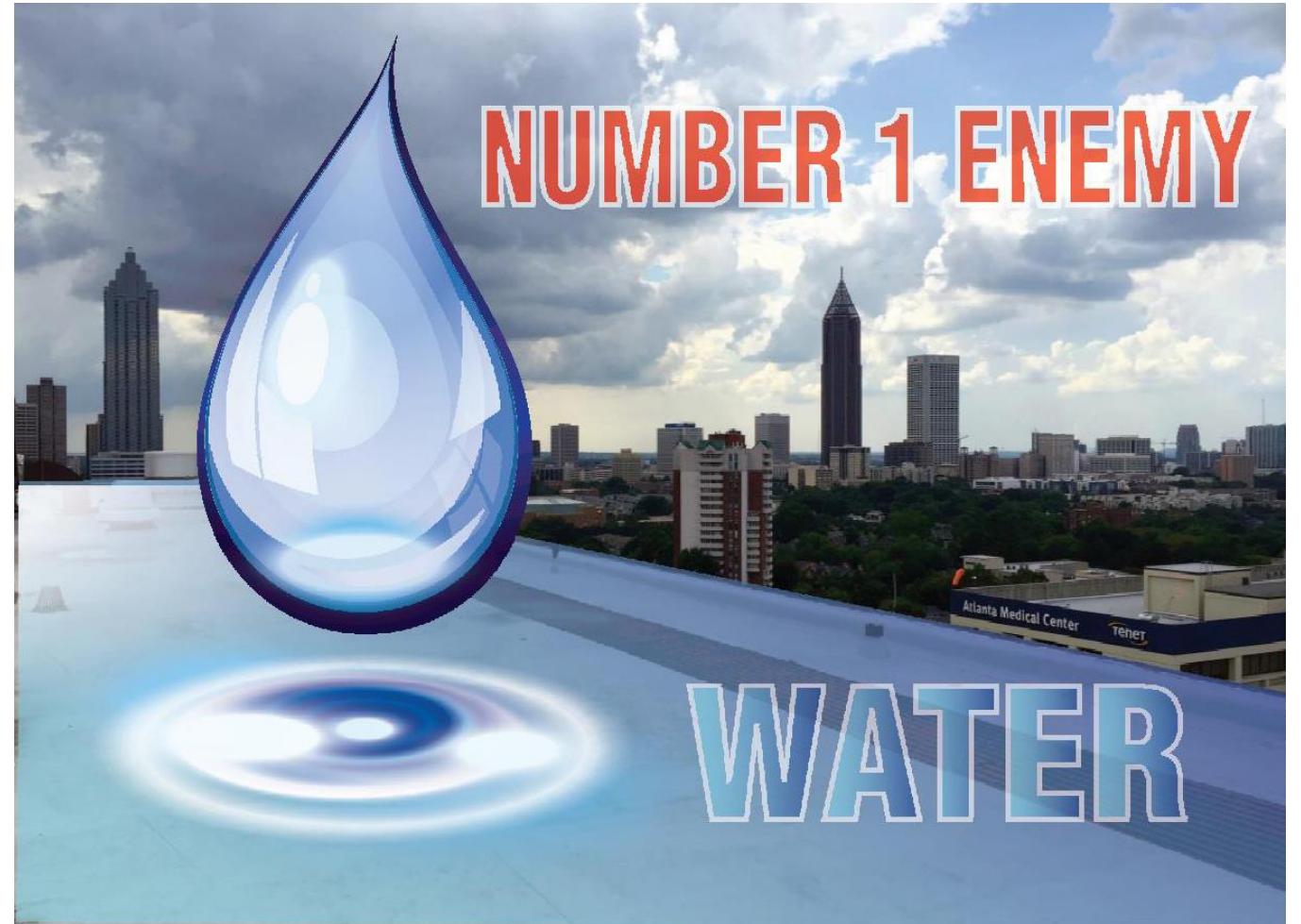
- **Other**

- Impact Damage
- Lightning Strike

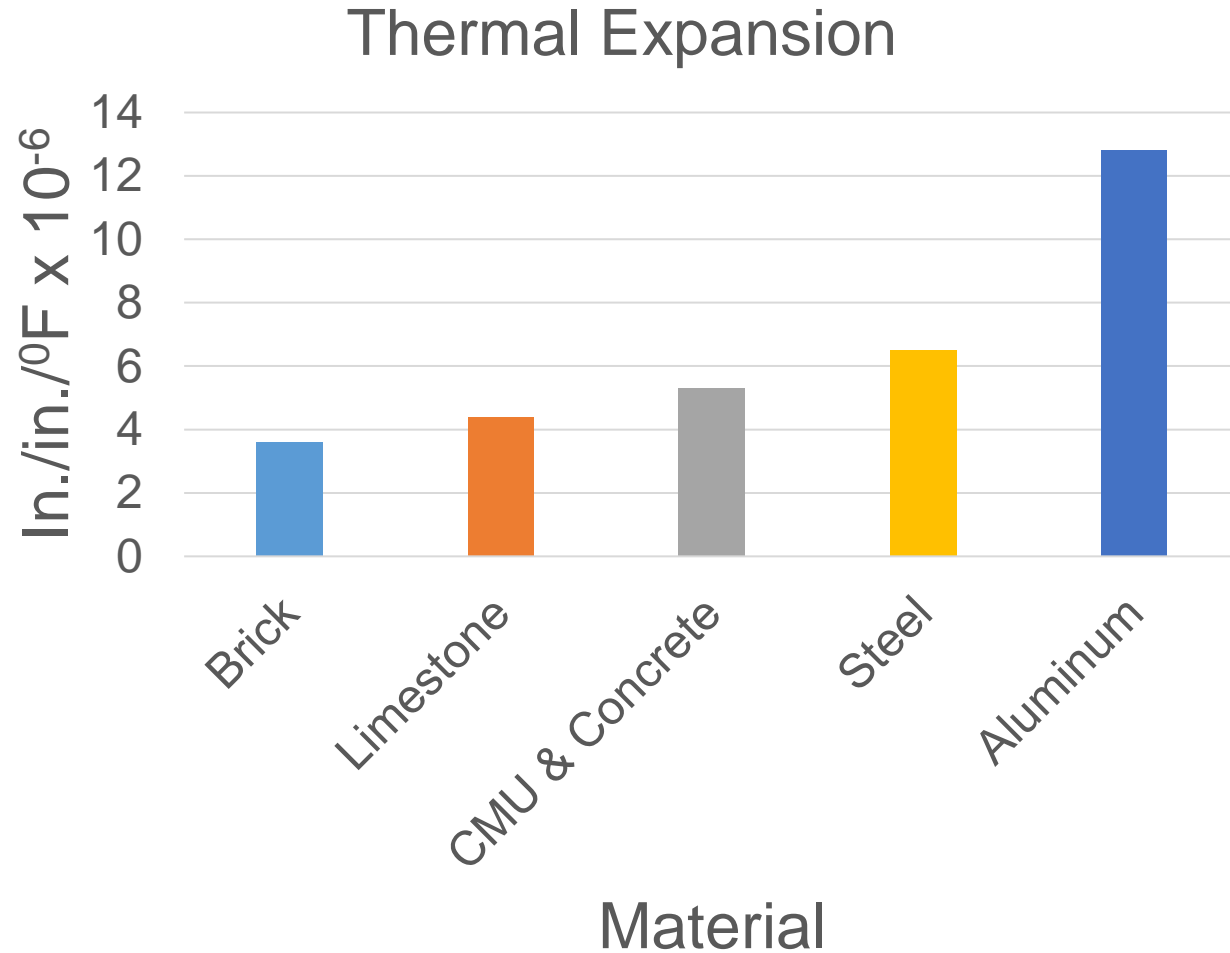
- **Natural Aging**

- **Leakage**

- Roofing
- Walls

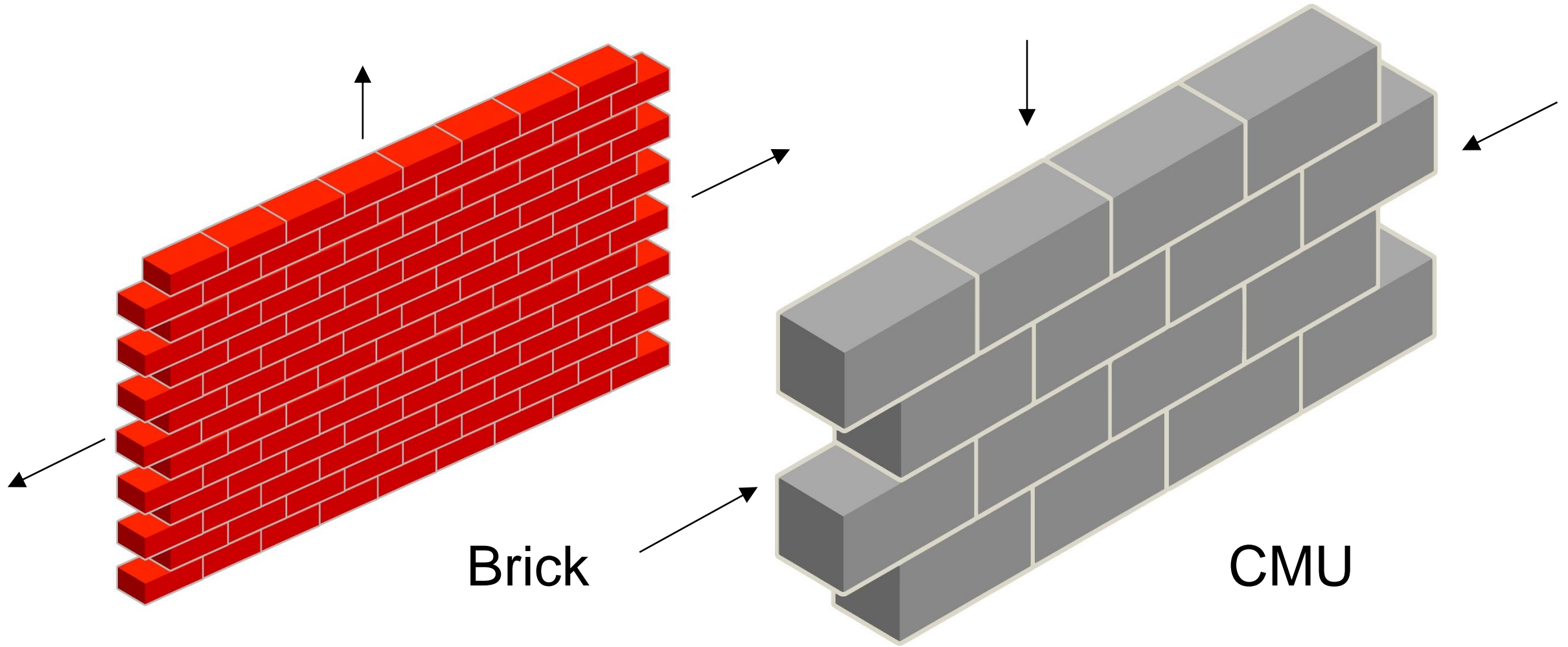


