Joseph Lstiburek, Ph.D., P.Eng, ASHRAE Fellow

Building Science

Adventures In Building Science

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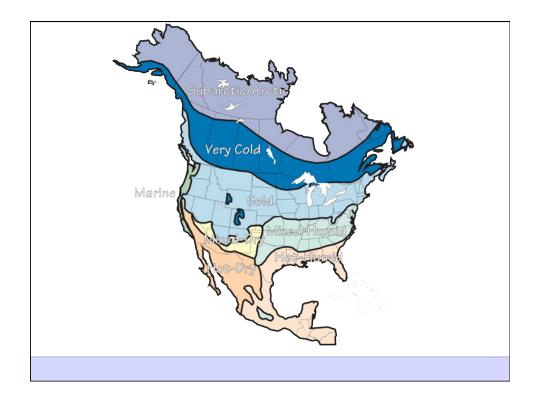
Freeze-Thaw Damage

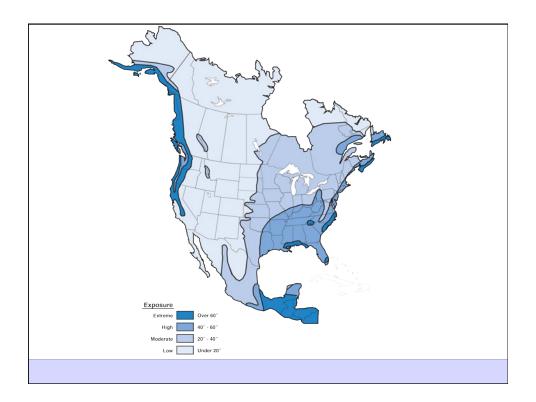
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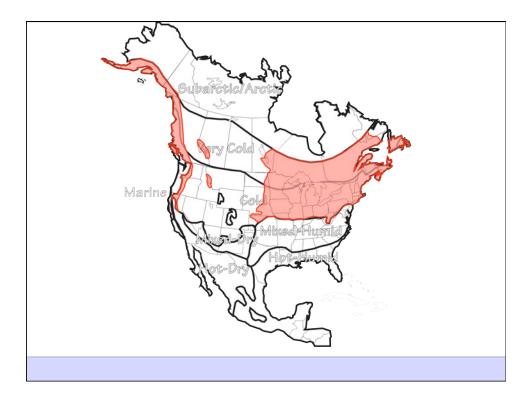
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Freeze-Thaw Damage Freezing Temperatures Water Susceptible Brick

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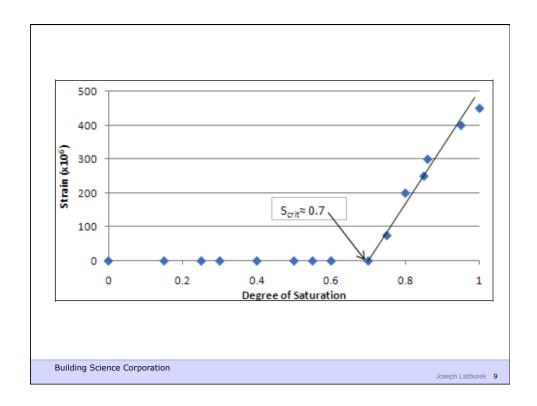




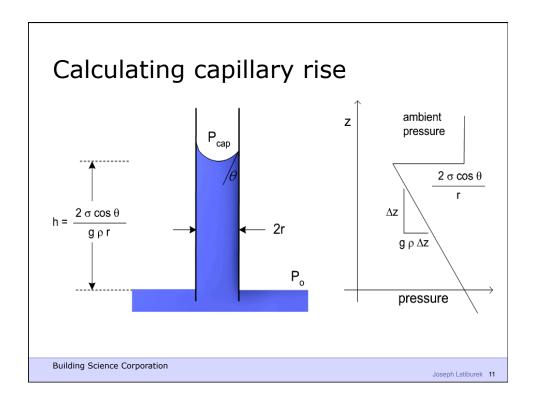


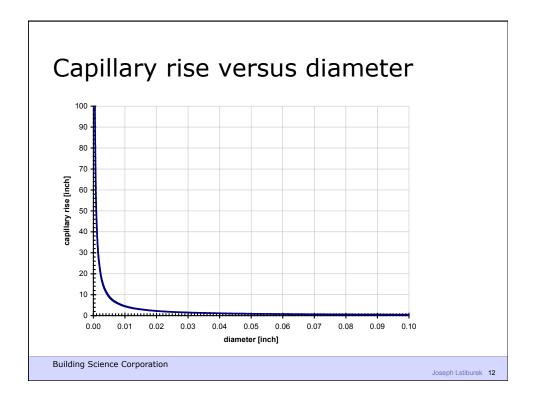
Susceptible Brick Firing Temperature Vitrification

