

28th March 2017

Waverley Council Level 6 55 Grafton Street BONDI JUNCTION NSW 2022

Attn: Tobias Kuchta

Dear Sirs BRONTE SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB STRUCTURAL CONDITION REPORT

Council has requested a structural review of the club and amenities buildings and options for remedial work. The buildings were inspected over the period from 9th to 26th March 2018.

1 **OBSERVATIONS**

1.1 Overall

The club house is:

- 2 storeys with masonry brick walls
- Concrete floor and roof slabs
- Concrete awnings and fascia

The amenities area is of similar construction, but single storey.

The buildings are located directly fronting onto Bronte Beach and are fully exposed to surf spray. The buildings were extensively altered and extended in 2002.

Photographs and location site plans of the various structural defects are attached in the Appendix.

1.2 Exterior

The exposed concrete awnings are badly affected by reinforcement corrosion and concrete spalling. The brickwork has vertically cracked at many of the corners, in some areas has lost mortar from the joints and shear cracked at brick returns.

The roofing membranes have failed in many locations, water is leaking through the roof slabs and bubbling on the slab soffits.

The building is built up hard against the northern park embankment with both ground water and stormwater is penetrating the building. The northern wall of the Auditorium partially retains soil (without any visible cavity drainage).

The Roof slab over the first floor female toilets does not have adequate outlets or overflow capacity. Debris accumulates in this area blocking the roof outlets causing water to pond and penetrate the areas below.

T (02) 4573 0746

F (02) 4573 0946 M 0409 409 034 E mark@ducrosdesign.com.au



The external stairs are in poor condition with cracked treads, cracked supporting brickwork and separation between the stairs and brickwork.

The grated drains on the northern side of the Gym are not operational with disjointed connections and blockages.

1.3 Interior

The roof slabs have cracked, and the roof membrane has not had sufficient elasticity to bridge the cracks. The resulting roof cracks are leaking which is exacerbated by water ponding on the roof.

Water has been seeping through the Auditorium northern wall, which has been plasterboard lined (to assist in forming a cavity) and this has been repaired due to water damage.

The caretakers room has a plasterboard ceiling which is also damp with vents to assist in drying.

The Gym has severe cracking which are leaking and calcifying.

The Boat store steel mezzanine platform has corrosion to the stair treads and rock wall fixings. The rock wall cavity is blocked with stored materials and the drainage is not operational.

The club toilet walls are cracked in the corners with outward displacements. This is likely to be caused by thermal movement of the roof slabs.

The external stairs have a store underneath and the stairs leak badly. A corrugated steel ceiling has been installed to deflect leaking water away from the stores and the sheeting is badly corroded.

2 STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT

The buildings are in poor structural condition. The significant defects are as follows:

2.1 Reinforcement Corrosion and Concrete Spalling

The exposed concrete areas (awnings, parapets and roofs) have been coated with a membrane system. It is not known when this system was applied but some would appear to relatively recent in that it covers already spalled concrete.

The membrane has not been sufficient to prevent spalling and corrosion (see Photos B12, B14 & C6).

The concrete has not been tested, however, from experience we believe the concrete will be suffering chloride intrusion caused by salt water spray. The corrosion is continuing (under the membrane) and there is little that can be done to arrest this corrosion once the chlorides have entered the concrete matrix. It is possible to apply migratory corrosion inhibitors which will slow the corrosion process but not prevent on-going corrosion. Application of an inhibitor could be trialled in combination with localised patch and repair methods, but these will only be stop gap solution and in some areas far too late for practical use.

Such work would be contingent upon renewal of the roof membranes.



Some parapets have partly spalled concrete which presents a public safety danger. Two areas on the eastern face of the upper roof are loose and held in position by the signage (refer Photos C20 & 21). There may be other areas not observed in this review. As a priority all parapets must be promptly made safe by removal of any loose spalling concrete.

2.2 Leaking Roof Membranes

The roof membranes are leaking in many locations allowing salt water to soak into the slabs, entering through various cracks and causing reinforcement corrosion. Some slab soffit membranes have bubbled and have rust marks in numerous locations (see Photos C2 to C5).