Thermal Expansion

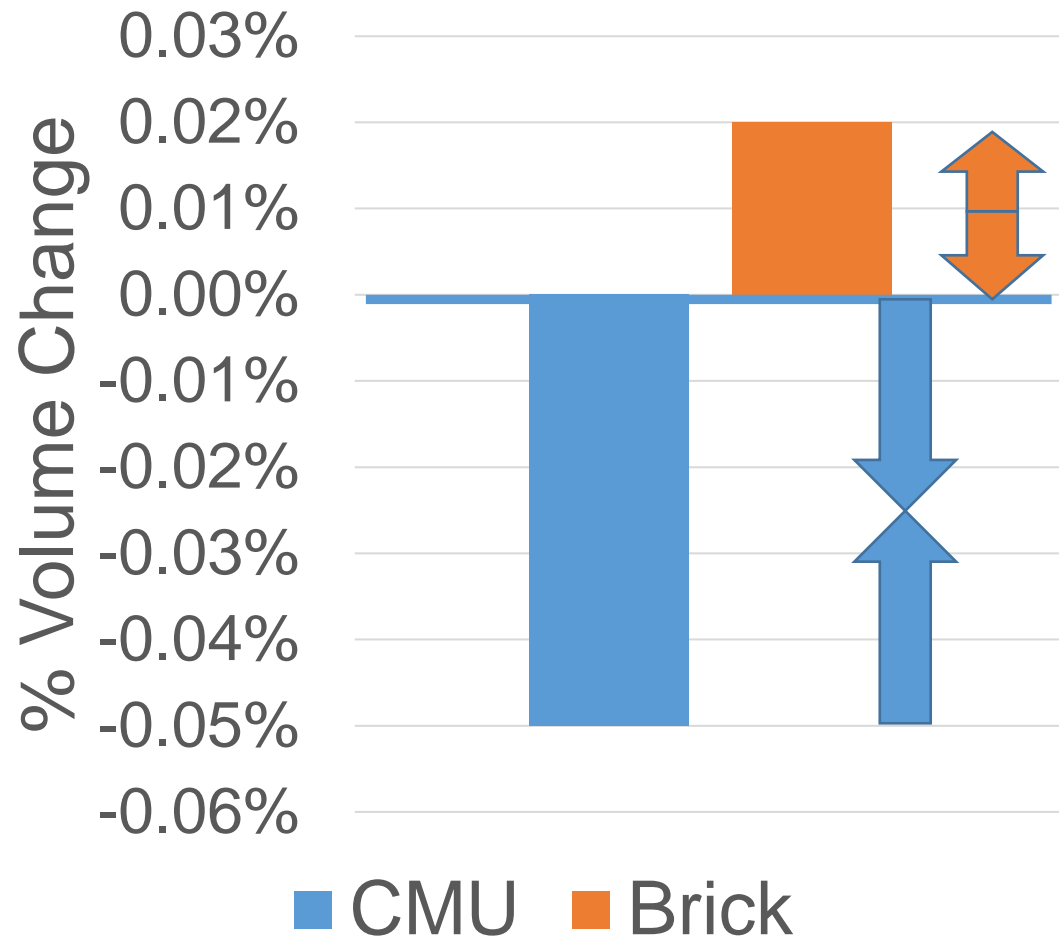


Coefficients of Thermal Expansion	
Material	in./in./°F x 10 ⁻⁶
Wood	
Pine (parallel to grain)	3.0
Pine (perpendicular to grain)	19.0
Masonry	
Brick	3.6
Limestone	4.4
Granite	4.7
Concrete Masonry Unit (CMU)	5.2
Marble	7.3
Concrete	
Concrete (Normal Weight)	5.5
Metals	
Steel	6.5
Copper	9.3
Aluminum	12.8
Finishes	
Glass	5.0
Gypsum Plaster, Sand	7.0
Gypsum Board	9.0

