

THE WORK IN PROGRESS CONCERNING ASSISMIC
EARTHEN HOUSING IN CHINA

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ABSTRACT

Earthen housing is the main kind construction of residential and public buildings in rural area of south and southwest China. In this paper, the damage to earthen buildings and lessons from recent China's strong earthquakes, the aseismic design requirements, the mechanical characteristics of earthen materials and elements, the testing work on earthen housing are described. It shows that the earthen buildings can be used in seismic region provided the buildings are consistant with the requirements of aseismic design code.