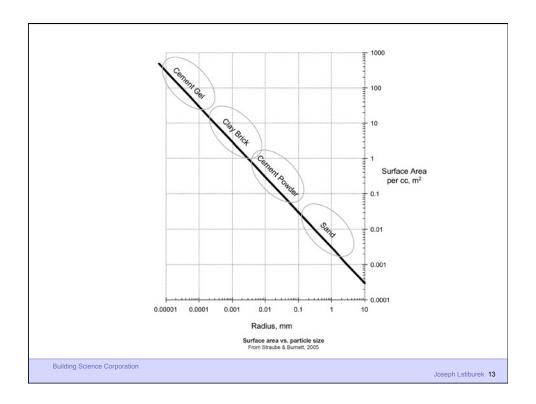
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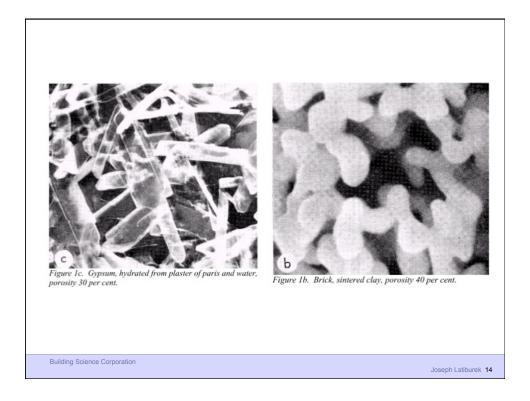


