

Preface

Building pathology is the scientific study of the nature of building failure and its causes, processes, development and consequences. In order to provide an economic and effective remedy to building defects, it is essential to identify properly the cause to address the problem.

The main purpose of this book, *New Approaches on Building Pathology and Durability*, is to provide a collection of recent research works to produce information which will assist in the effective management of service loss, to develop and evaluate methodologies for the assessment of defects and failures and to propose methodologies for the prevention and mitigation of building defects. It includes a set of new developments in the field of building physics and hygrothermal behaviour, durability approach for historical and old buildings, building pathology versus durability, service life prediction methodologies, new approaches on biocementation applied to rehabilitation, developments on different façade solutions and a several number of pathologies associated to reinforced concrete.

The book is divided into several chapters that intend to be a resume of the current state of knowledge for benefit of professional colleagues, scientists, students, practitioners, lecturers and other interested parties to network. At the same time, these topics will encounter a variety of scientific and engineering disciplines, such as civil, materials and mechanical engineering.

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