Moisture – Expansion/Shrinkage

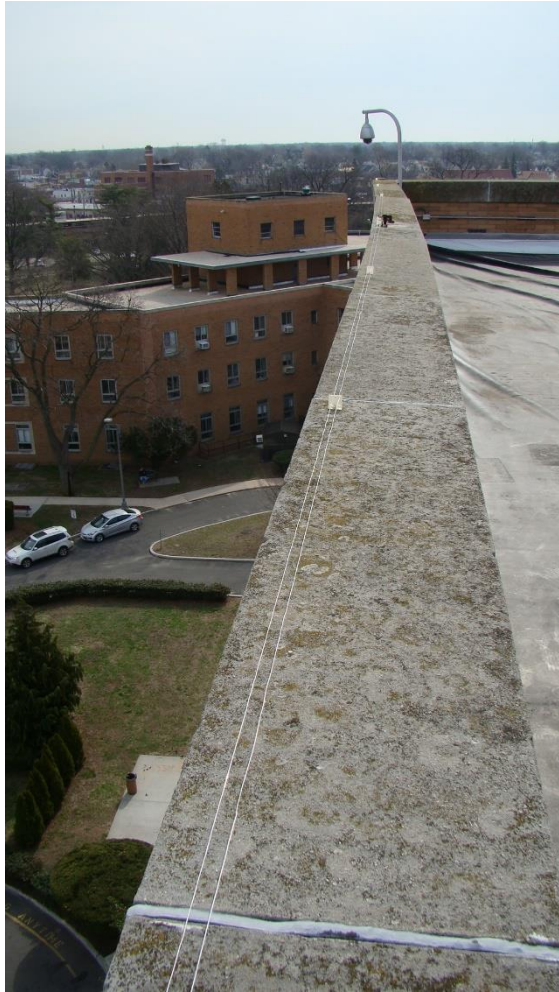


Moisture – Volume Change

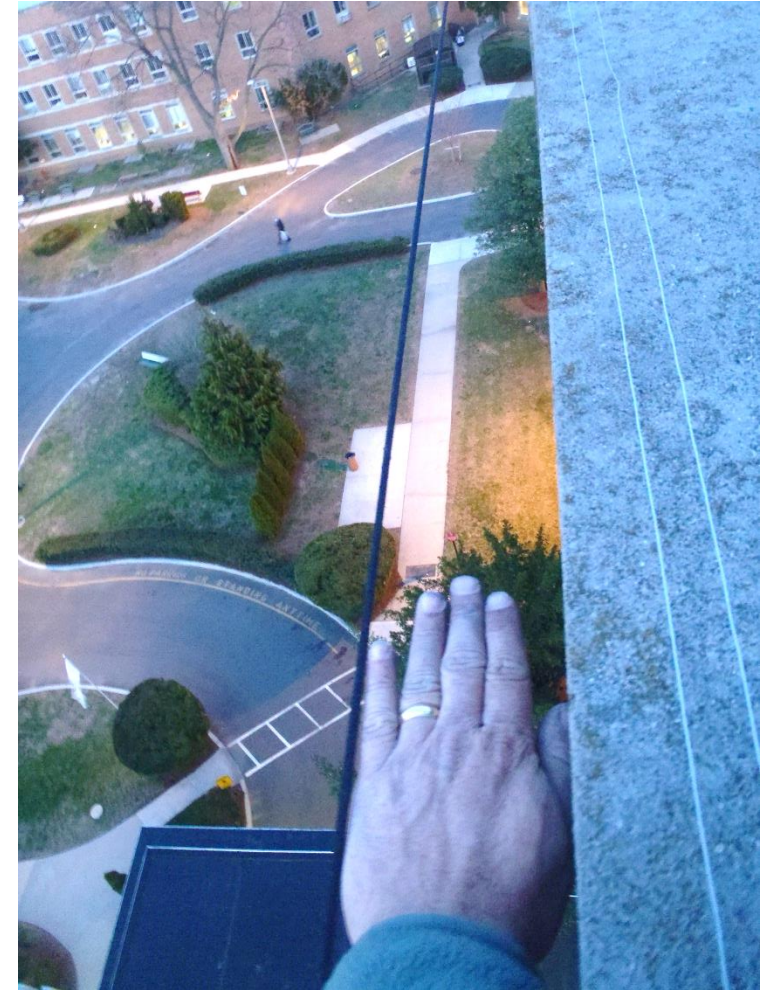


- **Brick (& Terra Cotta)**
 - Smallest after fired
 - Expands as absorbs moisture
- **CMU (& Concrete)**
 - Largest after cast
 - Shrinks from Hydration & Evaporation

