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Best Practice

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Certification: Registered Roof Consultant (RRC), Roof Consultants

Institute, and Registered Waterproofing Consultant (RWC)



Overview:

- CEO and Senior Principal at Allana Buick & Bers.
- Former Turner Construction Employee (Project Engineering and Superintendent)
- Over 37 years experience providing superior technical standards in all aspects of building technology and energy efficiency.
- Principal consultant in forensic investigations of building assemblies, failure analysis, evaluation and design of building infrastructure and building envelope evaluation and design.
- Expert in all aspects of building envelope technology.
- Completed numerous new construction, addition, rehabilitation, remodel and modernization projects for public and private sector clients.
- Specialization in siding, roofing, cement plaster, wood, water intrusion damage, window assemblies, storefronts, below grade waterproofing, energy efficiency, solar engineering and complex building envelope and mechanical assemblies.



ABBAE Firm Overview

- Allana Buick & Bers (ABBAE) is an Architectural Engineering firm specializing in Building Envelope Systems
- ABBAE is one of the 5 largest building envelope consultants in the country
- ABBAE has over 33 years of experience & over 12,500 projects
- ABBAE is also a leading Forensic Defect firm with hundreds of forensic projects (litigation)
- Locations 16 offices across California, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Virginia, Washington, Colorado and Hawaii



Staff & In-House Expertise

- Licensed Professional Engineers Civil, Structural, and Mechanical
- Registered Architects
- Building Enclosure Commissioning Process Providers (BECxPs)
- Registered Building Envelope Consultant (RBEC)
- Registered Roofing Consultants (RRCs)
- Registered Waterproofing Consultants (RWCs)
- Registered Exterior Wall Consultant (REWCs)

- Registered Roof Observers (RROs)
- Certified Exterior Insulation and Finish System (EIFS) inspectors
- Curtain Wall Specialists
- ICC Certified Building Inspectors
- Quality Assurance Monitors
- Water Testing Experts
- Leak Investigation and Diagnosis Experts
- Infrared Imaging and Nuclear Moisture Scanning Experts



ABBAE Building Expertise

- Building Envelope Systems
 - Roofing Systems
 - High-Slope/Low-Slope Roofs
 - Green/Garden Roofs
 - Drainage Systems
 - Pedestrian Plazas
 - Exterior Wall Systems
 - Wall Cladding/Siding/GFRC/pre-cast
 - EIFS/cement plaster/stucco
 - Sheet Metal Flashings
 - Windows and Glazing Systems
 - Punched Windows
 - Curtain Wall/Window Wall Systems
 - Sliding Glass Doors
 - Skylights

- Building Envelope Systems (cont'd)
 - Roofing & Waterproofing Systems
 - Deck/Balcony/Lanai Waterproofing
 - Podium Waterproofing
 - Pool/Spa Deck Waterproofing
 - Above-Grade/Below-Grade Waterproofing
 - All types of low and steep sloped roofing
 - Commissioning BECx
 - OPR/BOD/Commissioning Plan
- Mechanical/HVAC Systems
 - HVAC design
 - Plumbing systems
 - Commissioning and testing



ABBAE Core Services

- Consulting and third-party peer review services
- Engineer of record for building envelope systems
- Contract administration services
- Inspection services (usually direct with owner)
- Air and water performance testing
- Mock-up design, observation, and testing
- Building assessments and forensic investigations
- Litigation support and expert witness services
- Educational seminars with AIA credits



Outline of Presentation

- In this seminar, we will review:
- Examples of 30+ year old sustainable traditional BUR
- Examples photos of bad roof construction contrast with proper details and methodology
- Forensic evaluation of some of the oldest PVC (18 years old) and TPO (12 years old) roofs
- Evaluation of a 12 year old SBS Roof membrane premature failure
- Case Study of a 12 year old copper roof failure and repair



Overview

- The Design-Build role that most roofing contractors assume without even knowing it.
- The difference between:
 - DESIGN DEFECTS
 - CONSTRUCTION DEFECTS
 - LACK OF ROOF MAINTENANCE
- How the 10 year statue of limitation applies to construction defects and leaks in various states.
- The difference between normal warranty and "implied" warranty.

Roofs can and do last 30+ years

- Traits of 30+ year roofs:
- Good UV protection. Gravel surfacing, renewable acrylic coating, etc.
- Good Design. Details such as drains, sleepers, base flashings, all designed to last 30+ years, not just the membrane.
- Proper slope to drain.
- Proper securement of roof and insulation
- Stable substrate such as concrete, Lt Wt Insulating Concrete, or insulation over plywood or metal.
- Protection from physical damage, excessive traffic, hail, etc.

But Most Do Not





Hot Applied Built Up Roof (BUR)

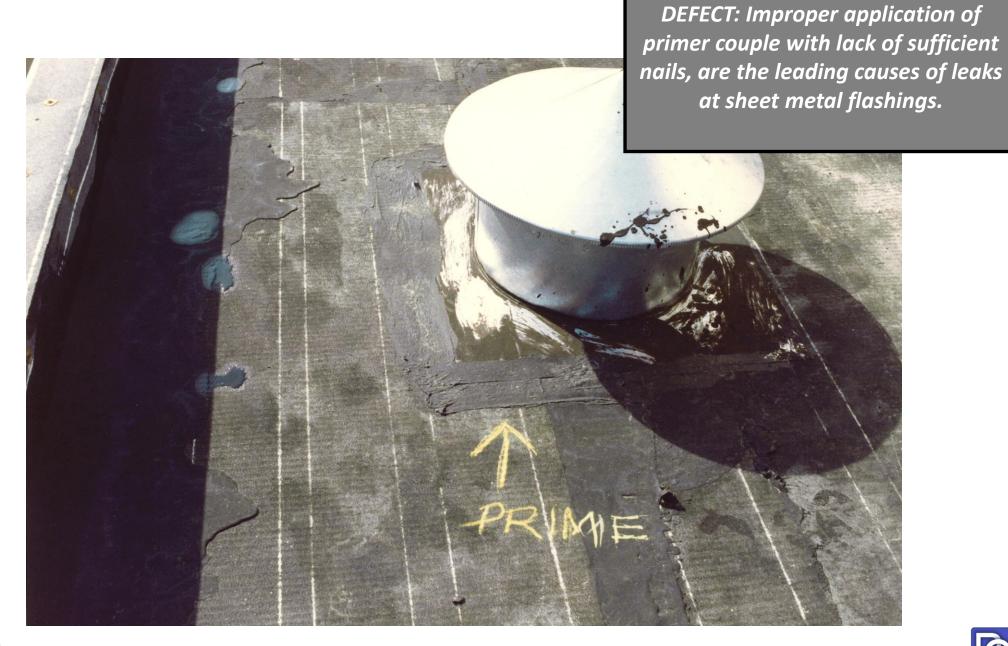




 BUR systems are field applied and quality control is essential for longevity









Edge flashing at 34 year old roof is splitting, due to improper workmanship (fastening). Embedded edge metal require fastening at 3"o.c. staggered, absence of which results in splitting at joints in metal

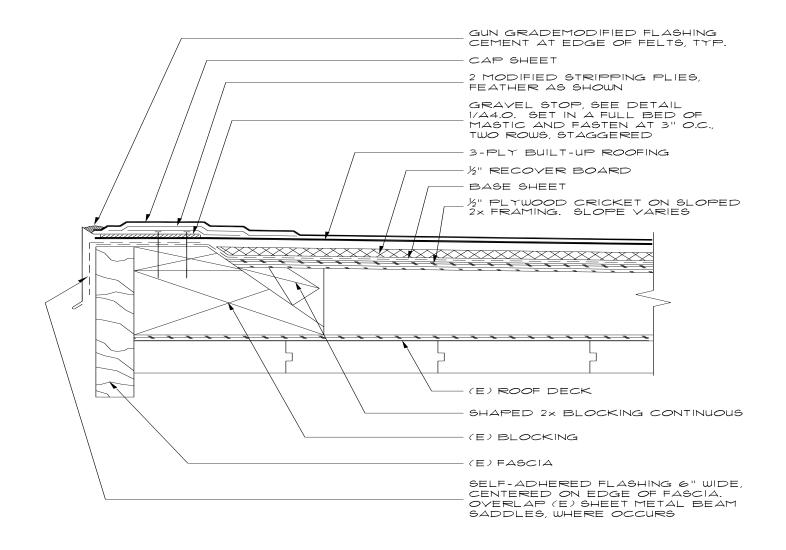


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Roofs Can Last In Excess of 30 Years But Most Do Not

- Proper design and construction includes:
- stripping in the metal with two or three plies
- priming the metal on both sides
- setting the flange in mastic on top of the membrane
- fastening the metal 3" on center.

Non-insulated Eave Metal – Built Up Roof





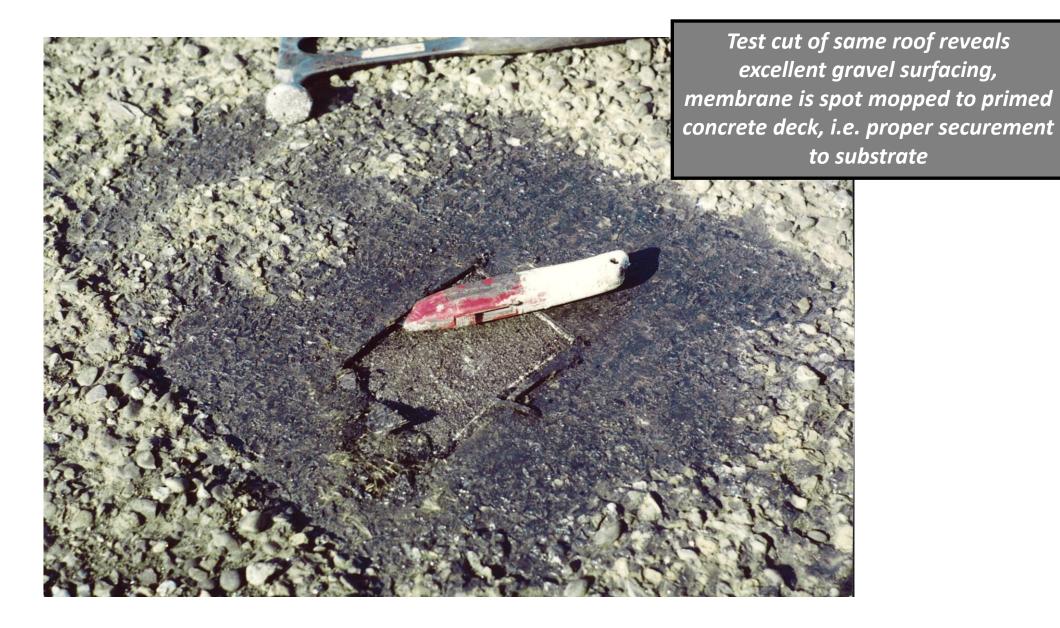
ATTACHMENT

- Proper attachment of roofing system is essential.
- Membrane attachment with mechanical fastners or with adhesion
- Insulation attachment with fastners and discs or approved adhesive over substrate
- Proper attachment of substrate





