

Preservation of Historic Structures: Methodology, Safety Assessment and Practice

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#### Introduction

#### **Cultural heritage**

#### **Identity**

- □ Conservation of cultural heritage buildings is a demand from society
- □ No memory, no identity; no identity, no nation, A.D. Smith, LSE, 1995
- □ We shape our buildings; thereafter they shape us, W. Churchill, 1943

#### Economy

- □ Europe: tourism is 10% of the GDP and 12% of the employment
- Europe is the world's no. 1 tourist destination (50% of tourist arrivals)
- □ 45% of the UNESCO World Heritage sites are within Europe





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#### Heritage at risk

- **European Charter of the Architectural Heritage 1975**
- □ Art<sup>o</sup> 6: This heritage is in danger.
- □ It is threatened by ignorance, obsolescence, deterioration of every kind and neglect. Urban planning can be destructive when authorities yield too readily to economic pressures and to the demands of motor traffic. Misapplied contemporary technology and ill-considered restoration may be disastrous to old structures. Above all, land and property speculation feeds upon all errors and omissions and brings to nought the most carefully laid plans.



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#### **Buildings do not last forever**





Lack of maintenance, deterioration & errors

#### **Buildings cost money!**

Estimate for the US government: Average value of 6% of annual building cost, with 35% of this value for operation, 46% for preventive maintenance, repair and replacement of parts, and 19% for recapitalization



**Extreme events** 

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#### Some conceptual errors and Code changes

Nov. 7, 1940 10:00 AM



Ronan Point, 1968 Disproportionate collapse

Tacoma Narrows Bridge, 1940 Flutter instability July 1 – November 7, 1940

Start of resonance vibration of bridge in torsional mode TCR 00:11:19:10

Millennium Bridge, 2020 Lateral frequency modes





#### Prestressed bridge ban in UK, after several post-tension bridges collapsed in a short period of 10 years



25 September 1992: Department of Transportation banned post-tensioned grouted duct techniques from UK bridge construction. Lifted after 4 years and 10 M£ study

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#### Timber bridge in Norway 'built to last 100 years' collapses after a decade



Bridge was inspected along with other wooden truss bridges in 2016 following the collapse of Perkolo Bridge, another timber crossing in Norway



#### I-35 bridge over the Mississippi River



The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) identified a design flaw and inadequate inspections as the primary causes of the collapse. The tragedy led to increased awareness of the importance of regular inspections and maintenance of aging infrastructure

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#### **Durability**

Louis Khan (USA, 1901-1974) IIMA, Ahmedabad, India, 1962-1974 You say to brick, "What do you want, brick?" Brick says to you, "I like an arch." if you say to brick, "arches are expensive and I can use a concrete lintel over an opening. What do you think of that, brick?" Brick says: "I like an arch." —Louis Kahn





"I'm now wiser from that time. Now I can say that reinforcement was a recipe for a disaster" Architect MS Satsangi from the team in Ahmedabad, 2015



#### **Reinforced masonry walls**



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#### **RC** slabs and staircases







#### Hazards: Natural and made-made



- Climate change (and non-deliberate human action)
- Deliberate human action

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#### Growing value at risk



- The U.S. National Academy of Sciences projected for the next 50 years the human population to increase in ±50% with ±40% more life expectancy. This means >100% the demand for housing
- Half of the global population lives in cities, and by 2050 two-thirds (2100, 85%) is expected to live in urban areas (UN, World Urbanization Prospects)



#### **Risk assessment**

Risk evaluation for the built environment is associated with the level of hazard, building vulnerability and level of exposure



Within this holistic approach, building vulnerability is the most important, not only because of the physical consequences in a disaster, but because it is where engineering can intervene, reducing the level of vulnerability and consequently the level of physical damage, life loss and economical loss

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#### Earthquakes

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#### The seismic problem



**1755, Lisbon** A perfect disaster: tsunami with 10 m, fire for 5 days, 85% of the buildings destroyed, up to 90.000 deaths = 30% of population, Enlightenment – Kant / Voltaire)



..., 2009, 2012, 2016, 2017, Italy

2011, Spain



#### Existing masonry: Churches in New Zealand (EQs 2010-11)

- □ Red: unsafe building with access forbidden
- □ Yellow: safety compromised but urgent access allowed
- Green: no restrictions





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#### Learning from failure: 2017 Lesvos Earthquake (Greece)



12<sup>th</sup> of June 2017, at 12:28 GMT, a shallow earthquake with magnitude Mw=6.3 struck SSE of Lesvos Island



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#### Damage and Failure Patterns: Mostly out-of-plane