In the long term the roof slab reinforcement will corrode, spall the concrete and compromise the structural adequacy of the slabs.

2.3 Brickwork Cracks

Some of the brickwork has vertically cracked at the wall corners. This is due to the phenomena of brick growth, which takes place as clay bricks absorb moisture over time and expand. However, given the 15-year period since reconstruction, most of the brick growth will be complete and the bricks should be relatively stable. These vertical cracks have formed weakened planes in the wall panels and allowed the bricks to displace (laterally shear) due to concrete slab shrinkage and thermal effects (see Photo A16).

2.4 Drainage

Poorly functioning roof drainage is contributing to water penetration into the building. The Auditorium roof outlets do not directly connect to the water tanks allowing stormwater to discharge directly against the building. The rainwater tanks do not water have adequate overflow connections and can discharge on the ground.

The grated drains are not operational and do not collect overland flow from the park. Water will pond against the building and enter the boat storage area.

The roof over the female toilets does not have any overflows and the outlets are easily blocked by accumulated debris.

3 REMEDIAL WORK OPTIONS

3.1 Reinforcement Corrosion and Concrete Spalling

3.1.1 Patch and Repair

The spalled areas can be treated by cutting back, splicing new reinforcement and patch repairing the spalls with high build cementitious render.

The high-risk parapets and awnings should have the membrane removed by grit blasting or high pressure water. Unsound areas patch repaired as above, and the concrete surface applied with a migratory corrosion inhibitor.

Together with the roof membrane, all exposed concrete then resealed.



3.1.2 Partial Demolition

The parapets and awnings could be demolished and replaced. These areas would be saw cut, new reinforcement grouted and extended, and new parapets constructed. The new concrete must be suitable for a marine environment, with high strength (50MPa) and with low permeability (e.g. Boral Envisia).

The new parapets would then be waterproofed with the new roof system.

Alternatively, the awnings or balustrades could be reconstructed using a bolt-on stainless steel system.

3.2 Roof Waterproofing

3.2.1 Applied Membrane

Any areas of reinforcement corrosion should be patch repaired as 3.1.1 above. A new membrane should be applied which is suitable for medium duty traffic with crack-bridging capacity. Specialist advice would need to be sought regarding compatibility with the existing membranes. A sheet membrane should have superior flexibility in bridging the roof cracks.

The existing roof slabs pond and hold up to as much as 20mm of water. It would appear that the roof slabs do not have a topping slab which would have been graded to fall. Ideally a topping slab should be formed to fall over the existing membrane and then that topping waterproofed with a new membrane.

Any membrane system should include the parapets and awnings.

3.2.2 Over-roofing

A new metal deck could be built over the leaking roofs and form a new fascia system. This work would be undertaken in combination with demolition of the parapets. This option would not prevent on-going corrosion of the roof slab reinforcement but should significantly slow the process. Any roofing and supporting steelwork would need to have a corrosion protection suitable to a high marine environment.

3.3 Brickwork Cracks

The brickwork cracked corners should be locally demolished and rebuilt. In doing so, the cavities should be inspected to ensure that the cavity ties are still effective. If the cavity ties were not R4 durability (to AS2699.1) then they are highly likely to be corroded or non-existent. In this case new stainless steel mechanically fixed ties would need to be installed (Helifix or similar).

3.4 Drainage

The Auditorium roof drainage needs to be adequately connected to the stormwater system so that overflows do not spill onto the northern embankment. All roof areas must have overflow capacity to accommodate 1:100 ARI events without ingress into the building.

The grated drains on the northern park embankment need to be reconstructed with an additional cut-off placed upslope to intercept and divert overland flow away from the building.



3.5 Demolition and Reconstruction

In many respects the building has reached a point where the fundamental problems of concrete spalling and water penetration cannot be prevented. The above repair options will extend the operational use of the building, but the exact period is not well defined.