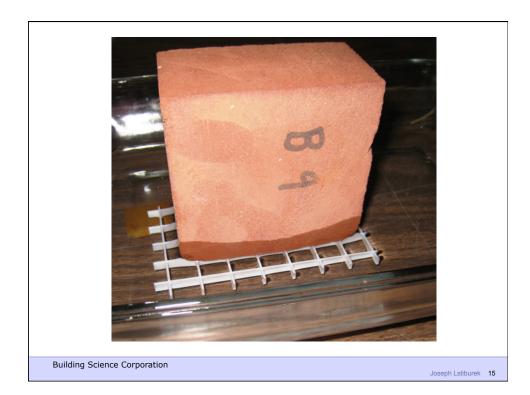


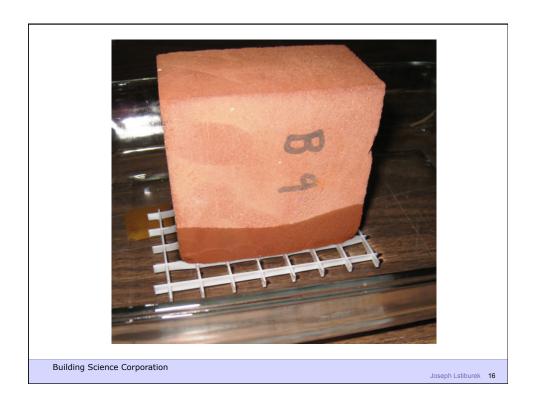


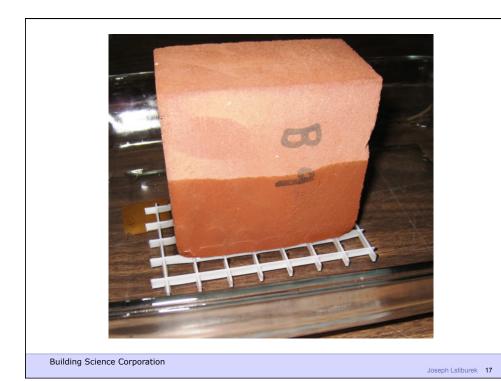


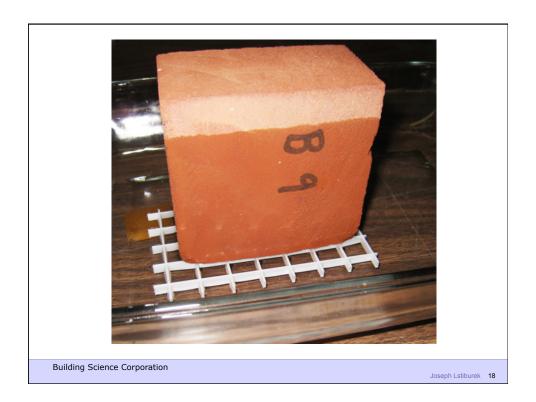
















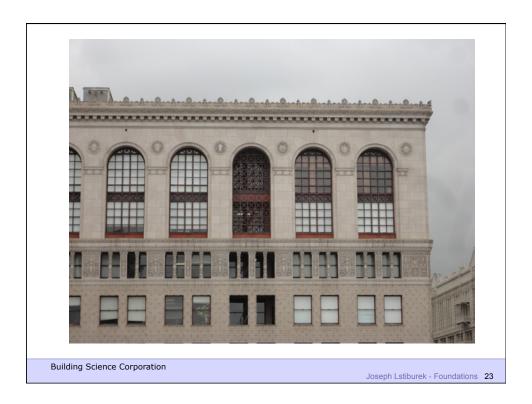


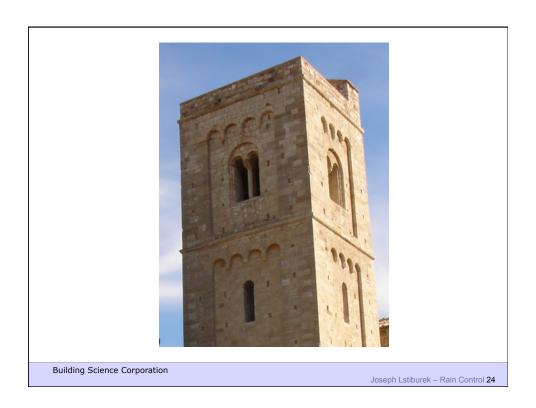
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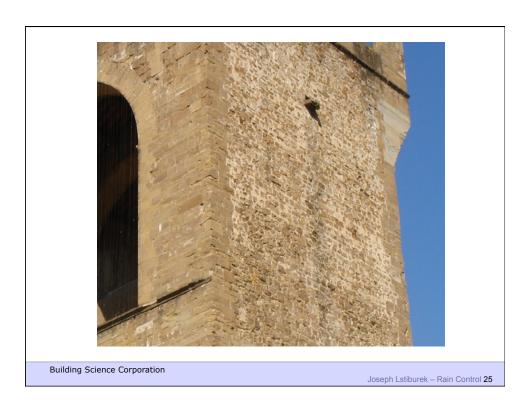
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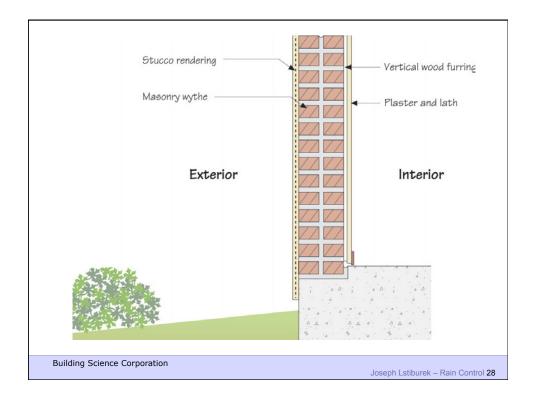




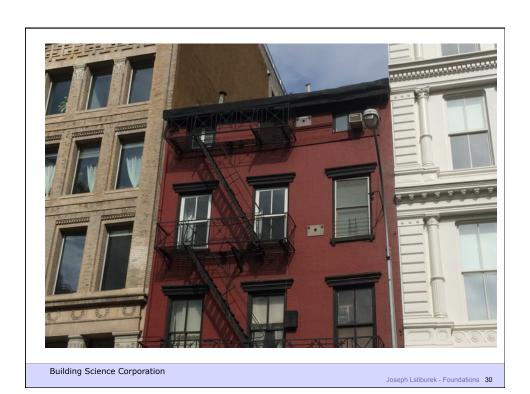


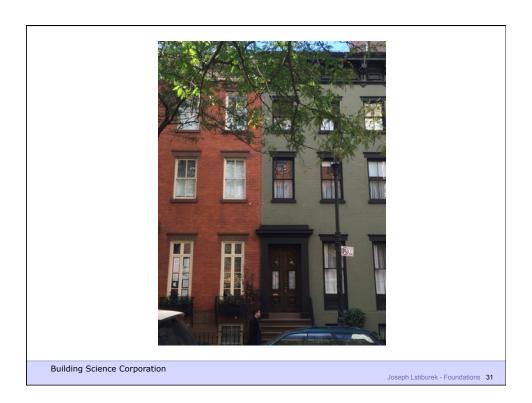


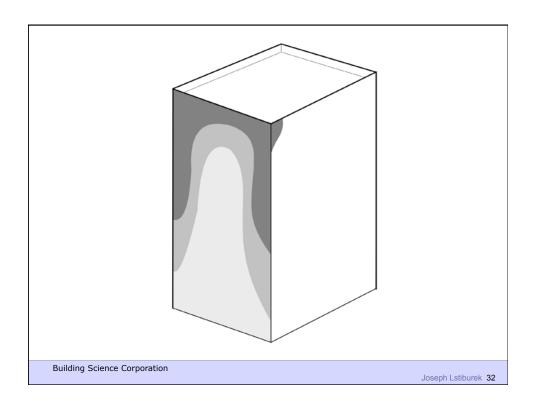








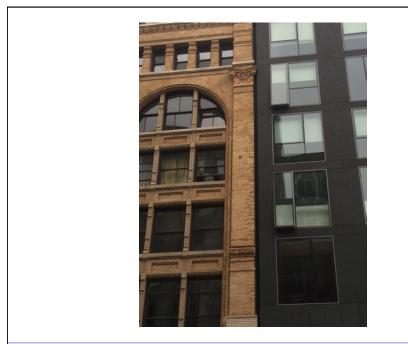






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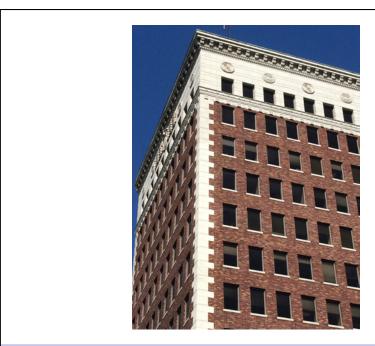