Local failures of the external leaf due to wall disintegration

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Corner mechanism

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Typical out-of-plane failures under one-way and two-way bending

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- Existing buildings are usually rather vulnerable: (a) fragile materials;
   (b) heavy construction; (c) inadequate connections; (d) inadequate design and construction; (e) lack of maintenance
- □ Simple and moderate cost measures can make drastically change the situation



#### Earthquakes: Existing vs. New





**Blast & Impact** 

- U Worst case scenario in modern masonry: embedded ring beam + unfilled vertical joints
- □ Minor damage for design earthquake in Lisbon (rock)
- Significant damage but very ductile response for 2.5 times the Lisbon design earthquake (rock)

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#### Context



Terrorism





Gas explosions
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#### **Blast: Behavior**



150

100 50

0

Results

10

0

i...

50

10

100

Time (s) **DIF Influence**  30

20

150

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40

200



#### **Other Hazards**

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#### Natural and made-made hazards



□ 84% of wildfires caused be humans (Boulder's Earth Lab, UColorado)









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#### Landslides



#### **Risk. Perception and communication**



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#### Earthquakes

- Since 1960, 40% of natural disaster deaths occurred as a result of earthquake events
- □ 60% of these are due to masonry buildings (stone, clay, earth, lime,...)
- □ More than half of the built heritage is unreinforced masonry



Eqs since 1995, 36.000 people/yr



#### **Blast and terrorism**

 Eurobarometer: The risk of a terrorist attack is considered to be high by 40% of respondents in the EU (47% medium risk)







#### **Risk Management, Technical Experts and Society**

- **D** Perception and communication
- Assessment and diagnosis
- □ Solutions, costs and implementation



Our World of Data, current billion USD

In the last 50 years, costs increased exponentially

□ How to solve the mathematical indeterminacy of huge consequences and low probabilities?







#### **Tools and methodology**



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# Examples at building level



#### San Sebastian Basilica, Manila, Philippines



- **Construction: 1890-1891**
- □ Unique gothic metallic church. 9 steam boats from Belgium and 1500 ton
- □ 3 previous buildings (1639, masonry, fire and revolution), 1645 (earthquake), 1863 (masonry, earthquake), 1880 (timber, earthquake)

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**Complex structure. Important corrosion** 









#### **Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Christchurch, NZ**





- Construction 1901-1905
- □ Seismic strengthening: 2004
- □ Major damage in EQs 2010-11

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# Examples at territorial level

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#### Seismic vulnerability assessment and scenarios

#### Simple forms and indicators

Parameter		Class $C_{vi}$				Weight	Relative weight
		A B C D		D	$p_i$	over $I_v$	
1. Stru	ctural building system						
P1	Type of resisting system	0	5	20	50	0.75	
P2	Quality of resisting system	0	5	20	50	1.00	
P3	Conventional strength	0	5	20	50	1.50	46/100
P4	Maximum distance between walls	0	5	20	50	0.50	
P5	Number of floors	0	5	20	50	1.50	
P6	Location and soil conditions	0	5	20	50	0.75	
2. Irre	gularities and interactions						
P7	Aggregate position and interaction	0	5	20	50	1.50	
P8	Plan configuration	0	5	20	50	0.75	27/100
P9	Height regularity	0	5	20	50	0.75	
3. Flo	or slabs and roofs						
P10	Facade wall openings and alignments	0	5	20	50	0.50	
P11	Horizontal diaphragms	0	5	20	50	1.00	15/100
P12	Roofing system	0	5	20	50	1.00	
4. Con	servation status and other elements						
P13	Fragilities and conservation status	0	5	20	50	1.00	12/100
P14	Non-structural elements	0	5	20	50	0.50	

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#### Seismic vulnerability assessment and scenarios

Total number of buildings: 192	Macroseismic intensity, <i>I<sub>EMS-98</sub></i>							
	VII	VIII	IX	Х				
Collapsed	0	0	15 (7.7%)	101 (52.7%)				
Unusable	3 (1.8%)	33 (17.3%)	93 (48.2%)	72 (37.3%)				
Total number of inhabitants: 1596	Macroseismic intensity, $I_{EMS-98}$							
	VII	VIII	IX	Х				
Dead and severely injured	0	0	37 (2.3%)	252 (15.8%)				
Homeless	29 (1.8%)	278 (17.4%)	856 (53.7%)	1184 (74.2%)				





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Retrofitting	Intensity, $I_{\rm EMS-98}$							
package	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Х	XI	XII
RP1	-	-	1.08 M€	5.85 M€	12.24 M€	17.15 M€	19.23 M€	20.10 M€
RP2	-	-	-	1.20 M€	7.89 M€	12.53 M€	14.39 M€	15.13 M€
RP3	-	-	-	-	1.80 M€	5.86 M€	6.12 M€	5.91 M€



