

DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF A  
"POURED ADOBE" BUILDING SYSTEM FOR SEISMIC AREAS

Lynn S. Nelson  
THE HABITAT CENTER  
162 Christen Dr.  
Pacheco CA 94553  
U.S.A.

ABSTRACT    This paper describes the development, testing and use of a "poured adobe" building system made from on-site earth as a low-cost, energy-efficient building material for seismic areas. The method has been approved by California building officials, and has been used in the construction of a passive solar poured adobe home in Pacheco, California (eastern San Francisco Bay Area), which is in the Uniform Building Code Seismic Zone classification #4. The U.S. Department of Energy has awarded the Habitat Center a grant for further refinement of the method, as well as for seismic-related testing of several types of block and poured adobe building systems.