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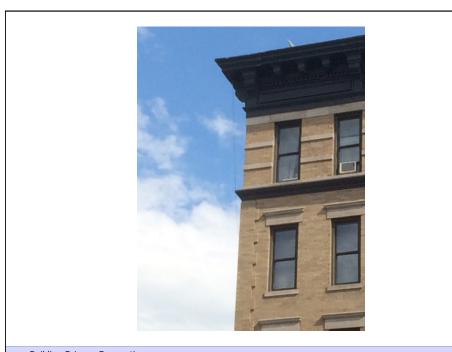
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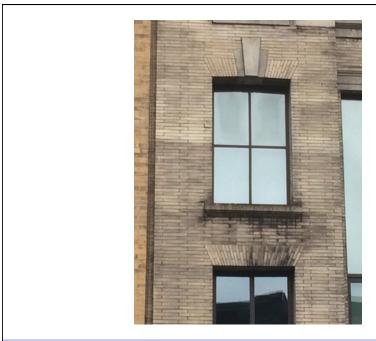
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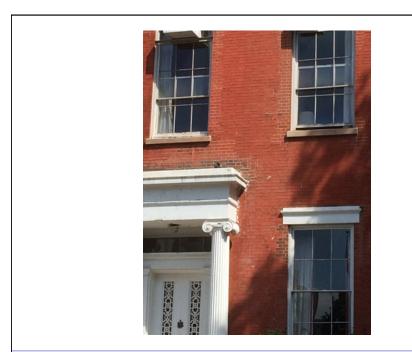






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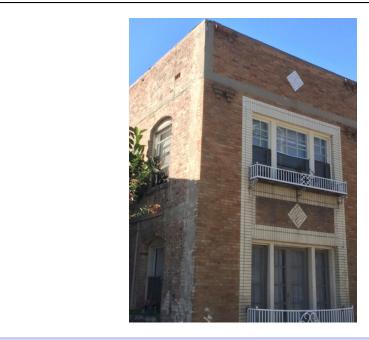


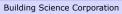




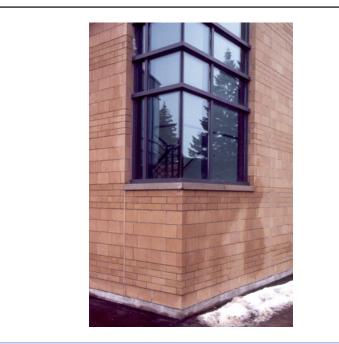






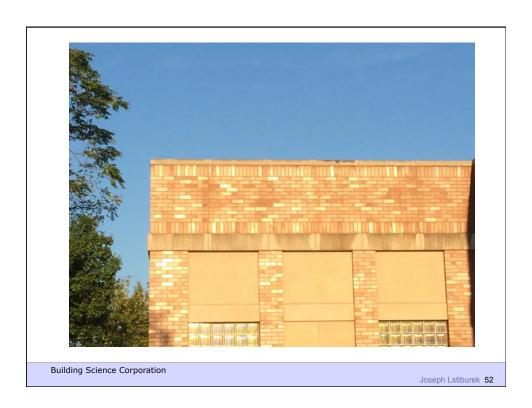


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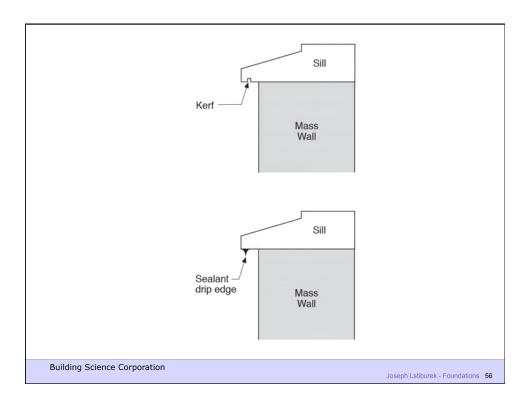