#### **Emergency planning: Evacuation routes / inaccessible areas**





Definition of evacuation routes for a scenario of  $I_{EMS-98}$ =VIII and possible inaccessible areas



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Methodology: International Recommendations for Cultural Heritage









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#### Past understanding

"Conservation" is warranted by the powerfulness of the intervention

Blind confidence in modern materials and technologies

Mistrust towards original or ancient materials and original resisting resources of the building

The value of original / ancient structure and structural principles is not recognized

The importance of previous studies is not fully recognize

Significant negative experience accumulated

#### Athens Charter (1931)

Recommends the use of concrete and other modern material and techniques for restoration purposes. Added materials and components should be hidden to avoid altering the historical aspect of the building.



#### **ICOMOS Methodology**



therefore heavy-handed conservation measures or inadequate safety levels.


### METHODOLOGICAL CONSISTENCY

### DIAGNOSIS



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The peculiarity of heritage structures, with their complex history, requires the organisation of studies and analysis in steps that are similar to those used in medicine. Anamnesis, diagnosis, therapy and controls, corresponding respectively to the condition survey, identification of the causes of damage and decay, choice of the remedial measures and control of the efficiency of the interventions.





# We have it all 😊

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# **Experimental characterization**







### Survey and visual inspection







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# Monitoring



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### **Remedial Measures**





# What not to do (I)?







The need to understand materials, structural arrangements and construction techniques from existing buildings

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### What not to do (II)?



It is necessary to adopt adequate safety evaluation procedures (history, quantitative analysis, qualitative analysis, experimental analysis)





# **Case studies**



Swimming Pools at Leça da Palmeira, Portugal, by Álvaro Siza







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### Some of the works done (iii)



Non-destructive testing: Schmidt hammer and color analysis



**Timber characterization** 

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### Some of the works done (iv)



Cement paste characterization: Thermogravimetry, nanoindentation, X-ray analysis and diffraction, scanning electron microscopy, mercury intrusion porosimetry isise Institute for Sustainability and Innovation in Structural Engineering

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### Some of the works done (v)



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### Repair approach #1 (i)







Displaced fragment, volume loss and biological colonization

Large volume loss and shrinkage / thermal movement Institute for Sustainability and Innovation in Structural Engineering



### Repair approach #1 (ii)



Wooden molds



Replicating original formwork



Materials: Sand, gravel, yellow granite powder, black limestone powder, pigments, natural and Portand cement

![](_page_46_Picture_8.jpeg)

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### Repair approach #1 (iii)

![](_page_46_Picture_14.jpeg)

Selection of the sample by Arch. Álvaro Siza

![](_page_46_Figure_16.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_17.jpeg)

### Repair approach #1 (iv)

![](_page_47_Picture_3.jpeg)

Cleaning and biocide

![](_page_47_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_6.jpeg)

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# <image>

Stainless steel installation

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### Repair approach #1 (vi)

![](_page_48_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_4.jpeg)

Mold, silicon paper and mortar filling

![](_page_48_Picture_6.jpeg)

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### Repair approach #1 (vii)

![](_page_48_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_11.jpeg)

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# Repair #2 (i)

![](_page_49_Picture_3.jpeg)

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### Repair #2 (ii)

![](_page_49_Picture_8.jpeg)

Repair #2 (iii)

![](_page_50_Picture_3.jpeg)

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### Repair #2 (iv)

![](_page_50_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_13.jpeg)

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### Repair #2 (v)

![](_page_51_Picture_3.jpeg)

(c)

![](_page_51_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_8.jpeg)

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Repair #2 (vi)

![](_page_51_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_51_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_52_Picture_0.jpeg)

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### **Description**

□ Large size building with in plan dimensions (main body 110 x15 m<sup>2</sup>) and 5 storeys (floor level + 4 storeys)

![](_page_52_Figure_5.jpeg)

- RC slabs and inner walls and ashlar granite masonry in exterior walls
- □ One of the first RC buildings in Braga (1930's)
- □ 5th floor with concrete floor with no use of attic
- 3rd and 4th floors originally for students dorms. Slabs supported in transverse beams, supported in external walls. Infill walls in RC (storey 2 / 5)

![](_page_52_Picture_11.jpeg)

# **Description (I)**

![](_page_53_Picture_3.jpeg)

Main façade

![](_page_53_Picture_5.jpeg)

Typical corridor (Level 2, 3 and 4)

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Non-aligned walls and beams

![](_page_53_Picture_8.jpeg)