Depending on timing for funding, it would be possible to undertake some repair on a priority basis to extend the building use for say 5 years. The priorities would be:

- a) Patch and repair spalled parapets and awnings, re-apply membrane
- b) Renew roof membranes
- c) Connect Auditorium roof drainage
- d) Install overflow to female toilets roof

It would be possible in a redevelopment of the site to re-roof the amenities block and retain the fabric of that building (provided the wall cavity ties are effective).

4 **RECOMMENDATIONS**

There are many options in undertaking the remedial works for the building. These will increase in cost with the degree of replacement and as the replacement level increases so will the building life expectancy.

Ultimately the demolition and rebuilding will provide the long-term solution for this building which is reaching the end of its commercial life.

The remedial work options for the building are:

| Item | Priority | Comment | Description |
|------|-----------|-------------------|--|
| 1 | Immediate | Public safety | Remove all parapet signs Hammer check any cracked areas and remove spalls Paint to match Replace signs Repair broken tiles at ramp |
| 2 | High | Water penetration | Connect roof drainage to Auditorium tanks and ensure overflows are connected to stormwater Install roof outlets and adequate overflow to female toilet roof Reconstruct grated drains over the boat store to collect overland flow from park Remove debris from rock wall cavity space and ensure drainage is operational |
| 3 | Medium | Patch and repair | Remove all spalled concrete and areas with corroding reinforcement Cut back corroding reinforcement & reinstate, as required Repair spalls with high build cementitious render Apply new membrane to all roof areas and parapets |
| | | | Renew mortar brickwork joints |



| | 1 | | |
|---|-----------|---------------------------------|--|
| | | Partial rebuild | Saw cut and remove parapets and spalled slab edges Reconstruct with high strength low permeability concrete (Envisia) Cut out corroding roof slab reinforcement and reinstate, as required Repair with high build cementitious render Apply screed topping to eliminate ponding Apply new sheet membrane to all roof areas and parapets Ensure all outlets and overflows operational Check and replace any leaking/broken skylights and vents |
| | | | Renew mortar brickwork joints Repair cracked brickwork and re-render Demolish slab over rock cavity ventilation space, external stairs and adjacent stores Reconstruct with high strength low permeability concrete (Envisia) |
| | | Major rebuild with over-roofing | Cut back corroding roof slab reinforcement & reinstate, as required Repair with high build cementitious render |
| | | | Saw cut, remove parapets and spalled slab edges Install new marine grade metal deck roofing and fascias on steel frame with marine grade corrosion protection |
| | | | Renew mortar brickwork joints and rebuild cracked corners Review and install new stainless steel cavity ties Repair cracked brickwork and re-render |
| | | | Remove the rainwater tanks, excavate to form a walkway with retaining wall to park and install drainage |
| | | | Install new surface cut-off drainage at park above boat store Demolish slab over rock cavity ventilation space, |
| | | | external stairs and adjacent stores Reconstruct with high strength low permeability concrete (Envisia) |
| 4 | Long term | Partial rebuild |) Demolish clubhouse building |
| | | | Remove amenities roof slab and build new marine grade metal deck roof and fascia on steel frame with marine grade corrosion protection Build new clubhouse building, offset from park embankment and subsoil drainage issues Demolish external stairs and stores under Reconstruct with high strength low permeability concrete (Envisia) |
| | | Complete rebuild | Demolish clubhouse and amenities Reconstruct to suit marine environment |



The medium priority options will have limited life with on-going problems due to further concrete spalling and water penetration. These issues being caused by continuing chloride corrosion of the reinforcing steel and water penetration from the adjacent embankment. It is our recommendation that any repairs be considered a temporary solution whilst redevelopment of the site is prepared.

Should Council have any further queries concerning this review, please contact the undersigned on 4573 0746.