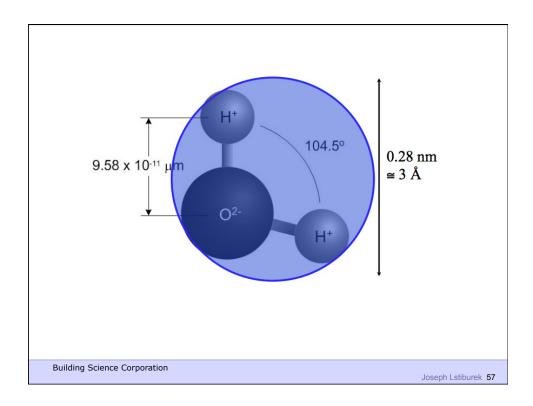


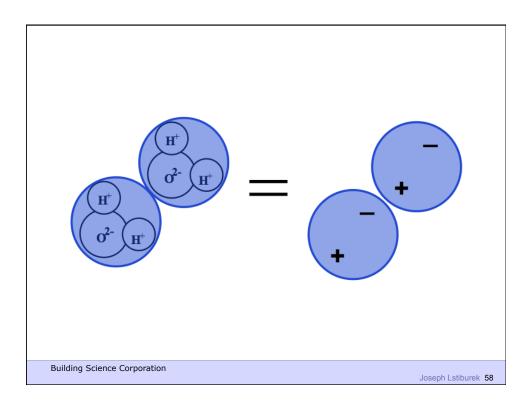


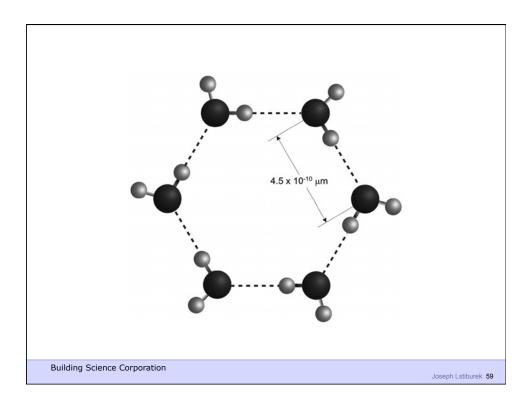












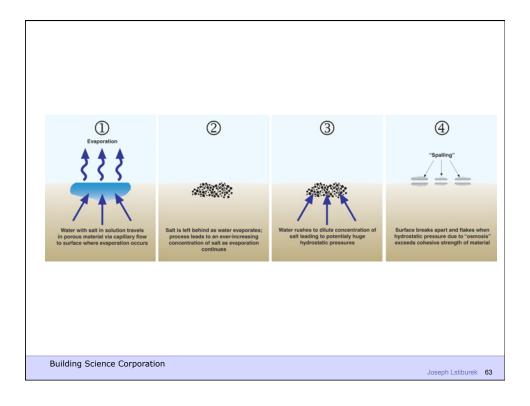
2nd Law of Thermodynamics Building Science Corporation

Phase	Transport Process	Driving Potential
Vapor	Diffusion	Vapor Concentration
Adsorbate	Surface Diffusion	Concentration
Liquid	Capillary Flow Osmosis	Suction Pressure Solute Concentration

Capillarity + Salt = Osmosis

- · Mineral salts carried in solution by capillary water
- When water evaporates from a surface the salts left behind form crystals in process called efflorescence
- When water evaporated beneath a surface the salts crystallize within the pore structure of the material in called subefflorescence
- The salt crystallization causes expansive forces that can exceed the cohesive strength of the material leading to spalling

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Diffusion + Capillarity + Osmosis = Problem

• Diffusion Vapor Pressure

3 to 5 psi

· Capillary Pressure

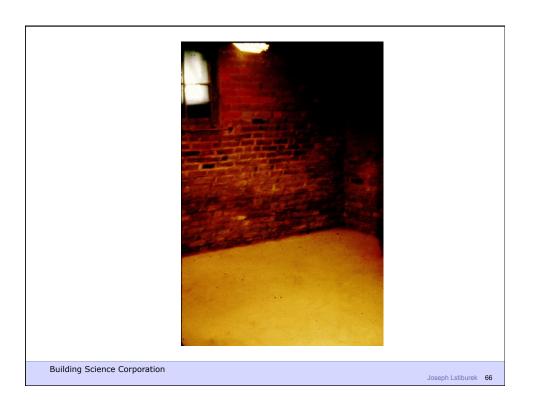
300 to 500 psi

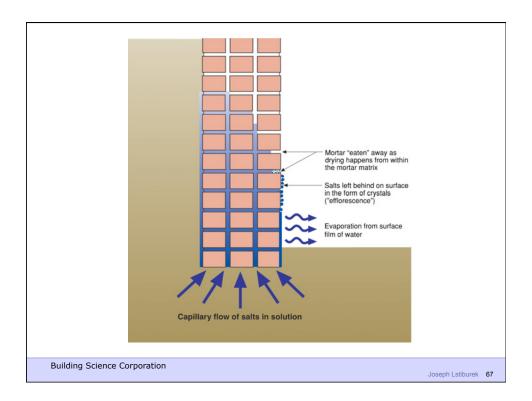
· Osmosis Pressure

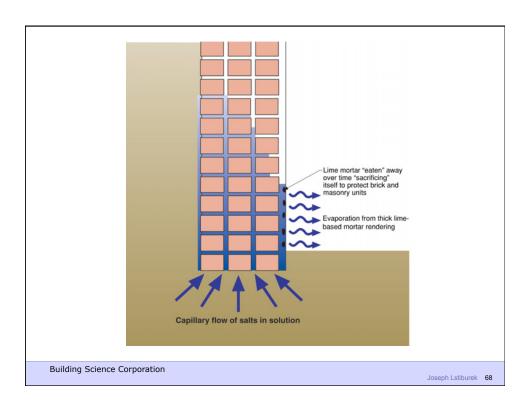
3,000 to 5,000 psi

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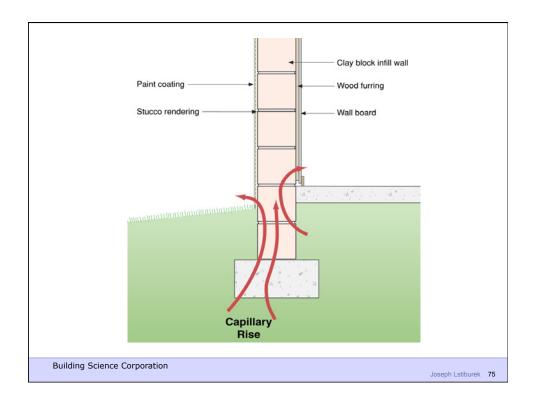


