

Concrete, Cast Stone & Mortar (CCM)

Fall 2014

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2:30-5:00, 655 Schermerhorn Extension

***Introduction**

Why concrete? What is it?; basics of binders/setting mechanisms; lime chemistry (calcite vs. dolomite); powders vs. putty; lime-pozzolans; hydraulic limes and natural cements; manufacturing of portland cement; ASTM standards; historic references

Key readings: *Canadian Building Digest 145
*Ashurst & Ashurst on lime (from PBC, Vol. 3)

***Aggregates & admixtures**

Sand and crushed stone; mineralogy; particle size distribution (C144) and shape; gravel; historic sources; pigments; water reducers; retarders and accelerators; bonding agents

Key readings: *PCA sand gradation & mortars
*NRMCA supplementary cementitious materials
*ACI chemical admixtures

***Concrete history**

Concrete and historic preservation; UK and France (Godwin; Wilkinson; Monnier; Coignet); Hennebique system and Ransome; American pioneers (Fowler; Gillmore; Ward and Hyatt; Edison and Earley; Akeley)

Key readings: *History of calcareous cements
*Meridian Hill Park
*Preservation Brief 15 (Historic Concrete)

***Concrete construction 101**

Cement chemistry; water/cement ratio; scientific mix design; structural theory; reinforcement and formwork; transit mix; quality control; the 1980's and innovations

Key readings: *Cement chemistry
More....

***Concrete deterioration**

Carbonation, corrosion and construction flaws, shrinkage cracking; freeze/thaw; alkali-silica reaction (ASR); surface erosion; lime "run" and stalactites

Key readings: *Powter on 19th century fortifications
*ASR in concrete

***Analytical studies: concrete/mortar petrography**

Hands-on introduction to the polarized light microscope; examination of pastes and aggregates in thin section; characterization of mortar and concrete samples

Key readings: *Petrography PDH
*Krotzer and Walsh on mortars and stuccos