Yours faithfully ducros design pty ltd

Mark du Cros BE CPEng 60450 Director



APPENDIX

OVERALL SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Southern Elevation



Eastern Elevation



Northern Elevation





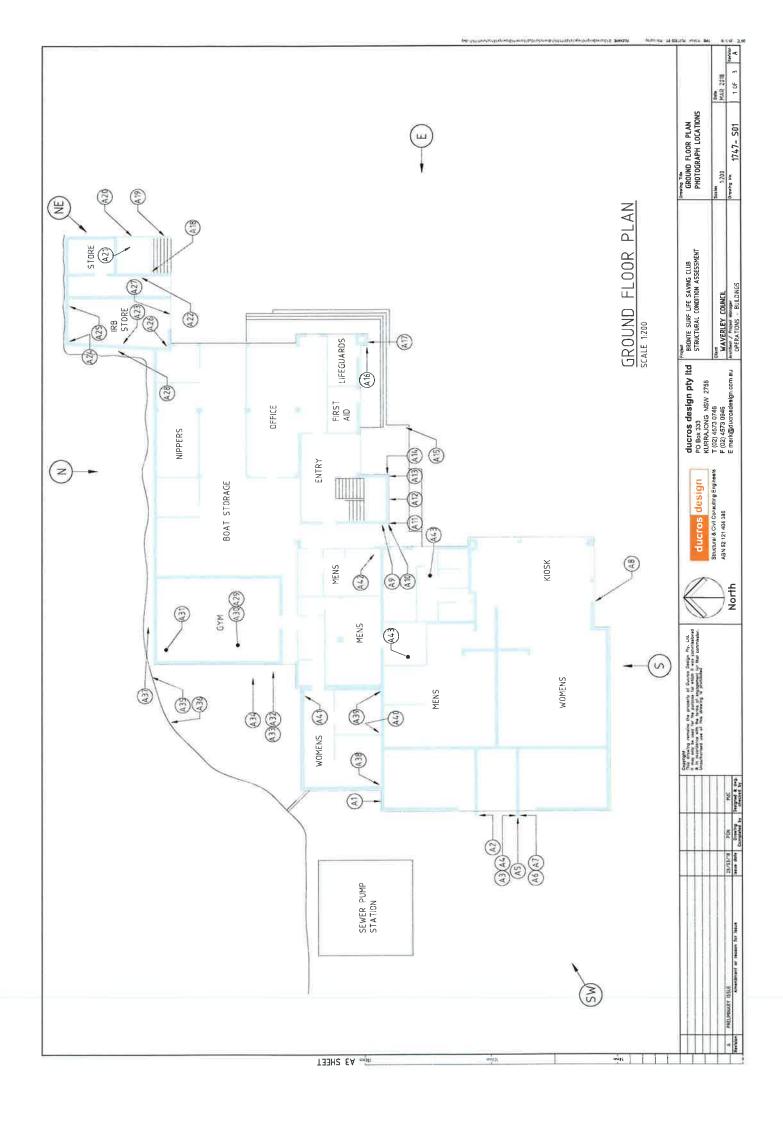
South West Elevation

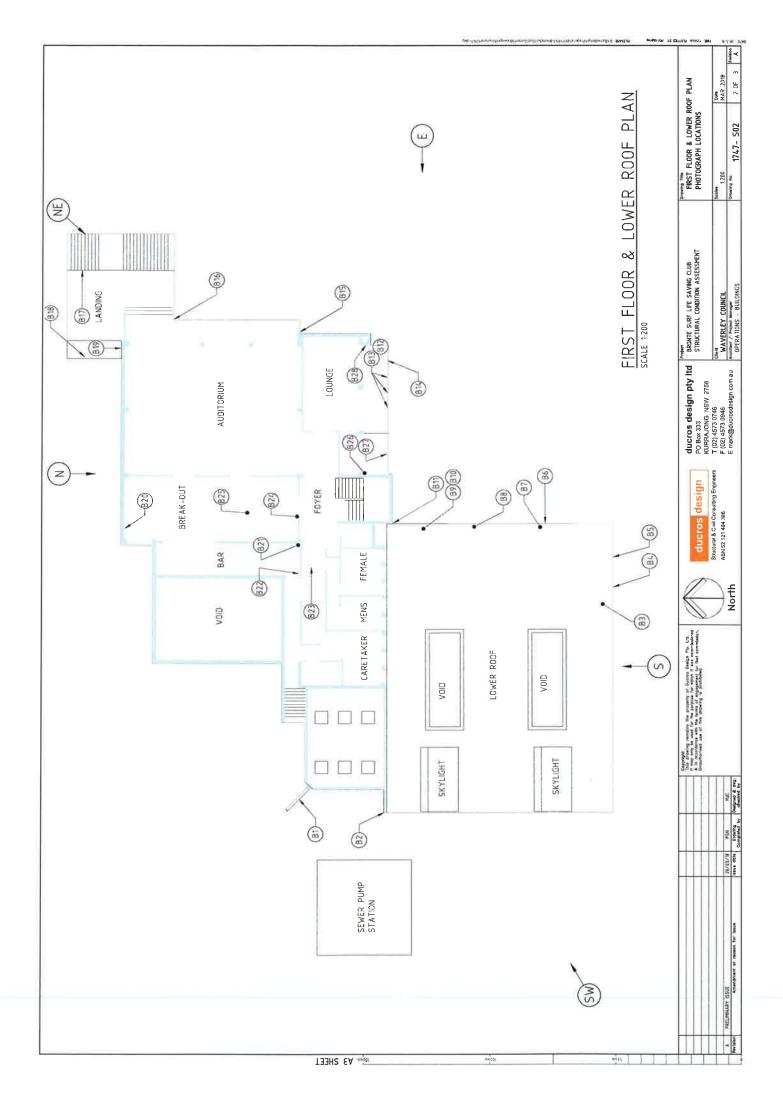