Thermal Expansion - Parapet



Bond Break
at Roof Line



Movement of Materials – Thermal Expansion

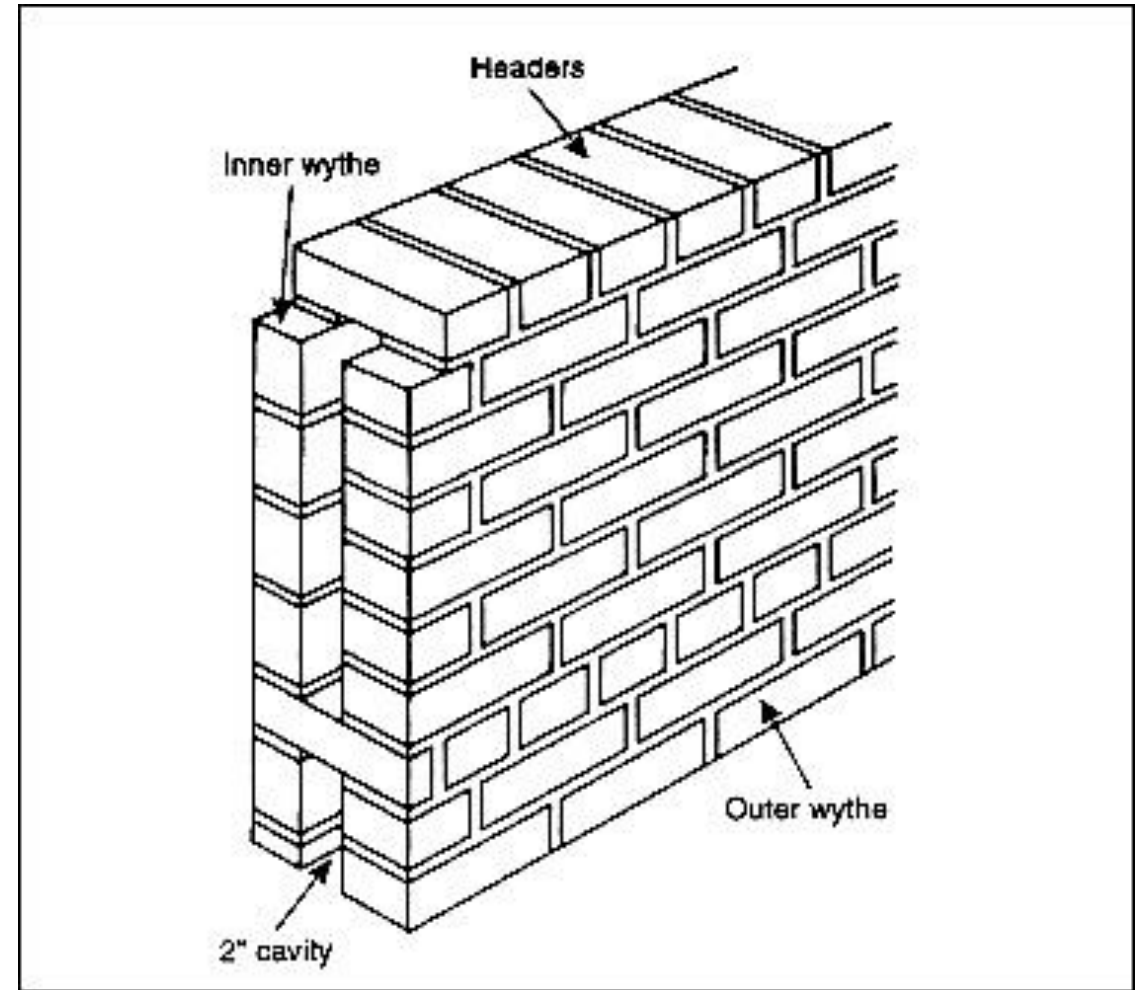


No Expansion Joints



Creates Hinge at Corner

Movement of Materials – Thermal Expansion



Movement of Materials – Thermal



Moisture – Corrosion Expansion



Moisture – Moisture Expansion & Freeze Thaw



Movement of Materials – Elastic Deformation & Creep



Other – Impact Damage



Other - Lightning Strike



Watertight Integrity - Natural Aging



Sealants



Roofing/Flashing

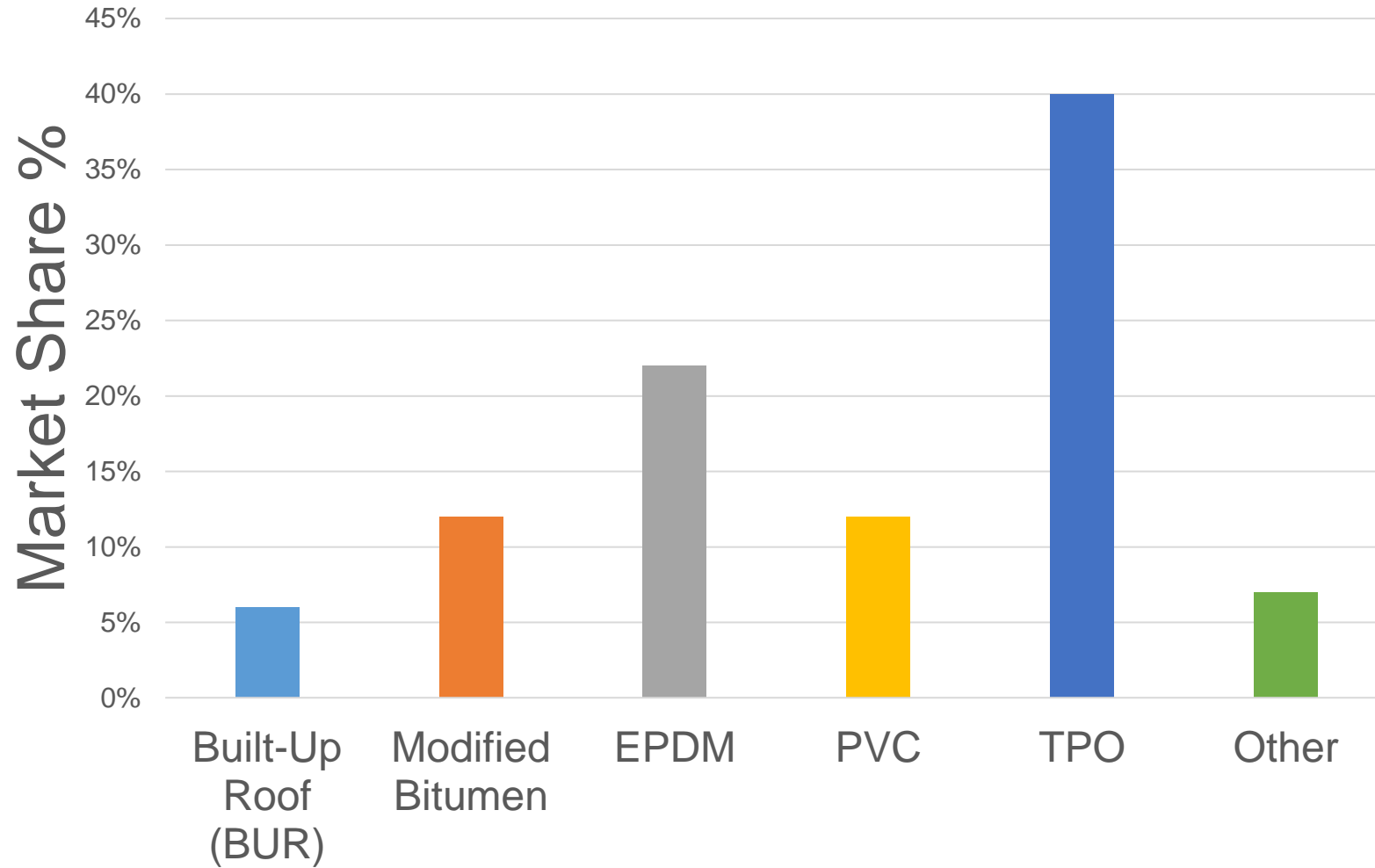
Watertight Integrity – Roof Drainage



Ponding > 48 Hours

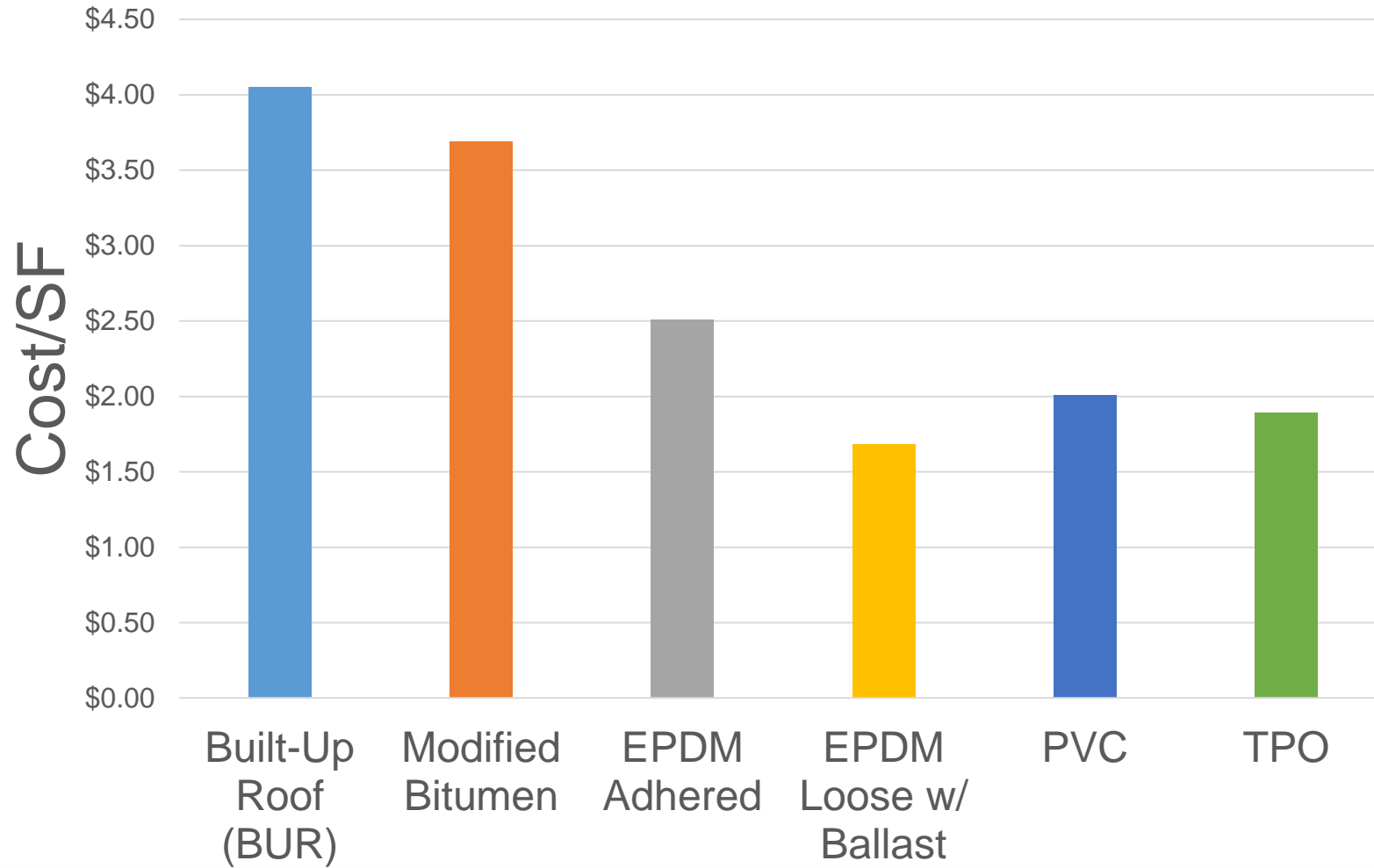
- **Ponding:** Most common factor in roofing failure
- **Water Shedding:** Can make for shortcomings in design, construction, durability, & maintenance.
- **Degradation:** Asphalt & Polymeric materials
- **Freezing:** Erodes surface aggregate
- **Voids:** Manufacturers warranty

Common Roof Materials – Market Share



- Built-Up Roof (BUR)