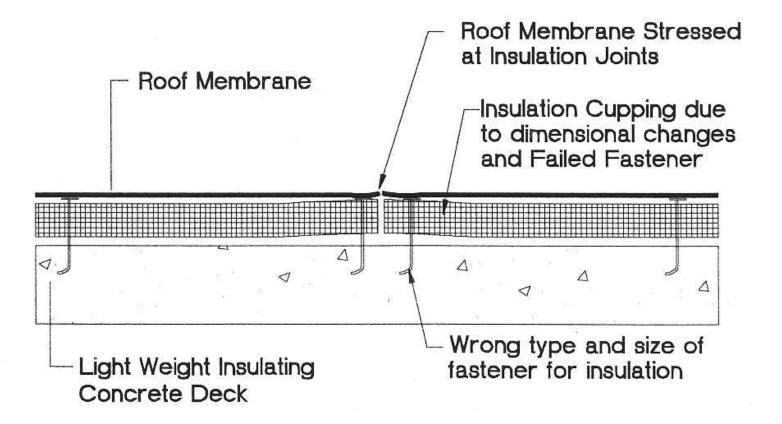












PICTURE FRAMING + ROOF SPLITTING CAUSED BY POOR FASTENING OF INSULATION BOARD TO SUBSTRATE

Proper Slope and Crickets are essential

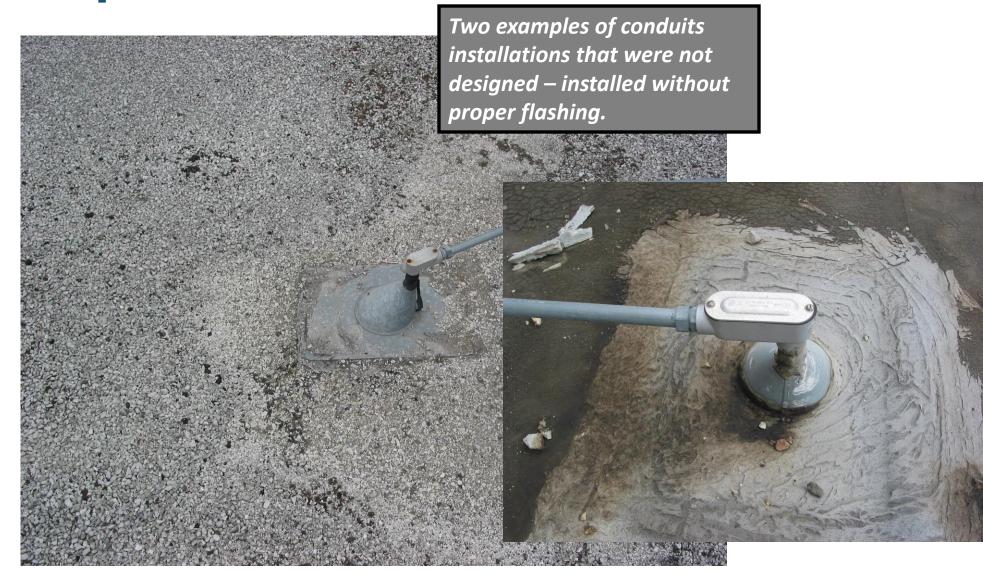


Ponding Water Leads to Deterioration

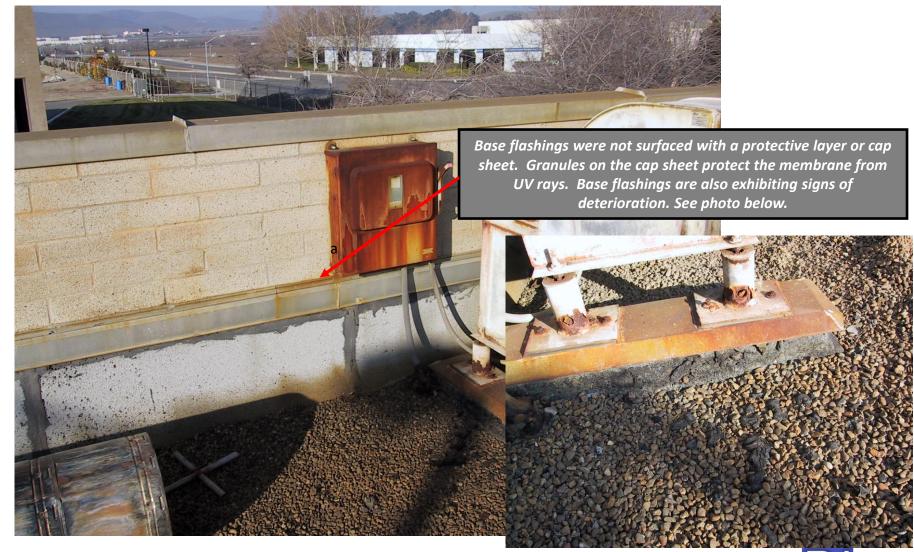




Pipe Penetrations



Base Flashing Condition

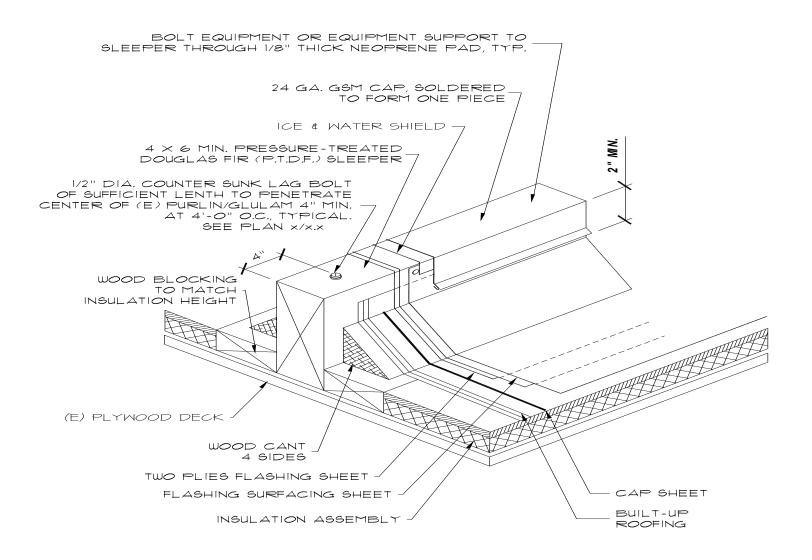


Poor Sleeper Detail





Roofing over Sleeper – Built Up Roofing

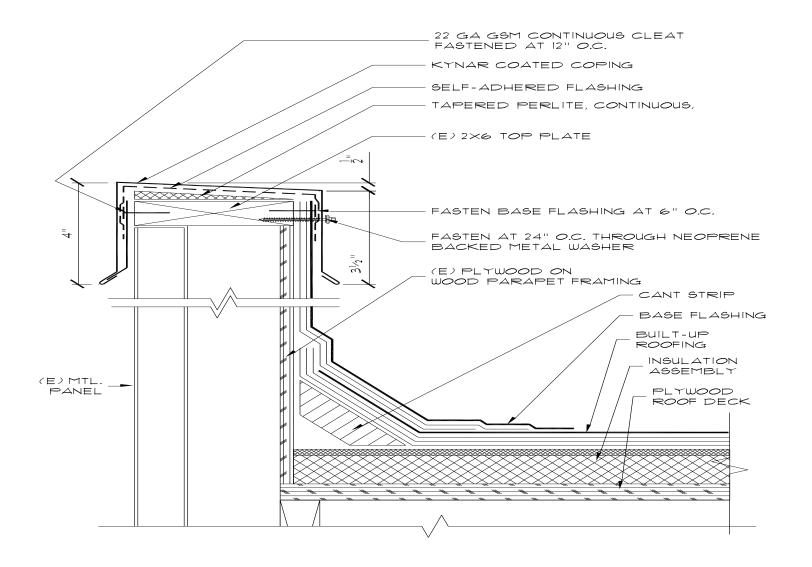




Poorly detailed and installed parapet wall

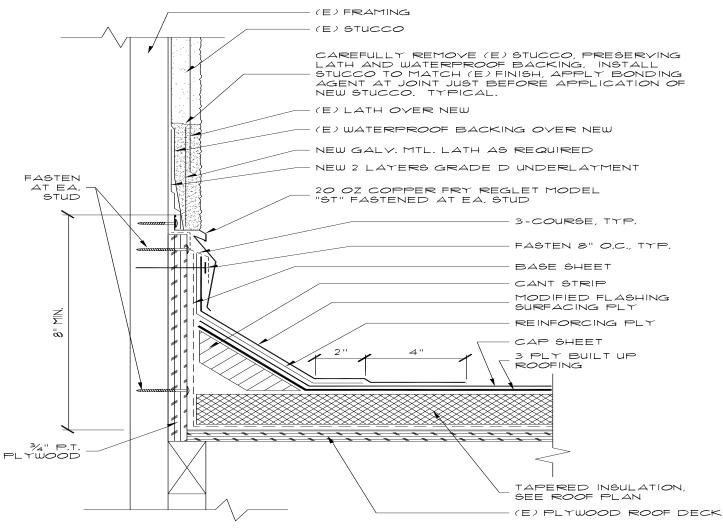


Parapet Flashing Detail – Built Up Roofing



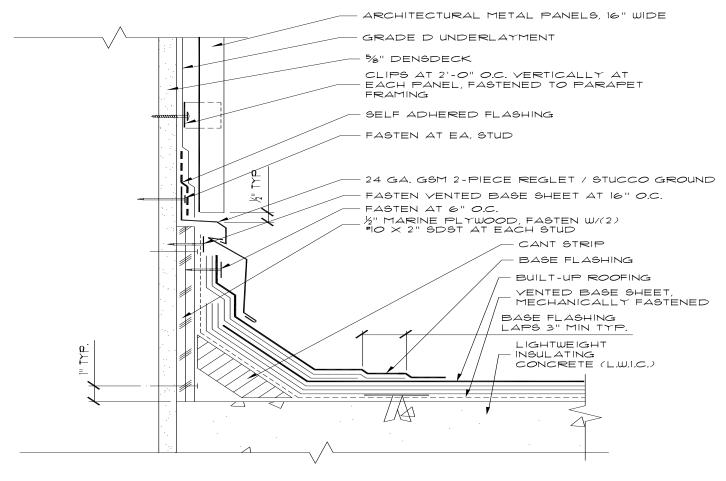


Roof to Stucco Flashing Detail – Built Up Roofing





Parapet Base to Roof Flashing – Built Up Roofing



NOTES

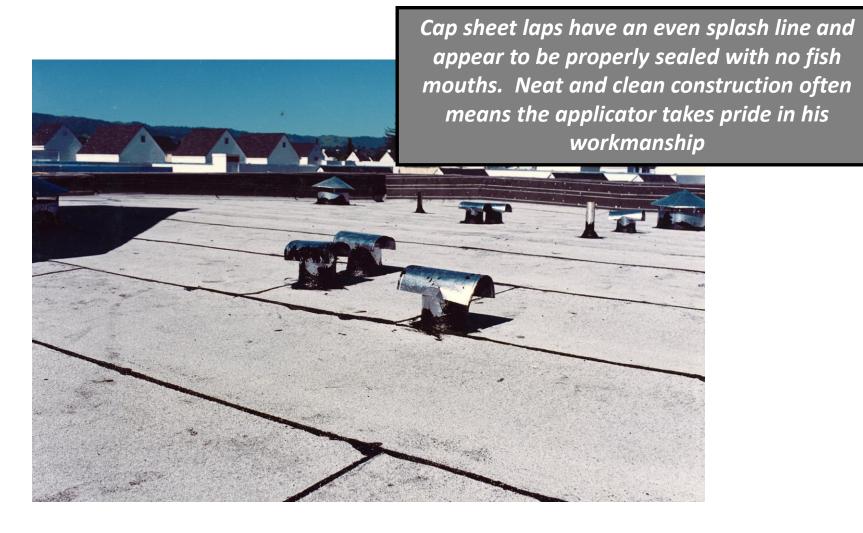
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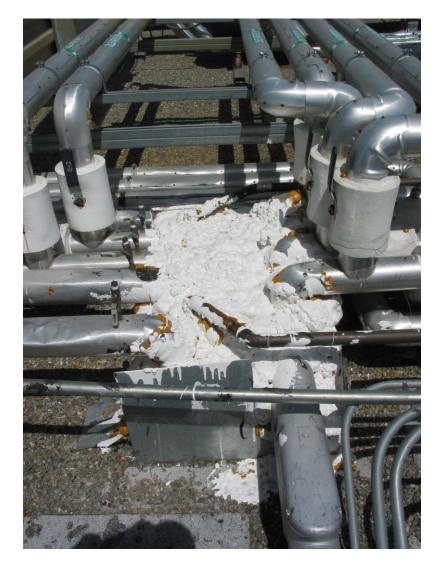


Proper material storage is critical to the overall success of the job. Materials stored improperly can absorb moisture and cause blisters.

Good Roofs Are Not Accidental



Alternative Pitch pan filler?







SBS = Poly(styrene-butadiene-styrene)

- A synthetic rubber polymer added to hot asphalt
- Thick, coated, polyester and or fiberglass reinforced sheets are factory made and applied in the field.
- SBS has low UV resistance therefore, good UV resistive surfacing or coating is essential for its success