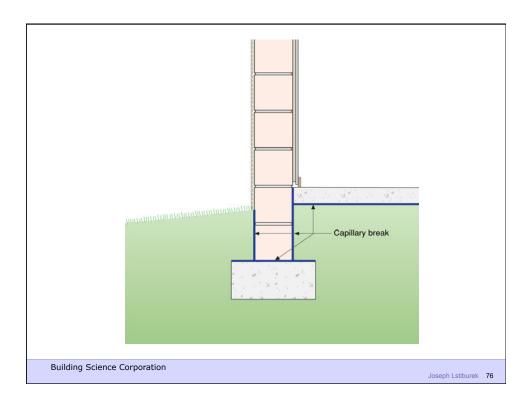


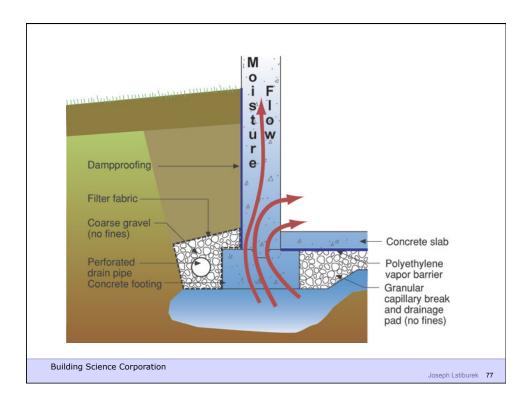


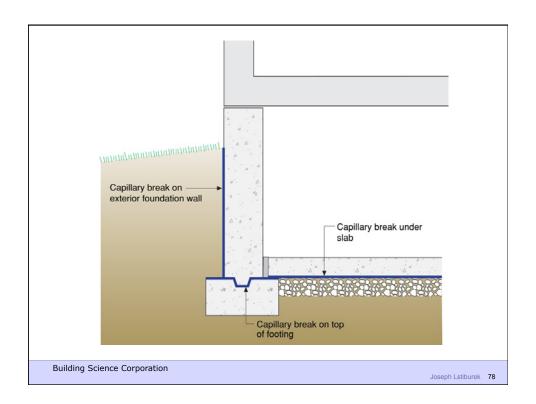










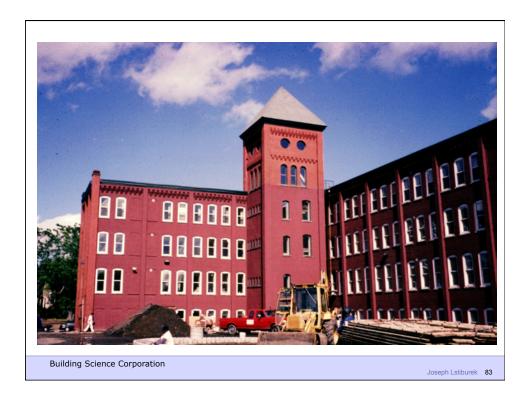




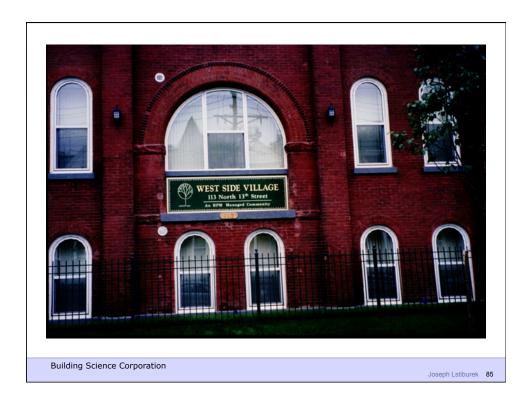


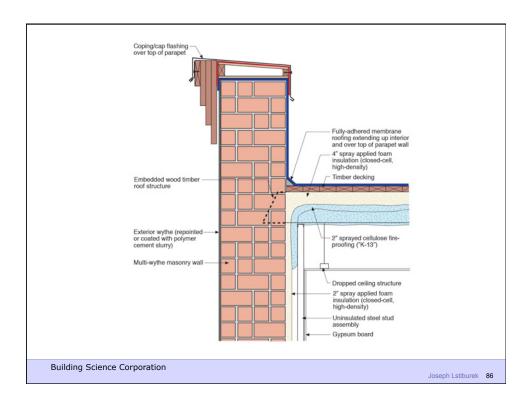






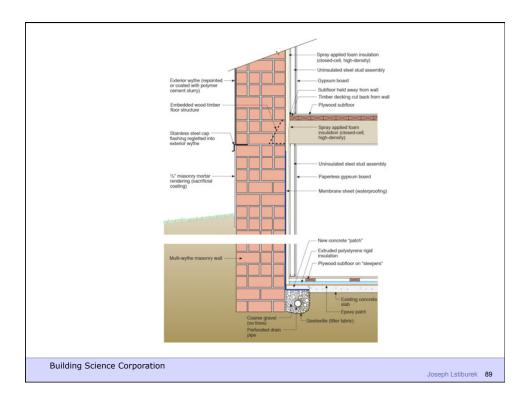


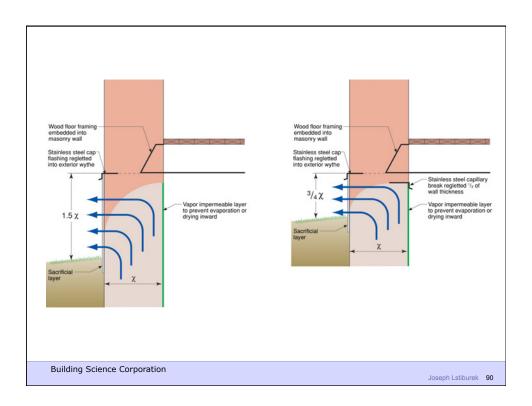


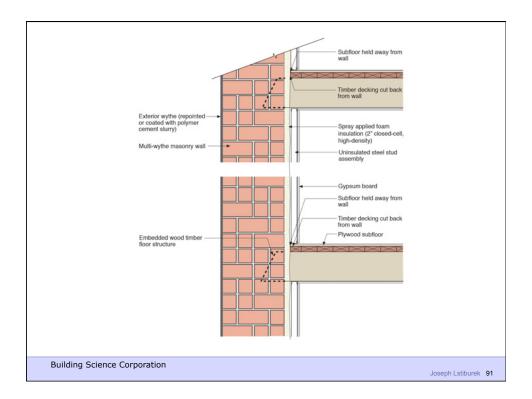