- Modified Bitumen
- EPDM
- PVC
- TPO
- Other

Common Roof Materials – Cost Data



- Built-Up Roof (BUR)
- Modified Bitumen
- EPDM
- PVC
- TPO
- Other

Built-Up Roofing (BUR)



Blistering



Slippage

- Blistering
- Splits
- Ridging/
Wrinkling
- Slippage

Modified Bitumen



- **Defective Lap Seams**
- Shrinkage
- Checking
- Blistering
- Delamination
- Slippage
- Spitting

EPDM



- **Lap-Seam Failure**
- Flashing
- Other Common Problems – 8%
 - Puncture
 - Shrinkage
 - Wind Uplift
- Minor Problems @<3%
 - Fastening
 - Blistering
 - Embrittlement

PVC



- **Embrittlement**
- **Puncture**

Photo by RCI

TPO



Image by RCI

- **Premature Aging**
 - Erosion of Top Surface
 - Small Holes/Slits
 - Cracking
 - Separation
- **Seam Failures**
- **Newest Roofing Material**

Watertight Integrity - Wall



Cracks



Failed Sealant

Façade/Envelope Inspection Procedure



- User interviews
- Document Research
- General Inspection
- Detailed Inspection
- Watertight Integrity
- Classifying Deficiencies
- Reporting
- Estimating