- Applied similar to traditional BUR, with hot asphalt, cold adhesive or torch application



12 Years Old SBS Roof with Capsheet





Test Cut: Observe crazing on surface





New, Hot Applied SBS Smooth Sheet









Foam Roof Failure

Foam Roofing on an industrial Building = bad idea



Foam roof with Polyurea+Silicone Coating



Polyurea Coating, Long Term Shrinkage



Roof Defects



Roof Defects



Roof Defects

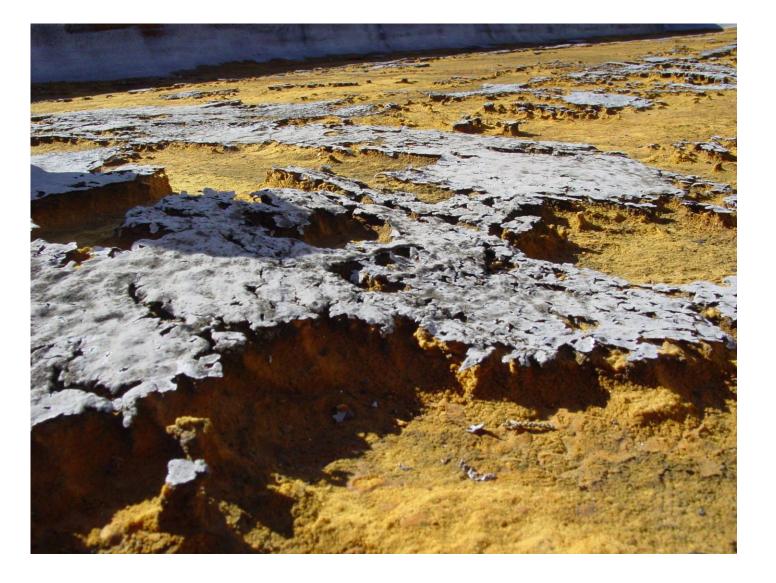


Foam roof did not receive re-coating in time





UV degradation of foam due to loss of coating













Case Overview

- Construction defect litigation case in Northern California.
- Seven (7) year old concrete tile roof.
- Many leaks visible below, in living areas.
- Visible cracks in tile.
- There were some conditions of concern:
 - Tile layout.
 - Roof to wall conditions.
 - Valley flashing.
- Asked to investigate the source of leaks.

Tile Roof Failure





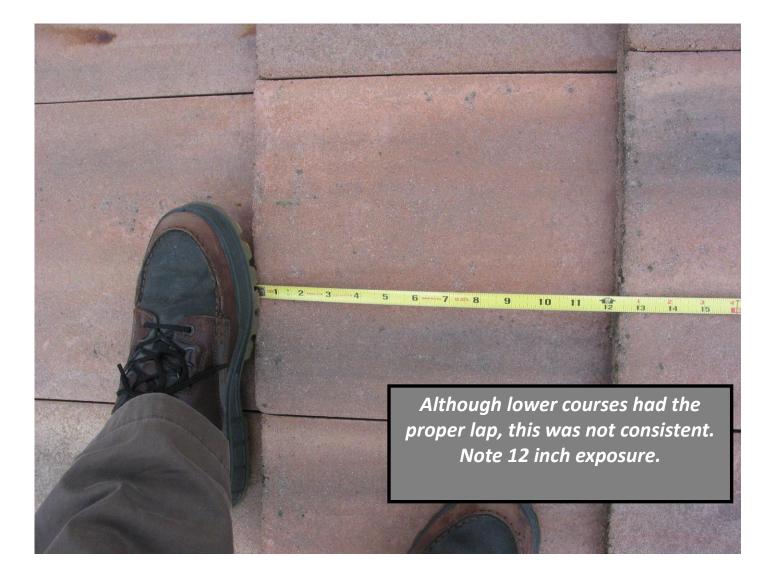


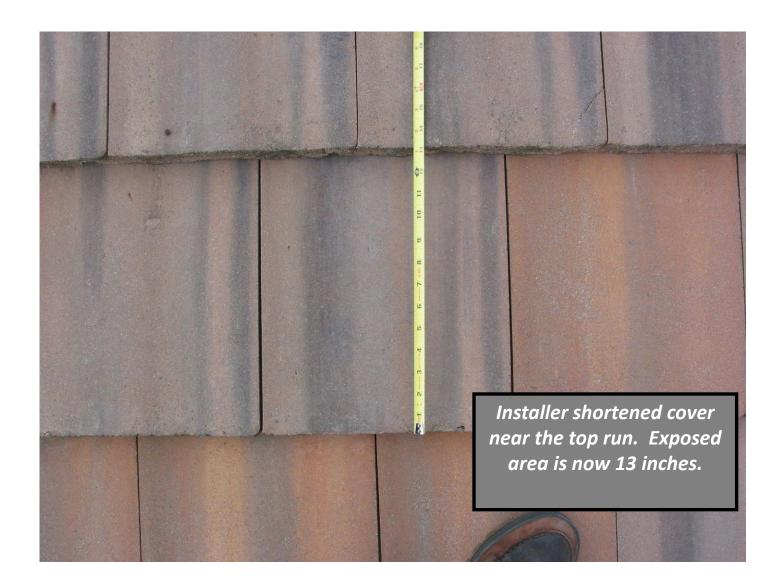


Forensic Methodology

- Review of plans and specifications.
- Visual inspection.
- Compliance with Manufacturer's published literature.
- Code compliance investigation.
- Water testing.
- Destructive testing.
- Preparation of a defect report.









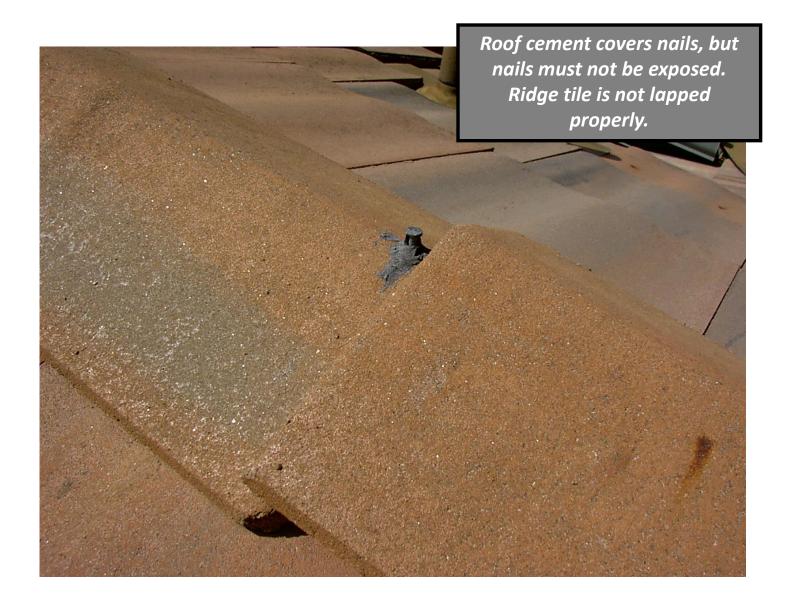








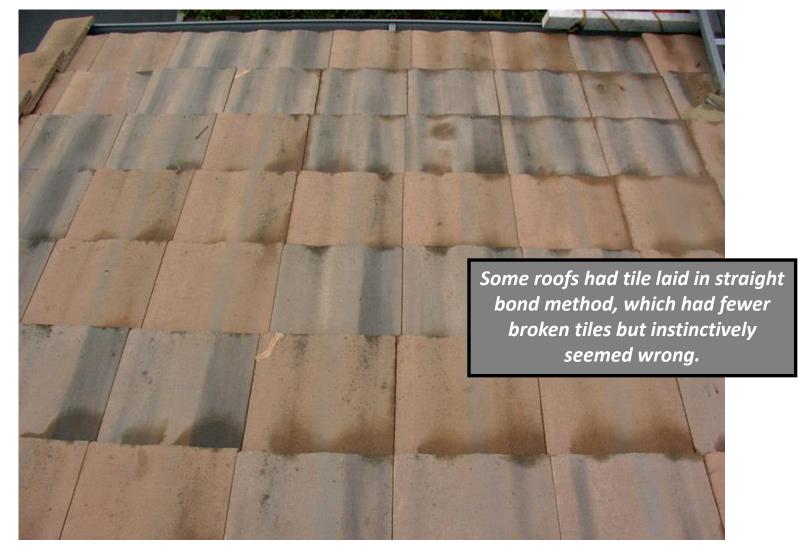
But Most Do Not











•What is the correct way to install this tile, broken bond or straight bond?