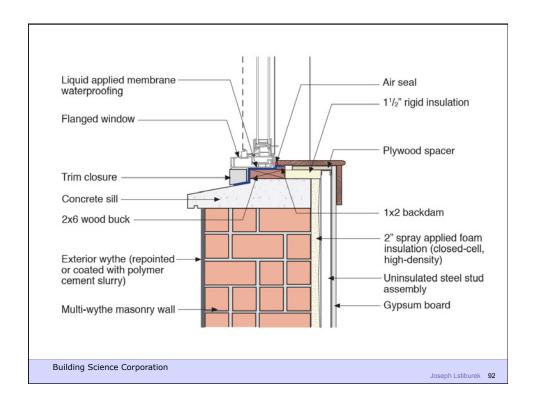


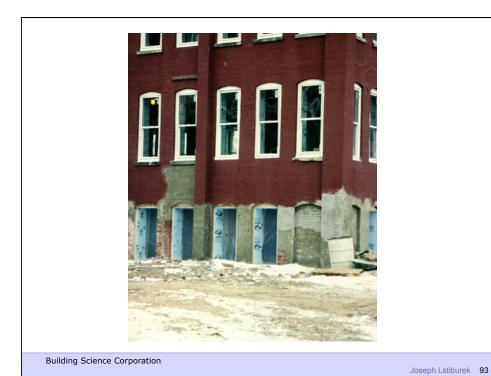




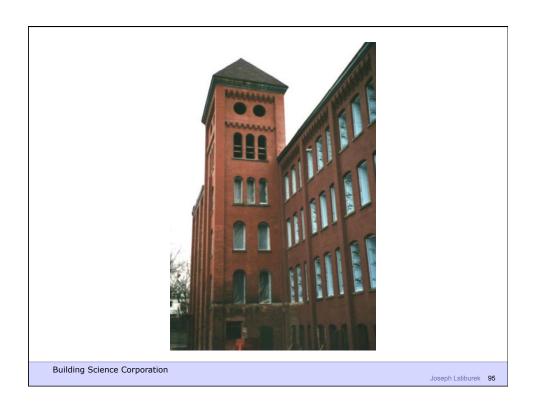




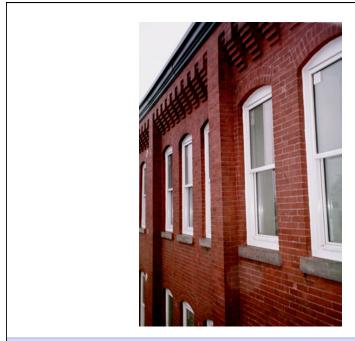






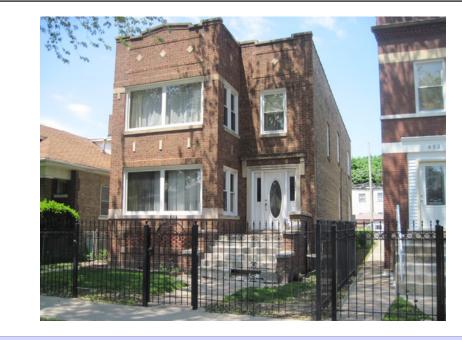






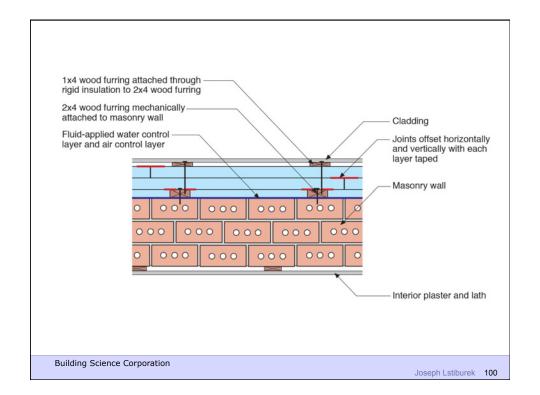
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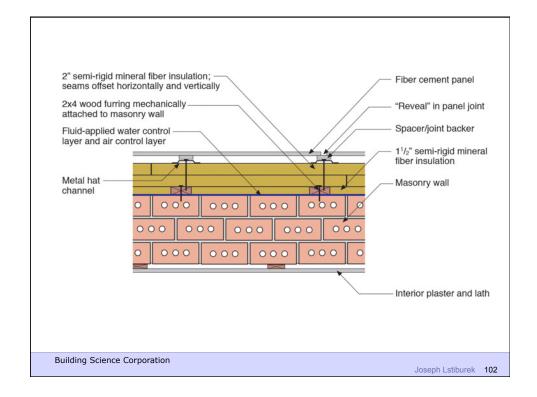