General Inspection – Binoculars & Camera



Façade & Building Envelope Inspection

General Inspection - Drones



Façade & Building Envelope Inspection

Detailed Inspection



Boom Lift

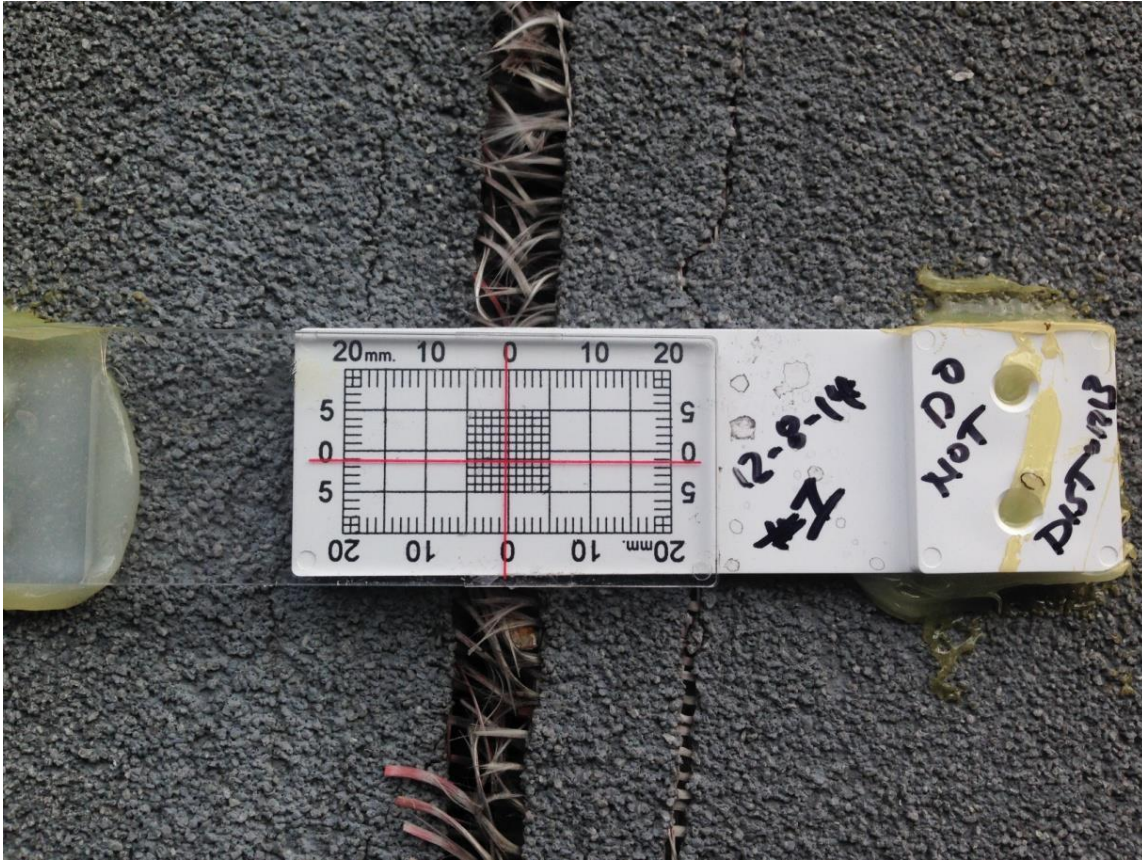


Rope Access

Bore Scope – Brick Veneer



Crack Gauges



Dynamic



Static

Water Tightness - Probing



Sealants



Roof Seams

Watertight Integrity - Finding a Leak

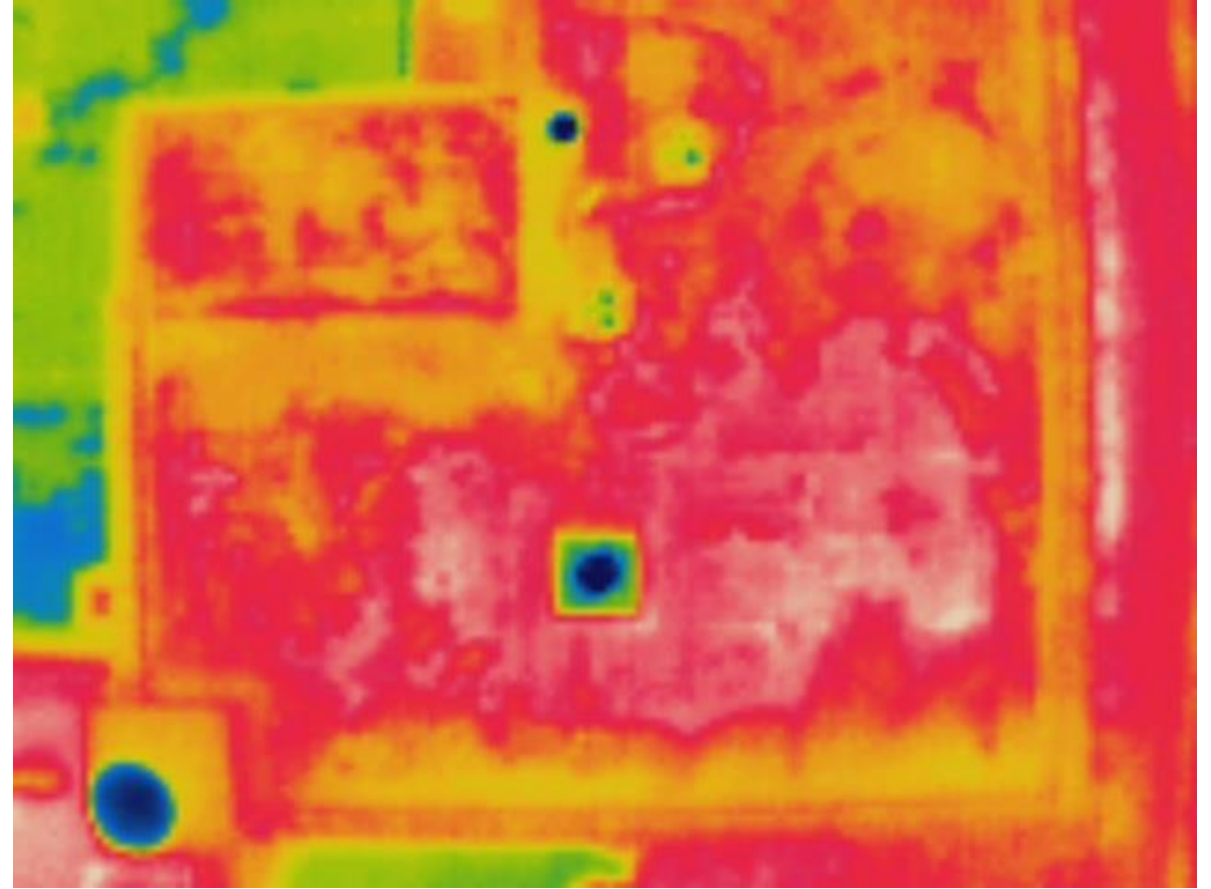


- **Easiest when someone finds it for you.**

Water Tightness – Thermal Imaging



Red-Green-Blue (RGB)



Infrared (IR)

Water Tightness - Verification



Impedance Meter



Pin-Type Meter

Water Tightness - Verification



Roofing Core



Sample

Reporting

- **Project Information**
- **General Building Description**
 - Original Construction
 - Renovations
 - Additions
- **General Building Condition**
- **Findings & Recommendations by Deficiency level**
- **Detailed Description of Building Structural, Façade & Waterproofing Systems**
- **Building Footprint w/ Deficiencies**
- **Elevation Photos**
- **Methods Used to Conduct Investigation**