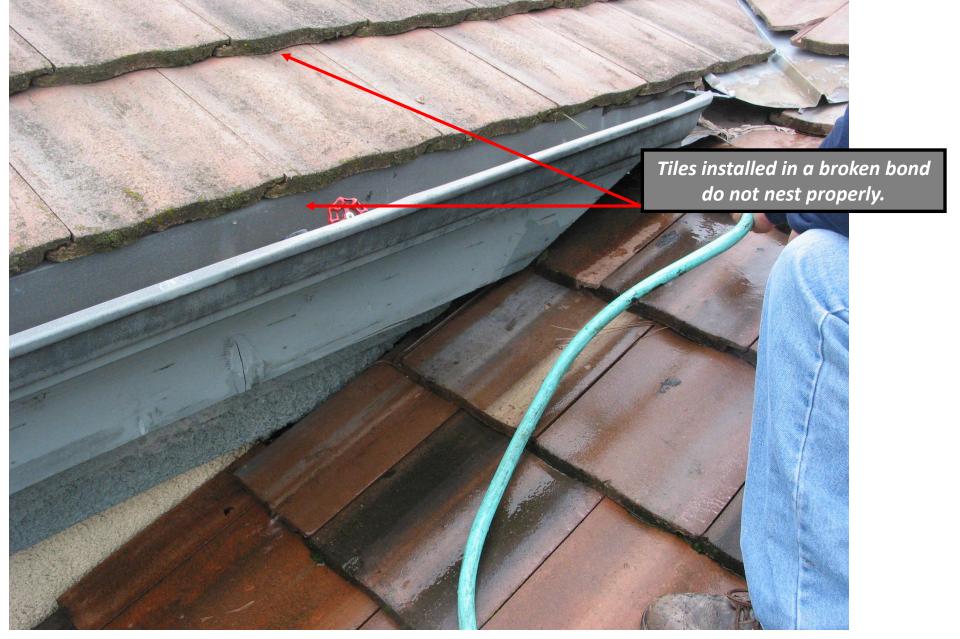


ANSWER: The manufacturer of this time recommends the straight bond method.





Joints in tile not parallel and are too close, resulting in breakage



Analysis of Leak Testing

- We knew water was leaking under the tile at broken tile corners.
- The amount of water leakage had deteriorated the felt underlayment.
- We knew the ridge was also contributing to some leakage.
- Approximately half the roof was installed in a straight bond and other half was installed in a running bond pattern.







But Most Do Not











But Most Do Not

Lessons Learned

- Tiles, even in the best of conditions, shed only 95% of water.
- Failure of flashings, layout and other problems, drop that to 80%.
- Lack of proper details creates significant leaks.
- Ignore manufacturer recommendations at your own risk!!
- Basic design was lacking flashing and other problems.
- Installation was not closely monitored for consistency.



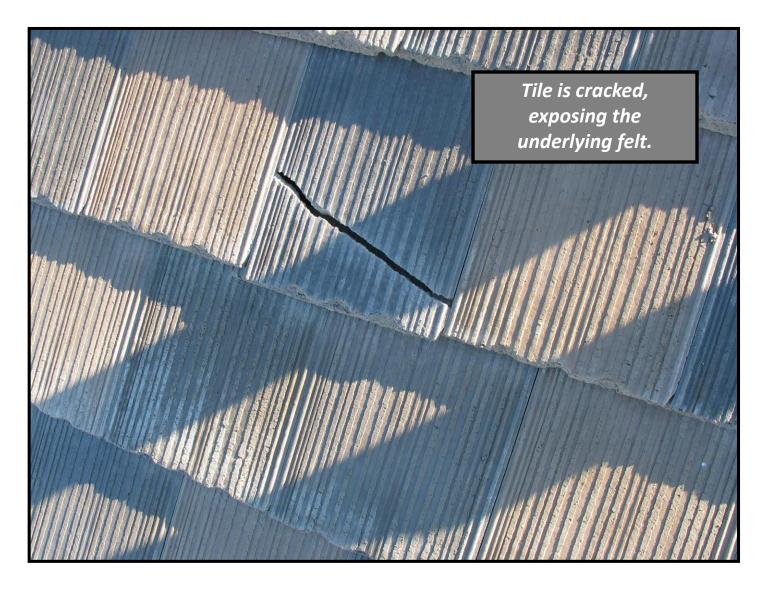


Case Study: Concrete Tile

- Construction defect litigation case for a REIT in Northern California.
- 4 year old concrete tile roof.
- Visible cracks in tile.
- There were some conditions of concern:
 - Tile layout
 - Roof to wall conditions, especially at rakes
 - Flashing installation
- We were asked to investigate the source of leaks on behalf of the new owner.

Forensic Methodology

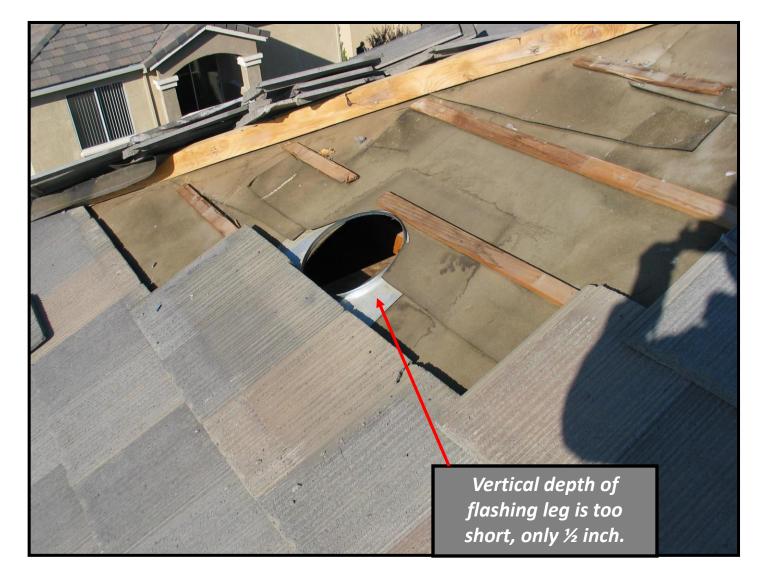
- Similar to the other concrete tile case.
- Preparation of a defect report.
- Negotiation with the seller.