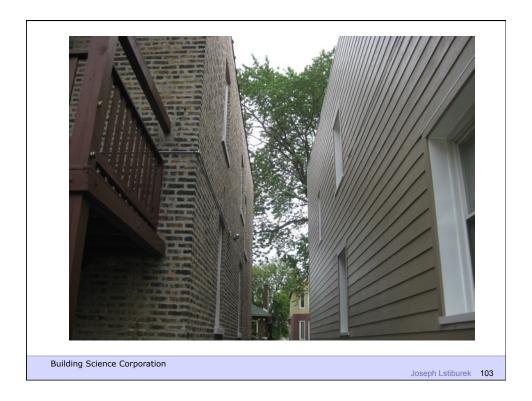
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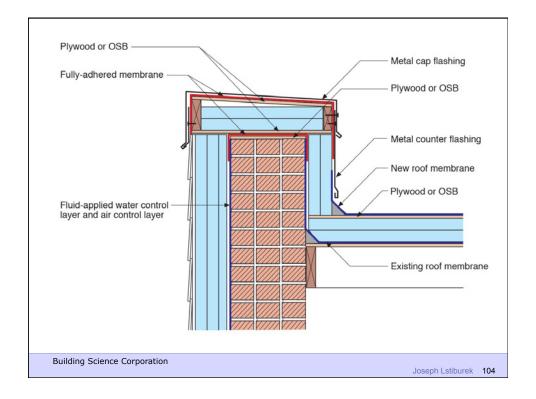








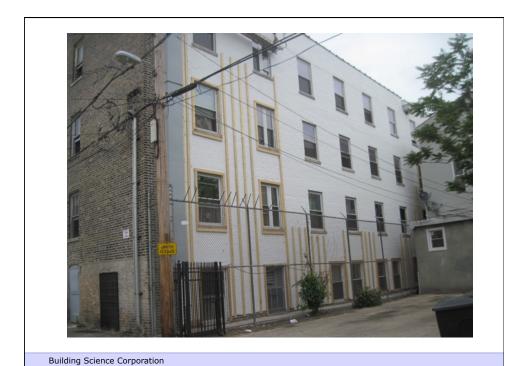


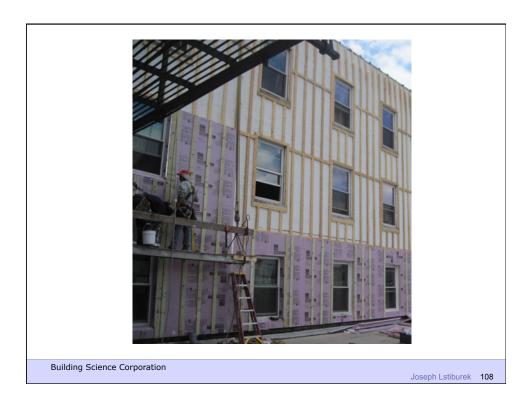


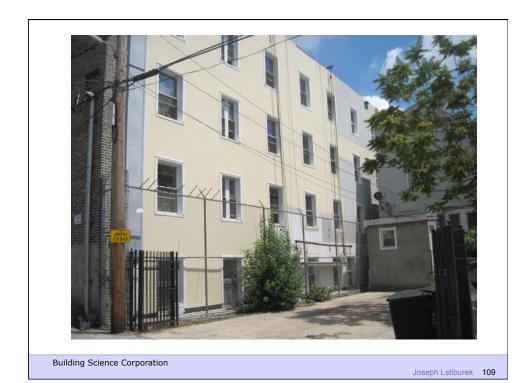


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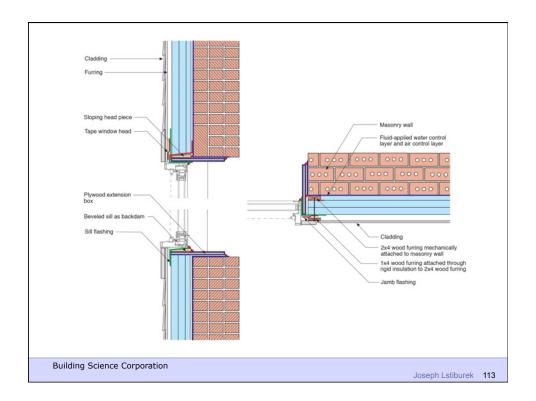


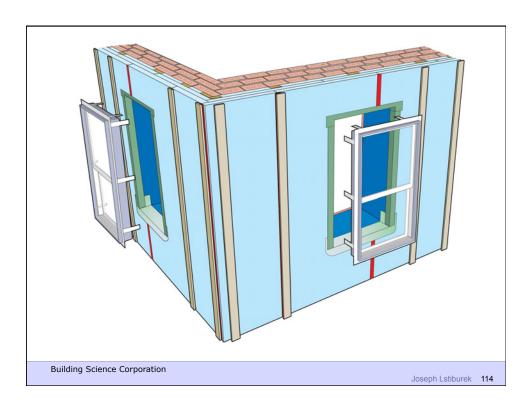














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