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# **Description (II)**

![](_page_53_Picture_13.jpeg)

Hall at level 0 (span of 13 m)

![](_page_53_Picture_15.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_16.jpeg)

Irregularities

![](_page_53_Picture_18.jpeg)

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![](_page_54_Figure_2.jpeg)

### **Safety Assessment of Slabs**

- New use: Upper levels (3 and 4) to be used as archive, while lower levels (1 and 2) to remain as school. Very high loads planned (11 to 15 kN/m<sup>2</sup>)
- Slabs with be OK for previous use. Strengthening needed for new use (half of the required reinforcement). A set of HEB 100 placed transversely to the cell, supported in a L 80x80 and a new timber board would be necessary (700 euro per cell).

![](_page_54_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_55_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Safety Assessment of Full Building (IV)

![](_page_56_Figure_3.jpeg)

Load combination 1.35G+1.35Q and displacement at mid span (Level 2)

![](_page_56_Figure_5.jpeg)

Progressive separation between Level 2 beams and walls

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![](_page_56_Figure_8.jpeg)

Typical steel struss at roof level

![](_page_56_Picture_10.jpeg)

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![](_page_57_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_3.jpeg)

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# Social Housing, Porto, Portugal

### **Description**

- Municipality of Porto is the largest landlord in Portugal (43 neighborhoods, 40.000 tenants)
- 21 neighborhoods have been built around 1960's with reinforced concrete / structural masonry systems. Original design projects, if any, cannot be found. They include 4500 balconies
- □ The usual configuration includes three types of balconies: in open staircases; inside flats; open long galleries

![](_page_58_Picture_6.jpeg)

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### Accident

□ An accident occurred: collapse of one balcony with 3 injured

![](_page_58_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_15.jpeg)

### **Phase I - Inspection**

![](_page_59_Picture_3.jpeg)

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![](_page_59_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Figure_2.jpeg)

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### Phase II – Strengthening Case 1 – Details

![](_page_60_Figure_7.jpeg)

# Phase II – Strengthening Case 1 – Execution

![](_page_61_Picture_3.jpeg)

Staircase (go down)

![](_page_61_Picture_5.jpeg)

Staircase (go up): Upper view

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![](_page_61_Picture_7.jpeg)

Lower view

![](_page_61_Picture_9.jpeg)

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### Preservation of Historic Structures: Methodology, Safety Assessment and Practice P.B. Lourenço | 124 Phase III – Balcony with **Steel Plates** Ancoragem tipo HIT-HY 150 •HIT-V-F (5.8), M16 Ancoragem tipo HET-HY 150 M +HET-V (5.8), M16 **Studied solutions: External steel solution** Argamassa de epoxy Epo SikaDur-30 (e#2 a 5 Steel profiles placed in the lower part of the slab -ragem tipo HET-HY 150 MA Ancoragem tipo HIT-HY 150 M +HIT-V (5.8), M16 Notes: **Steel protection** Welding control (before EN1090)

![](_page_61_Picture_12.jpeg)

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# Phase III – Balcony with Steel Plates – Execution

![](_page_62_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_6.jpeg)

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### Phase III – Running balcony

	<u>= </u>	stand barrata ba	
		1	
	FI Fand	ge-	
		P	
linexernation	iniziari di come		 accoccel

Nailing with and without socket Notes:

Spacers Injection inlet / outlet

![](_page_62_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Figure_15.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_16.jpeg)

# Phase III – Vertical staircase

		FIII		HH-	l h	
			9 9		h	
	tim Fl		al or		[ h	
		7	(and the second			
				COLUMN STATES		

![](_page_63_Figure_4.jpeg)

### Staircase ramps (ascending / descending)

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# Phase III – Vertical staircase – Execution

![](_page_63_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Picture_11.jpeg)

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![](_page_64_Figure_2.jpeg)

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### Phase III – Isolated Staircase – Execution

![](_page_64_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_10.jpeg)

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![](_page_65_Picture_0.jpeg)

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# **Cathedral of Porto**

![](_page_65_Picture_5.jpeg)

### Selected Aspects of the Works (I)

![](_page_66_Picture_3.jpeg)

Remedial measures in the roof structures included cleaning, application of biocide, application of preservation products, consolidation, strengthening and local replacement

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### Selected Aspects of the Works (II)

![](_page_66_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_10.jpeg)

Replacement of the ceramic tiles including new anchors, traditional eaves, strengthening in the corners, introduction of under-roof sheating and walkways.

### Selected Aspects of the Works (III)

![](_page_67_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_67_Picture_5.jpeg)

Remedial measures for stone, including removal of biological activity, dry and low pressure water cleaning, localised consolidation...