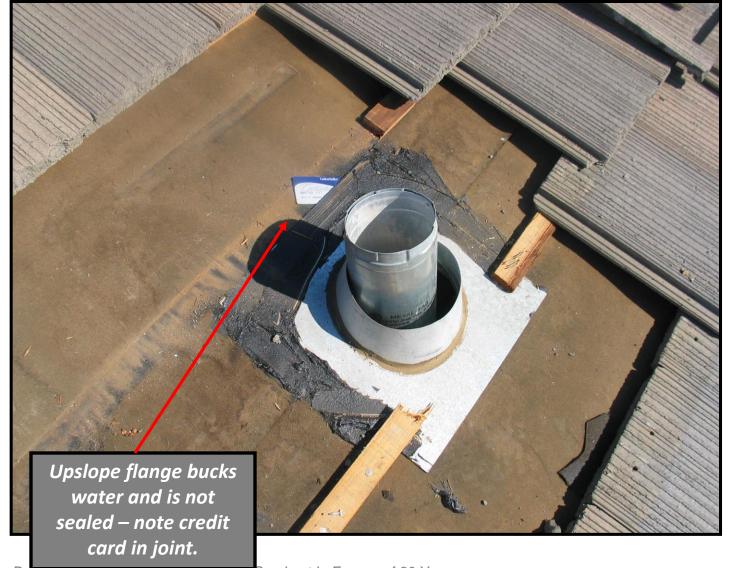


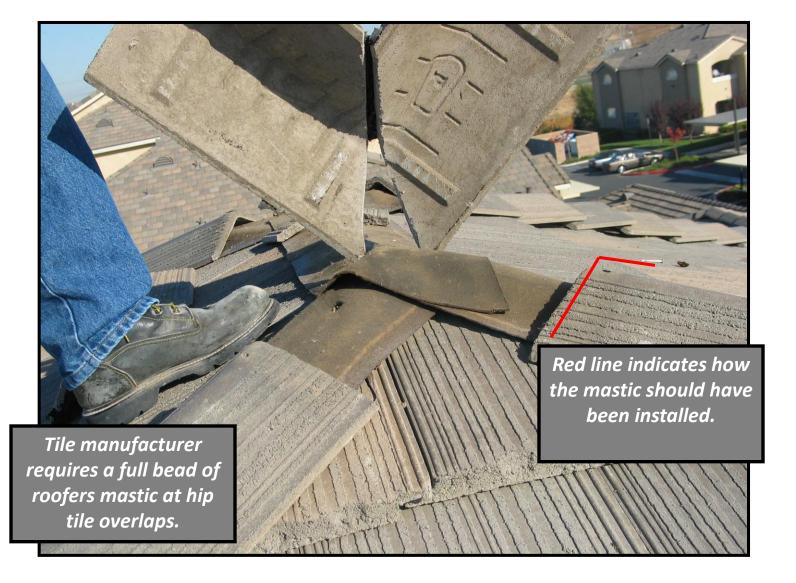










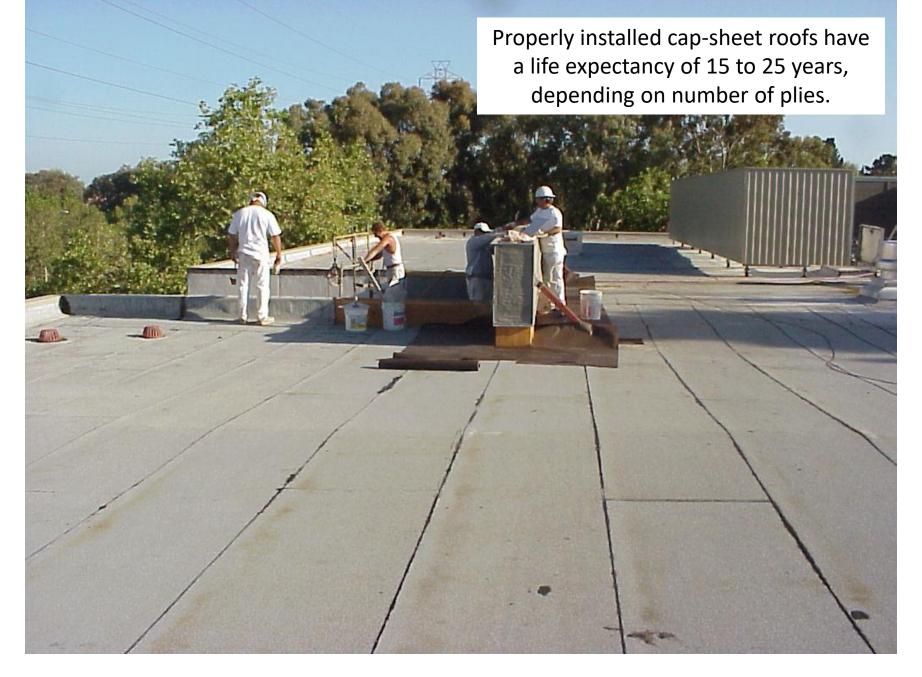


Roof Coatings

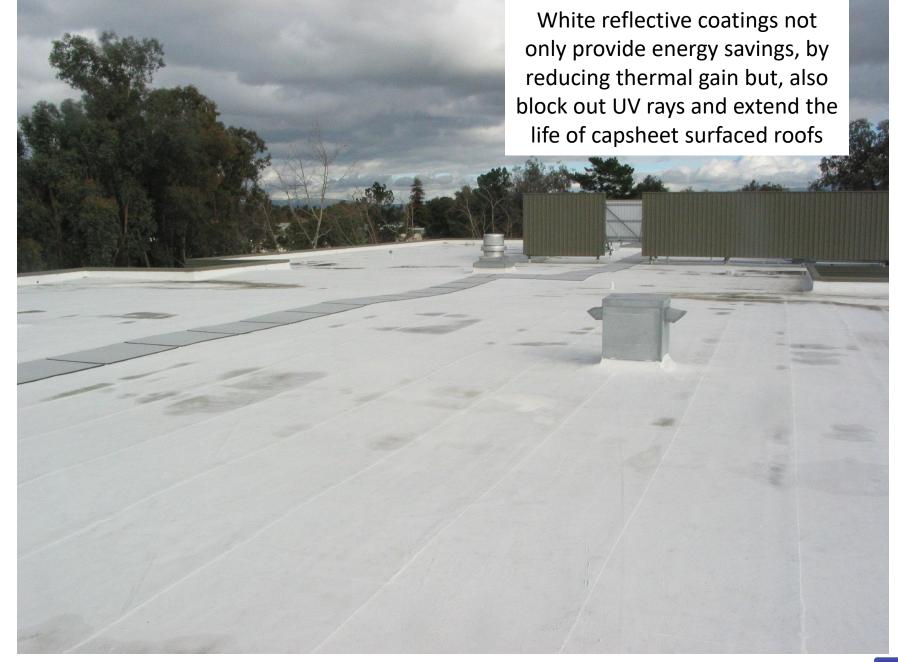


Roof Coatings Extending the life of roofs with acrylic coatings









 Properly applied white reflective coating can potentially double the life of a capsheet surfaced roof due to the added UV barrier











Acrylic coatings can also extend the life of low sloped metal

roofs



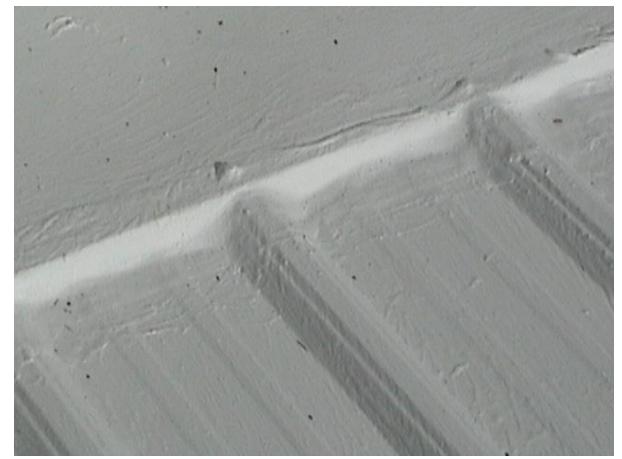


Restoration of low sloped metal roof



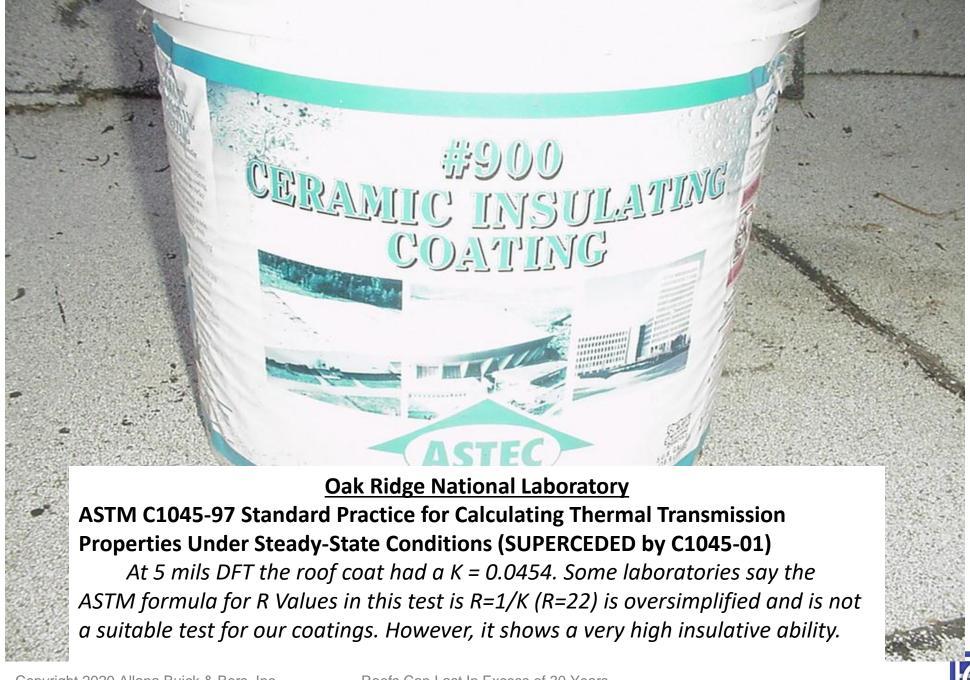


- Acrylic coating over metal are not aesthetically great.
- Coatings and reinforcement seal exposed fastners





Roofs Can Last In Excess of 30 Years
But Most Do Not







Case Overview: Department Store

- Large department store in Northern California.
- Eighteen years old.
- No repairs, no leaks, no problem?
- Purpose of the investigation: Determine longevity of single ply.
- We were with a team of other skeptical consultants.



Example of roof installed in 1983, inspected in 2001.





Forensic Methodology

- Visual inspection to observe performance of system for sustainability.
- Limited destructive testing.
- Laboratory testing of samples to compare between original membrane and aged membrane.



Sustainability Checklist

- Roof system's ability to handle foot traffic and impact damage.
- Membrane's ability to handle ponding water and condensate.
- Membrane's ability to be patched and repaired.
- Membrane's physical properties, tensile strength, thickness, bend test, etc.

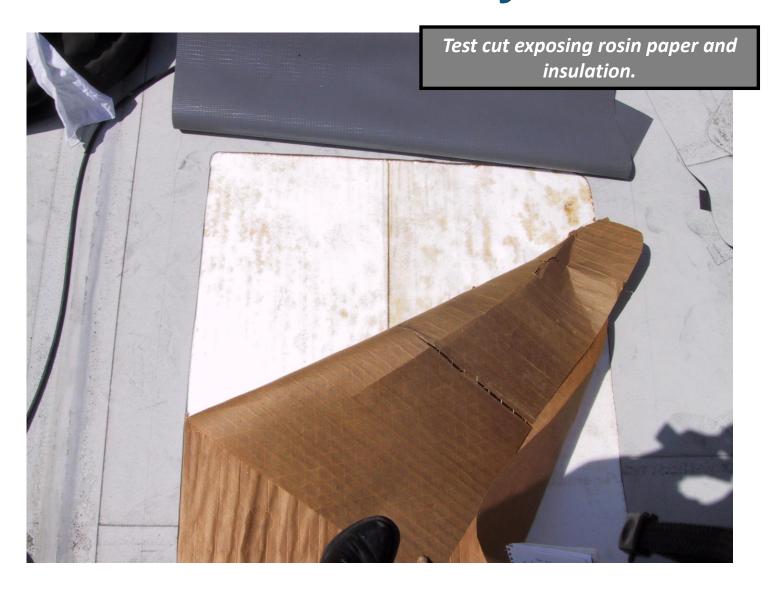


Sustainability Checklist (con't)

- Was roof system sustainable for type of use (retail store)?
- Was original design of the roof system adequate for its intended use?
- Was original application (construction) installed per manufacturer's requirements?



Test Cut Analysis













Roofs Can Last In Excess of 30 Years But Most Do Not





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Visual Analysis





Design Issue













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Roofs Can Last In Excess of 30 Years But Most Do Not

Tenant Improvement Work



New electrical pipe added, pipe jack set in mastic (not properly flashed with single ply) and wood block set in mastic (incompatible with PVC).









