

PROJECT

Earl Warren State Building
San Francisco, California

CLIENT

McGinnis-Chen Associates
San Francisco, California

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Earl Warren State Building, completed in 1921, was constructed with reinforced concrete foundations and floor slabs, an encased structural steel frame, clay masonry back up walls, an exterior façade of Sierra White California granite, and a terra cotta chéneau at the roof. The building was extensively damaged during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and was vacant until a major seismic strengthening program was completed in 1998. Atkinson-Noland determined the nature of the original construction, condition of the steel frame, and existing condition of masonry materials including brick, granite, terra cotta, and metal ties.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY ATKINSON-NOLAND

- Radar investigation to determine existing wall sections and construction details for stone and terra cotta elements
- Borescope investigation to examine condition of steel anchorage connecting the façade stone and terra cotta to the brick back up
- Laser level survey to identify bulging or leaning walls
- Water soak test to evaluate wetting and drying pattern and possible correlations to stone deterioration



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Use of borescope to investigate wall construction and condition of metal ties



Terra cotta detailing at roof level



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