- **Detailed Findings & Recommendations w/ Plans, Elevations, & Photos**
- **Estimate**
- **Classification of Deficiencies**
 - Level F: Structurally Unstable
 - Level D: Will Become Structurally Unstable
 - Level B: Acceptable Condition

Level F Deficiency



Loose Mullion Covers



Concrete Spalls

Level D & B Deficiency

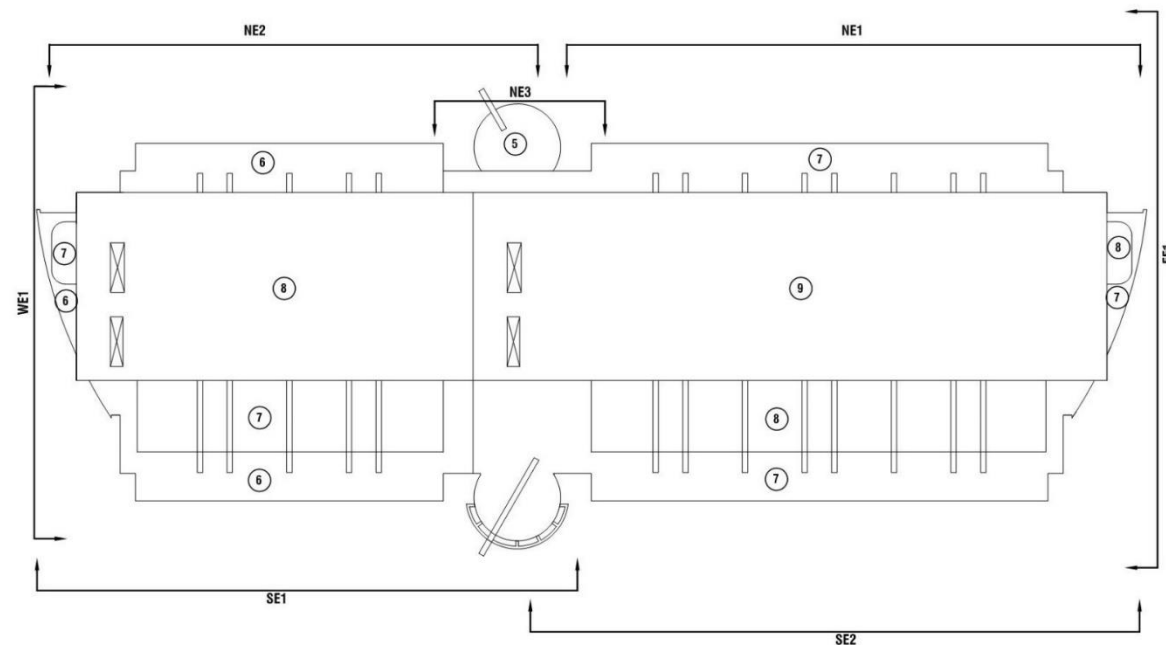


Level D: Loose Stone Panels



Level B: Failed Sealant

Façade & Building Envelope Inspection



(X) = ROOF HEIGHT IN STORIES

CDC BUILDING 17 FACADE INSPECTION
ATLANTA, GA **DATE: 05 SEPTEMBER 2016**



Final Report



**FINAL ASSESSMENT REPORT
EXTERIOR BUILDING INSPECTION
CDC BUILDING 21
ATLANTA, GA**



**Exterior Building Inspection GARO0021
18 April 2019
Assessment Report
CDC Project Number: P20171437**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Atlanta, GA

- **Permanent Document**
- **Findings**
- **Repair Recommendations**
- **Estimated Costs**
- **Additional Investigation Suggested**

Learning Objectives

- **Façade Inspection**
 - Why
 - Behavior
 - Inspection Process
 - Reporting

Questions?

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