Laboratory Test of this 18 year old single ply

- Samples tested for thickness
- Tensile strength
- Shrinkage and dimensional change
- Seam strength
- 95%+ samples met original membrane test results



Sustainability Score

- MEMBRANE MATERIAL
 - Field areas of membrane performance good/excellent 20+ years
 - Easy to patch
- TRAFFIC AND IMPACT DAMAGE
 - Susceptible from impact damage
 - Damage easy to identify and repair



Sustainability Score

DESIGN

- Original poor design of pipe supports caused damage
- Poor design of roof drainage caused ponding water and damage
- Poor design of condensation control mechanism caused damage



Sustainability Score

MAINTENANCE

- Lack of frequent inspection
- Lack of proper roof protection during remodel construction
- Lack of proper maintenance of HVAC equipment damaged the roof
- New pipe penetrations not properly flashed (use of asphalt mastic)



Lessons Learned (Single Ply)

- Sustainability depends on many factors.
- Membrane's ability to handle normal exposure to sun, rain and elements.
- In 20+ years, expect the roof to go through many different challenges.
- When designing a roof, consider, building may undergo remodel, HVAC replacement, new electrical addition, etc.
- Impact of original design defects.
- Owner's lack of frequent inspections, timely repairs, and use of proper patching techniques.



Roofing Issues



LEGAL ISSUES TO CONSIDER

- This section will include the following:
 - Maintenance vs. Repairs
 - Life expectancies
 - Express & Implied Warranties
 - Design-Build Role of a contractor
 - Statue of Limitations for defects/leak
 - How insurance pays for leak damage



Maintenance Vs. Repairs

- ✓ Inherent construction defects, requiring repairs, are not regular maintenance!
- Construction defects are the responsibility of the builder/contractor
- Properly designed and installed roof generally require very limited maintenance.
- ✓ Know what falls outside of regular maintenance



In Order To Define What is Maintenance and What is a Defect

- Define life expectancy of roofing, sealants, windows, walls, waterproofing, painting, etc.
- Define what is maintenance and what is repair
- Leaks and repair of roofing, sealants, waterproofing, building exteriors, windows, within 10 years of completion = construction defect.



Life Expectancies...

- Sealants: 10 to 25 years
- Roofs: 10 to 40 years
- Below grade waterproofing: Life of the building
- Windows: Life of the building
- Window gaskets: 10 to 20 years
- Stucco: Life of the building
- Painting: 5 to 7 years
- Wood siding: 50 to 100 years



Owner Responsibility for Ongoing Maintenance

- Frequently Occurring Items Like:
 - Gutter cleaning.
 - Debris cleaning.
 - Annual inspection of roofs, sealants, windows, walls and exterior façade.
 - Tree trimming.
 - Low pressure power washing of roof and exteriors of building.



Owner Responsibility for Repairs on Occurrence

- Damage from trees and roots.
- Damage from cars and foot traffic.
- Damage from vandalism or abuse.
- Severe storm, earthquake, hail, hurricane, and other natural phenomena.
- Damage from oil and chemicals.



Defect – Not Maintenance

- Pipe jacks needing mastic repair because they are leaking
- Scupper needing repair due to failed solder joint
- Plies delaminating from edge flashing
- Mastic loose seams of capsheet
- Repair gravel not adhered to roof



Written warranties, per RCI:

- Warranties can provide peace of mind
- They do not replace :
 - Sound design
 - Good materials
 - Quality workmanship
 - Proper maintenance



Express Warranty

- Words Warranty & Guarantee are generally interchangeable
- Term of warranty generally stated
- An agreement usually requiring owners signature
- Warranty generally requires that application meets material manufacturer's published requirements
- Does not include consequential damage
- May not include overburden cost
- May be limited to materials only
- May depreciate in value over time



Contractor Responsibility for Defective Construction

- If a 20 year type roofing system needs "repairs" other than true maintenance for repairs.
- If 10 year sealant types need replacement or fail in less than their life expectancy.
- If windows leak in fewer than 10 years.
- If other materials that do not last their normally expected lives, and fail within the first 10 years



Requirement of Owner, per RCI:

- Provide semi-annual inspection
- Provide roof maintenance
- Report leaks in writing immediately
- Use original contractor for repairs or addition to the roof system
- Keep records of leaks and repairs
- Store all documentation safely



DESIGN BUILD ROLE OF CONTRACTOR

- In the absence of a licensed architect or engineer of record, Contractor assumes role of Design professional.
- Roofing contractor can be liable for code requirements including leaks, weight of roof, slope requirement, flashing and counterflashing, etc.
- Roofing contractor also has a responsibility to know when to call in a licensed professional



Statue of Limitation

- Most States allow for a 10 year statue of limitation for defective construction (even re-roofing)
- Most States have a 4 year statue for obvious or "patent" defects
- Most States have a 3 year Statue for hidden or "latent" defects once they become patent.



Who Pays for Damage From Leaks

- If damage occurs within the statue of limitation, contractor's insurance company is generally liable for costs to fix damage.
- "Completed Operations" portion of the insurance coverage kicks-in.
- Even if contractor goes out of business, insurance company is on the hook.



MAHALO!







Oldest TPO Roof in Country (12 years)



Metal Roofing







Case Overview

- Public library in Northern California.
- Multiple types of roofs 20 year old building.
- Been leaking since original construction.
- In 1997 Owner's original consultant believed the low sloped roof, gutters and equipment well was leaking.
- Library replaced low sloped roof with single ply, new metal roof over equipment wells and new gutter liners.
- Later, building was gutted in 2003 for remodel and upgrade for new technology.
- Extensive leaks were noticed on the walls, ceilings, along the wall to ceiling connection.
- We were asked to investigate the source of leaks and recommend solutions.





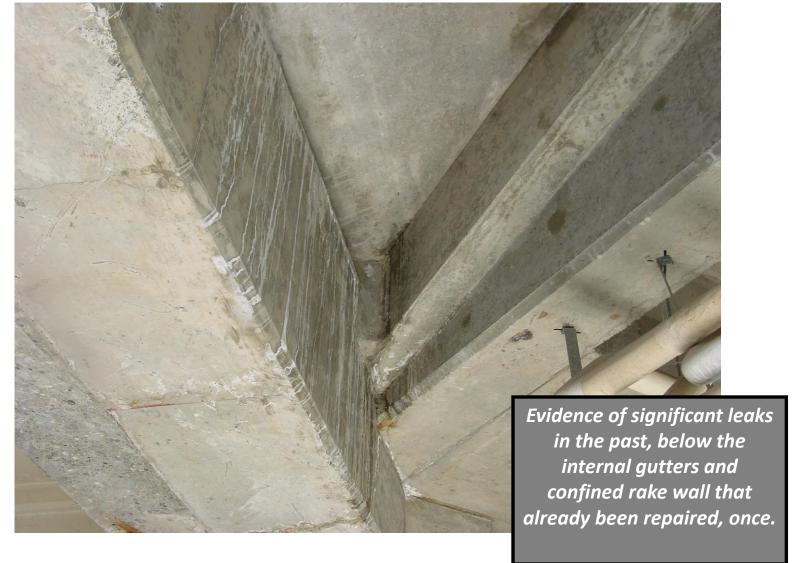




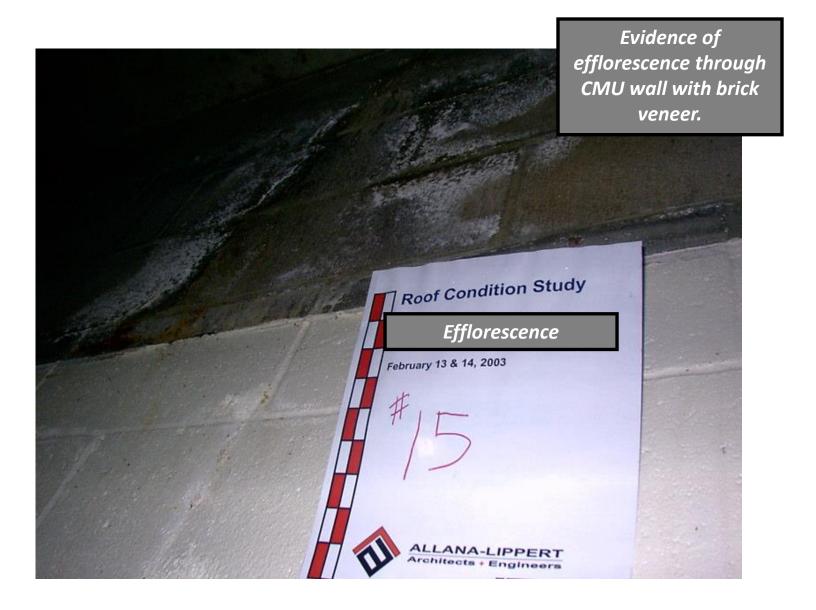










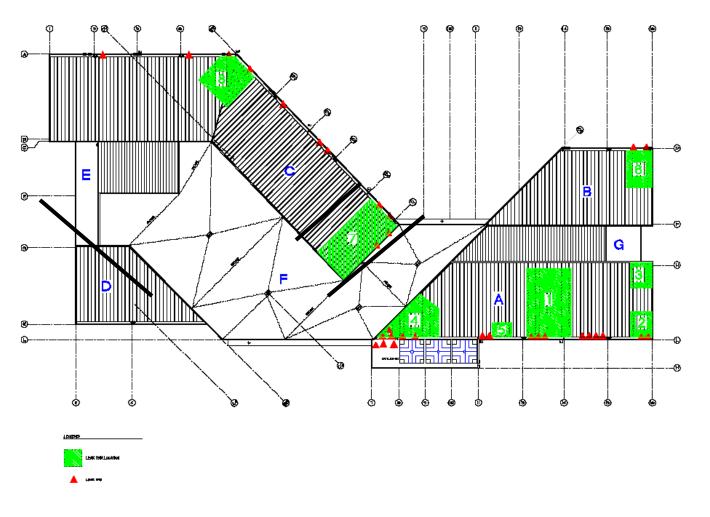








Case Overview: Public Library















Forensic Methodology

- Review plans and specifications.
- Visual inspection.
- Engineering analysis of materials.
- Code compliance investigation.
- Water testing.
- Destructive testing.
- Preparation of a defect report and budget.



Testing at Gutter

- Destructive testing.
- Water testing.
- Visual assessment.
- Measurements.