![](_page_67_Picture_7.jpeg)

...application of water repellents, reconstitution of voids, crack closure and injection, replacement of iron ties, and, exceptionally, replacement of stone pieces.

![](_page_68_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_68_Picture_5.jpeg)

Repair of grilles and all iron elements included control of anchors and new anchors, and measures for proper rainwater flow, plus protection against further corrosion

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![](_page_68_Picture_9.jpeg)

Physical protection of the granite stone include sheeting in the external horizontal planes and installation of a electrical anti-pigeon system.

![](_page_69_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Selected structural Issues

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### **Structural Issues. Towers**

![](_page_69_Picture_5.jpeg)

**North Tower** 

South Tower

![](_page_70_Figure_2.jpeg)

### **Visual inspection**

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![](_page_70_Picture_6.jpeg)

### Ties heavily stressed, deformed and broken

![](_page_70_Picture_8.jpeg)

Severe cracking and bulging (lack of integrity and outer leaf loose)

![](_page_71_Figure_2.jpeg)

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![](_page_71_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_71_Picture_6.jpeg)


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# **Getty SRP**

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Cusco, 1950

Pisco, 2007



Misca, 2014





# Seismic Retrofitting Project (SRP), after GSAP Seismic Stabilization of Historic Structures (1990–96)

PHASE I: RESEARCH FEASIBILITY PROTOTYPES PEER REVIEW GROUP NDT: PROSPECTIONS SURVEY AND GRAPHICS THERMO-IMAGING CONSTRUCTION ASSESSMENT PHASE II: ANALYSIS, TESTING AND DESIGN STATIC AND DYNAMIC TESTS MODELING ANALYSIS NUMERICAL MODELING PROTOTYPES STRUCTURAL BEHAVIOUR TRADITIONAL RETROFITTING HIGH-TECH RETROF.TECHNIQUES TECHNIQUES **RETROF.TECHNIQUES** NUMERICAL MODELING PROTOTYPES RETROFITTED PHASE III: DISSEMINATION WORKSHOPS TECHNICAL GUIDELINES MANUALS FOR IMPLEMENTATION PHASE IV: IMPLEMENTATION MODEL CONSERVATION PROJECT

# **Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles**

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### **Prototype buildings**

Church of Kuño Tambo







Casa Arones



Hotel El Comercio







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# Structural description and damage



# Church of Kuño Tambo (KT)

- Built in 17<sup>th</sup> century
- Valuable mural paintings

#### **Structure**

- Single nave with a sacristy and a baptistery
- Adobe walls with rubble stone base course
- Buttresses
- Single gable timber roof
- Timber ties and wall plates

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# Church of Kuño Tambo (KT)



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**Damage** 

- Vertical cracks
- Loss of material
- Deterioration

#### **Diagnosis**

- Earthquakes
- Settlements
- Lack of maintenance





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# Ica Cathedral (IC)

Built in 18<sup>th</sup> century, national monument since 1982

#### **Structure**

- External masonry envelope (rubble stone, fired brick, rubble stone)
- Internal timber frame (quincha technique)





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# Ica Cathedral (IC)



- Collapse of the roof system
- Vertical cracks
- Loss of material
- Deterioration

#### Diagnosis

- Earthquakes in 2007 (MW 7.9-8.0) and in 2009 (MW 5.8)
- Lack of maintenance







# Strengthening

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# Methodology







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Instra Strengthened model

Unli

0.12

lodel-1 Model-2

Model-3

nited timber

0.16

0.20

Failure mechanism in terms of tensile strains

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#### **Pushover analysis (IC)**

Seismic capacity higher than 0.5 0.45 the design PGA (0.45g) 0.4 S-N STRENGTHENING 0.35 N CURRENT STATE Out-of-plane bending 0.3 Step value (g) 0.28 0.25 mechanism, activating both the 0.2 longitudinal walls 0.15 0.1 Damage more distributed in the 0.05 0.15 0.2 0.05 0.1 north-west corner Horizontal displacement (m) Current state Strengthening schem Failure mechanism in terms of tensile strains



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# Important message ©



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# Wrong doing...



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# Wrong doing...



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# Hopefully doing right...



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# **Conclusions & Prospects**

- □ Conservation of the built heritage is the present of construction in Europe and will gain increasing relevance in the world context
- □ The safety assessment of heritage buildings poses a strong demand on structural engineering skills and adopted structural analysis techniques
- □ Structural conservation is an exciting topic, challenging engineers and architects to think out of the box and go beyond standard practices





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Tube https://www.youtube.com/user/isisehms