PVC gutter Liner

Original copper gutter liner

2x4 used to support copper gutter

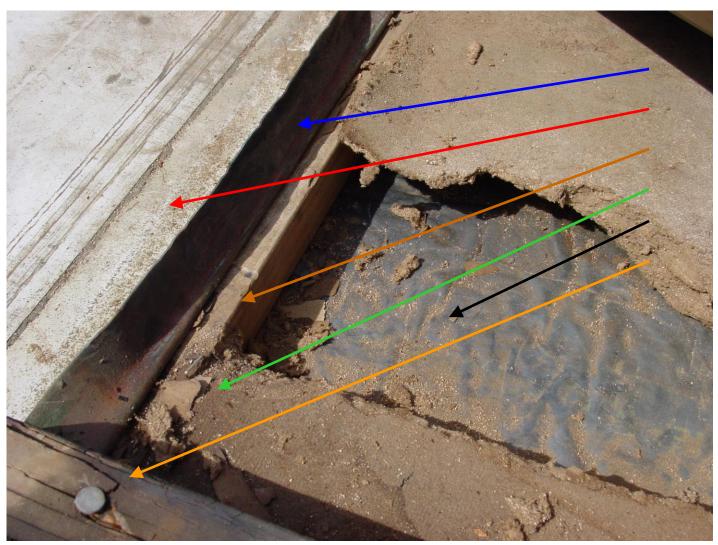
Underlayment

1.5-Inch perlite insulation





Conditions Found During Destructive Probing



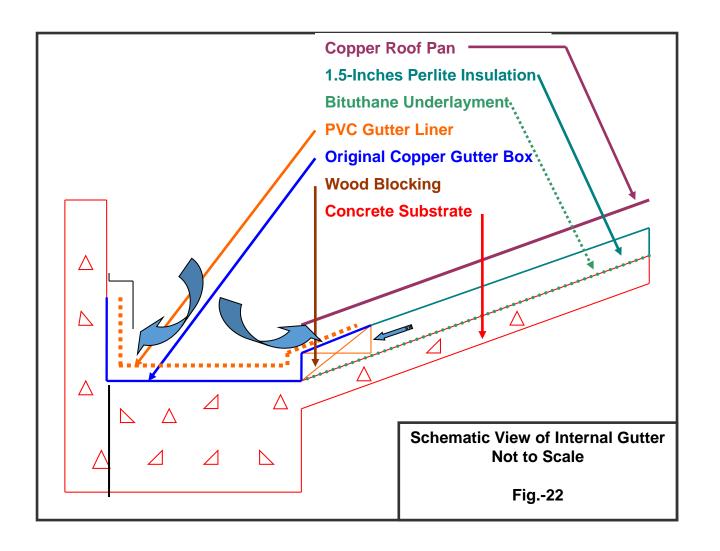
Original Copper Gutter Liner

PVC Gutter Liner Added Later
Wood Blocking
1.5-Inches Perlite

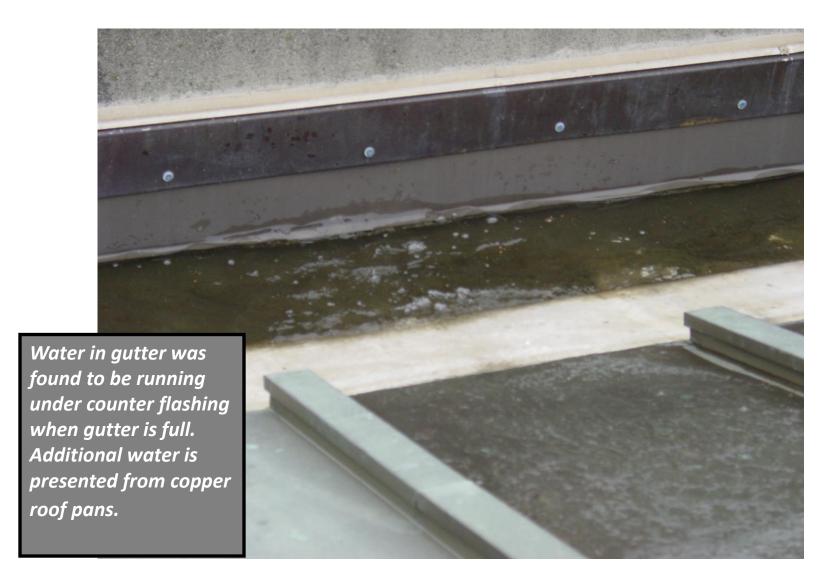
Bituthane Membrane

Wood Batten











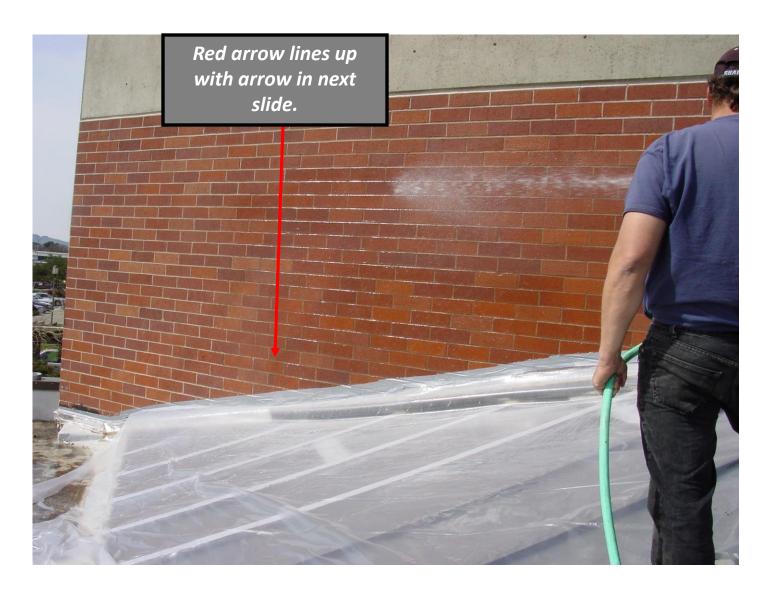
Testing at Confined Rake

- Destructive testing.
- Water testing.
- Visual assessment.
- Measurements.

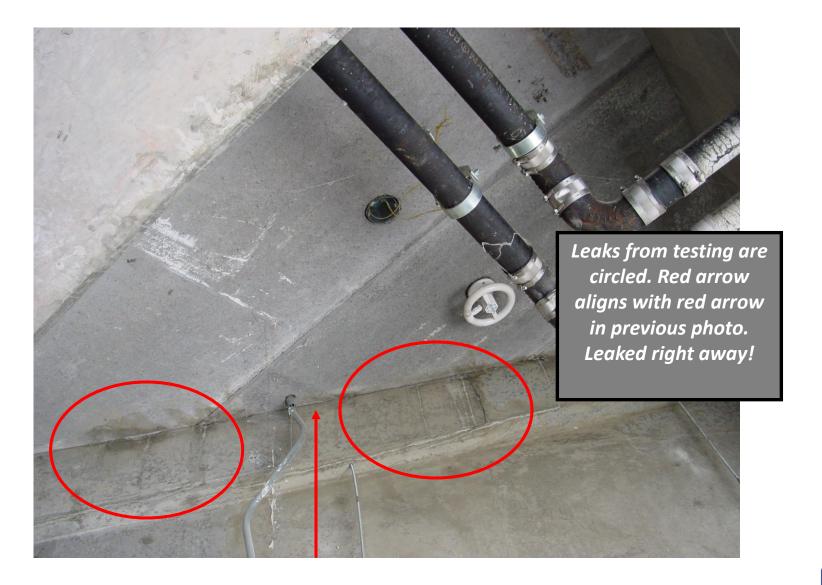




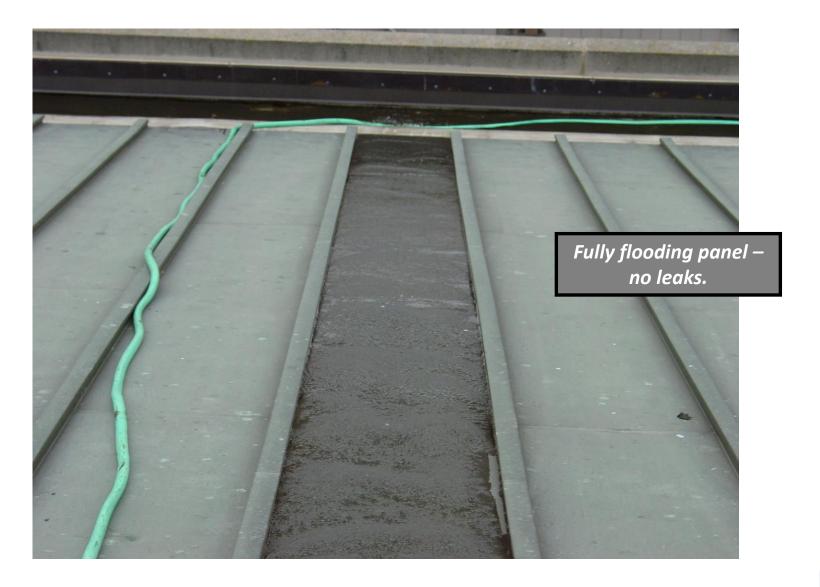














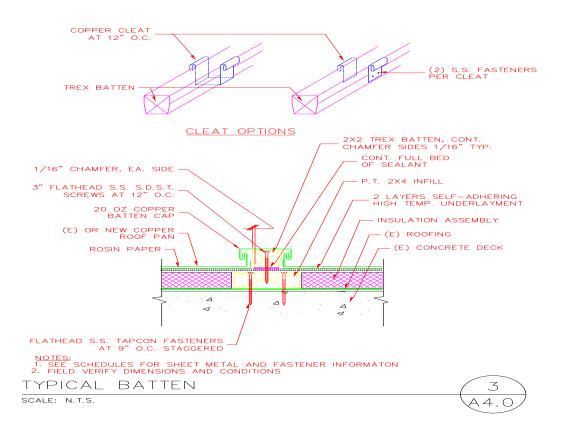






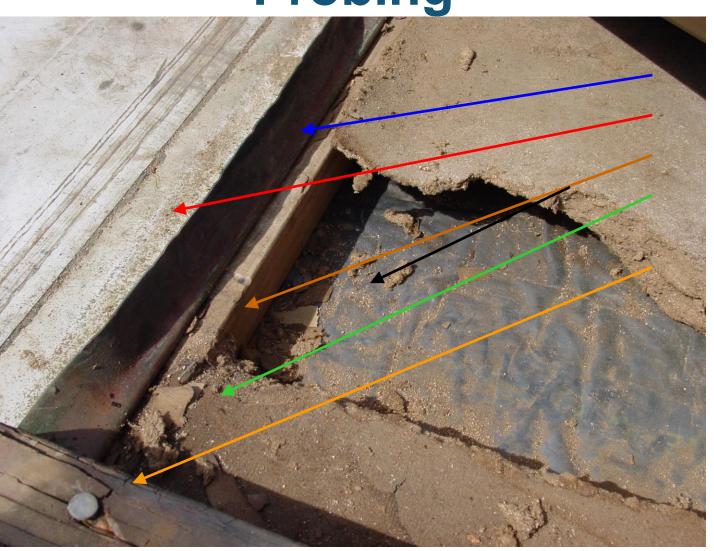


Batten Repair





Conditions Found During Destructive Probing



Original Copper Gutter Liner

PVC Gutter Liner Added Later
Wood Blocking

1.5-Inches Perlite

Bituthane Membrane

Wood Batten







Recommended Repair: Copper Roof



- Remove and store copper roof.
- Demolish flashings.
- Demolish Perlite insulation.
- Install treated wood stringers.
- Install Isocyanurate insulation.
- Apply two layers of underlayment.
- Reinstall copper (90% re-use).
- Install new copper flashings.
- Perform concurrent gutter repairs.
- 50 year life expectancy.



Recommended Repair: Internal Gutter



- Demo PVC and copper liner.
- Demo flashings.
- Cut large 8x12-inch scuppers.
- Cap existing outlet drains.
- Install concrete sloping fill.
- Install PVC gutter liner.
- Install flashings.
- Provide copper collector heads.
- Install copper downspouts.
- Provide connection to field drains.
- 50 year life expectancy.



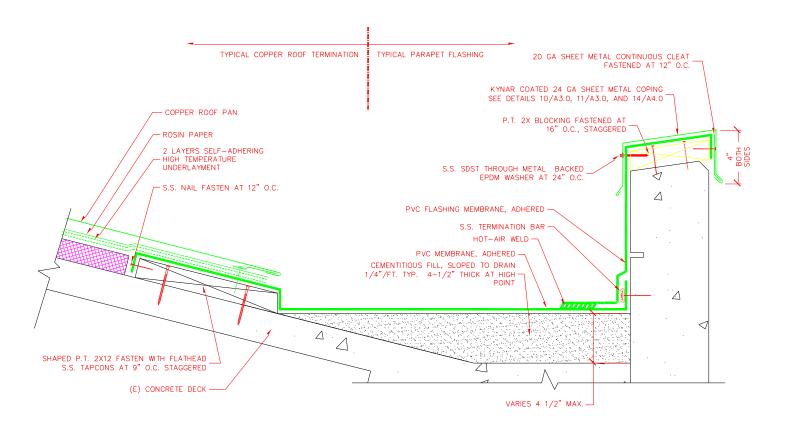
Recommended Repair: Brick Veneer Walls



- Demo brick veneer.
- Install waterproof membrane
- Install copper through-wall flashing.
- Install cavity drainage panel.
- Reinstall brick veneer.
- Use plastic weep channels.
- Provide perimeter sealant joint.



New Gutter Detail



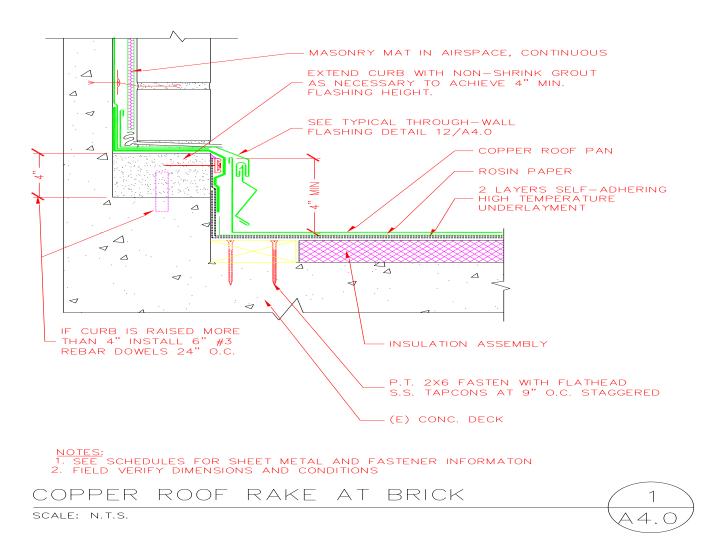
TYPICAL GUTTER SECTION

SCALE: N.T.S.

A 3.0



Brick Wall/Rake Repair





Repair Costs: Recommended Repairs

Description	Cost	Life Expectancy
Restore Copper Roof	\$ 488,000	50 Years
Rebuild Internal Gutters	\$ 47,000	50 Years
Rebuild Rising Walls	\$ 48,000	100 Years
Total Estimated Repair Cost (+/- 15%)	\$ 583,000	



Lessons Learned

- Previous studies were visual only, did not identify all the problems.
- Previous repairs were unsuccessful.
- Isolating the building components was necessary to identify source of leakage.
- The original design was also suspect (gutter design, improper placement of roof underlayment, improper design and construction of brick cavity wall).

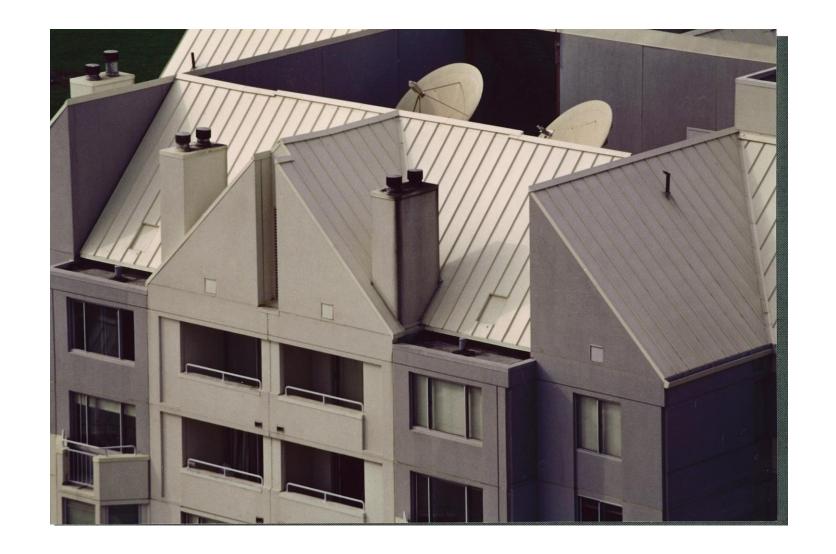












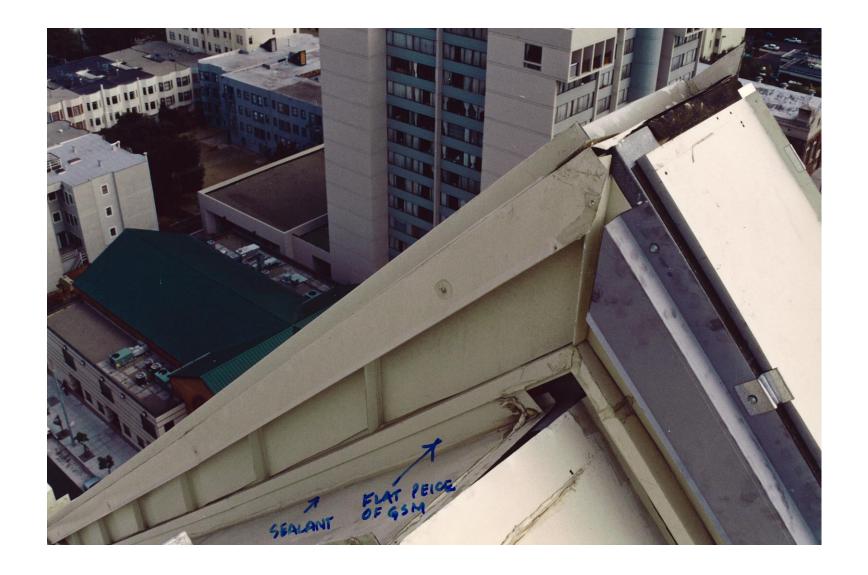




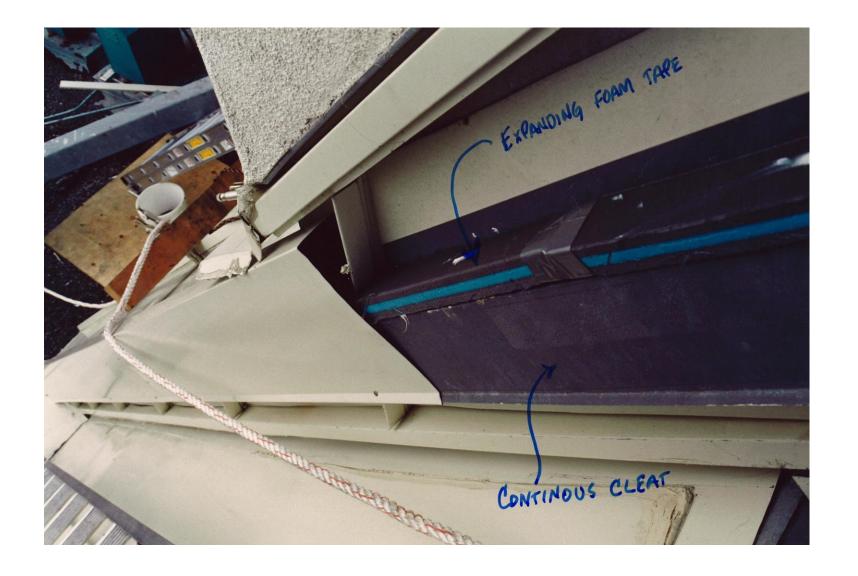














Metal Roofing



Roof Defects: Whose Responsibility?





Lessons Learned

- Again, failure to follow manufacturer recommendations.
- Basic design was lacking flashing and other problems.
- Application was not closely monitored a consistent problem with tile.



Life Expectancies...

- Sealants: 10 to 25 years
- Roofs: 20 to 30 years
- Below grade waterproofing: Life of the building
- Windows: Life of the building
- Window gaskets: 15 to 20 years
- Stucco: Life of the building
- Painting: 5 to 7 years
- Hardboard siding: 25 years



Owner Responsibility For Ongoing Maintenance

- Frequently Occurring Items Like:
 - Gutter cleaning
 - Debris cleaning
 - Annual inspection of roofs, sealants, windows, walls and exterior façade
 - > Tree trimming
 - Low pressure power washing exteriors of building



Owner Responsibility For One Time Repairs

- Damage from trees and roots.
- Damage from cars and foot traffic.
- Damage from vandalism or abuse.
- Severe storm, earthquake, hail, hurricane, and other natural phenomena.
- Damage from oil and chemicals.



Contractor Responsibility for Defective Construction

- If a 20 year type roofing system needs "repairs" other than items on two previous slides, within the first ten years.
- If 10 year sealant types need replacement or fail in less than their life expectancy.
- If windows leak in fewer than 10 years.
- If other materials that do not last their normally expected lives, and fail within the first ten years.



Evaluation

- Study historic leak and repair patterns.
- Record when seen.
- Visual observation by a trained eye.
- Leak testing, non-destructive moisture testing.
- Destructive testing