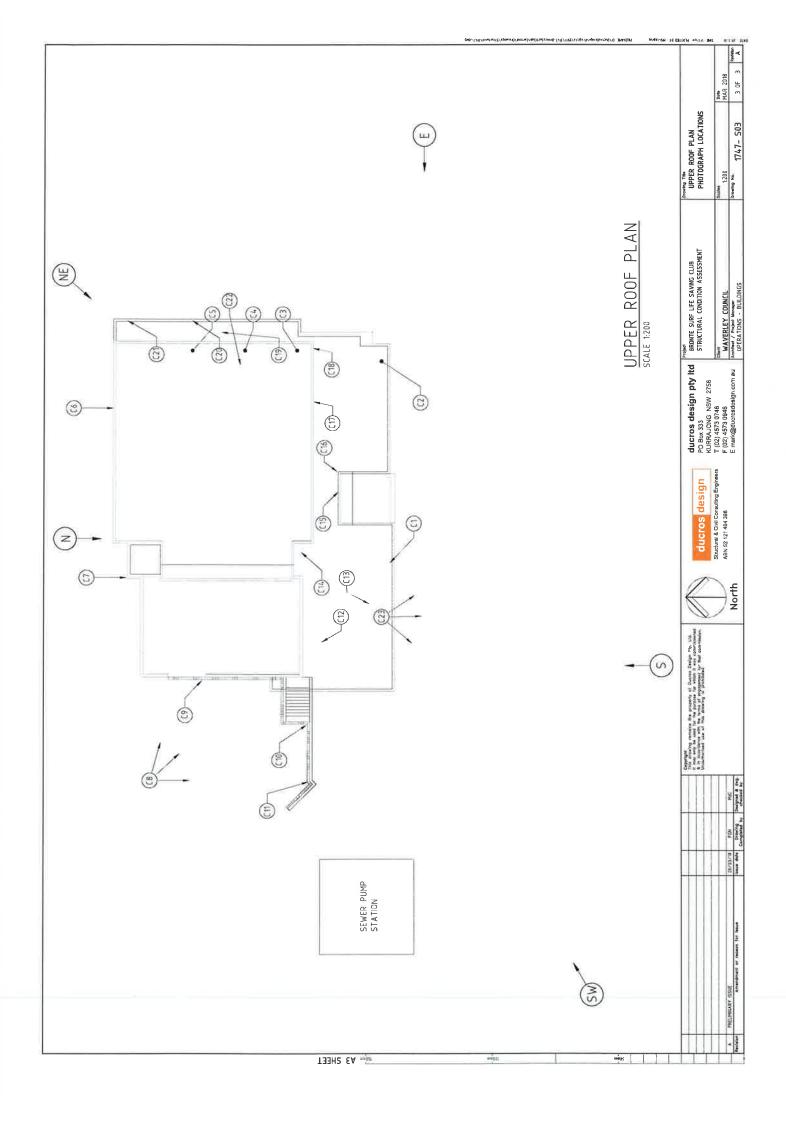
North East Elevation



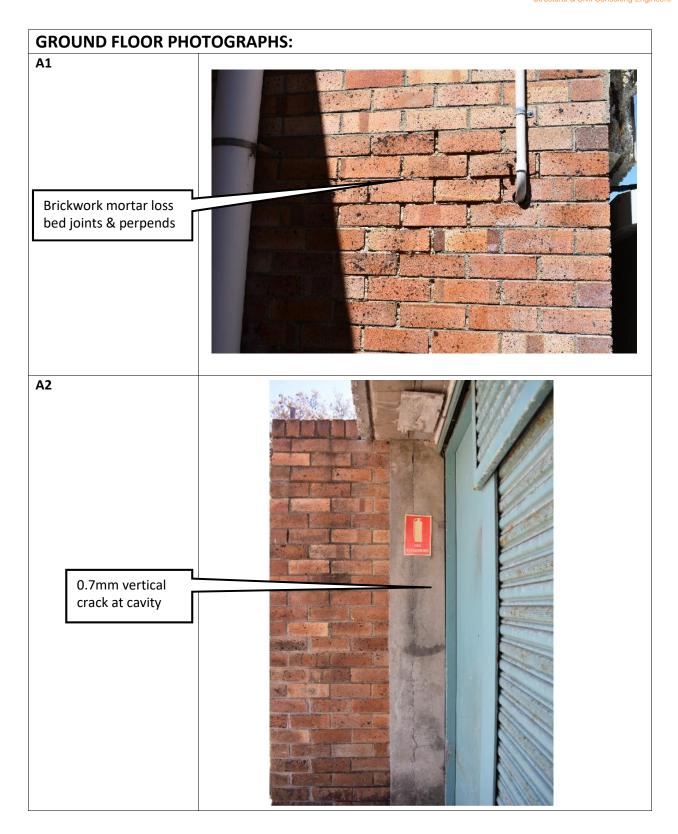
PHOTOGRAPH LOCATION PLANS



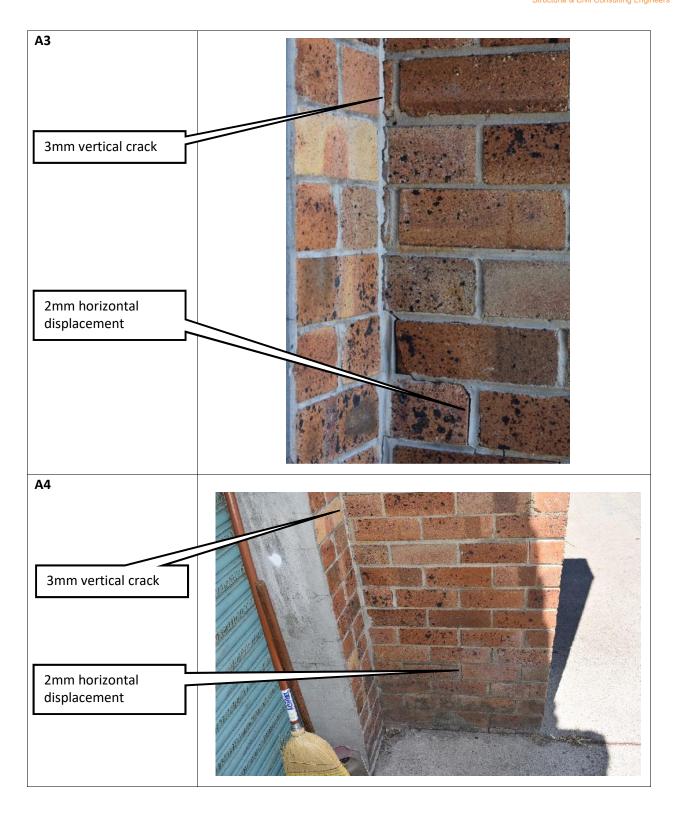




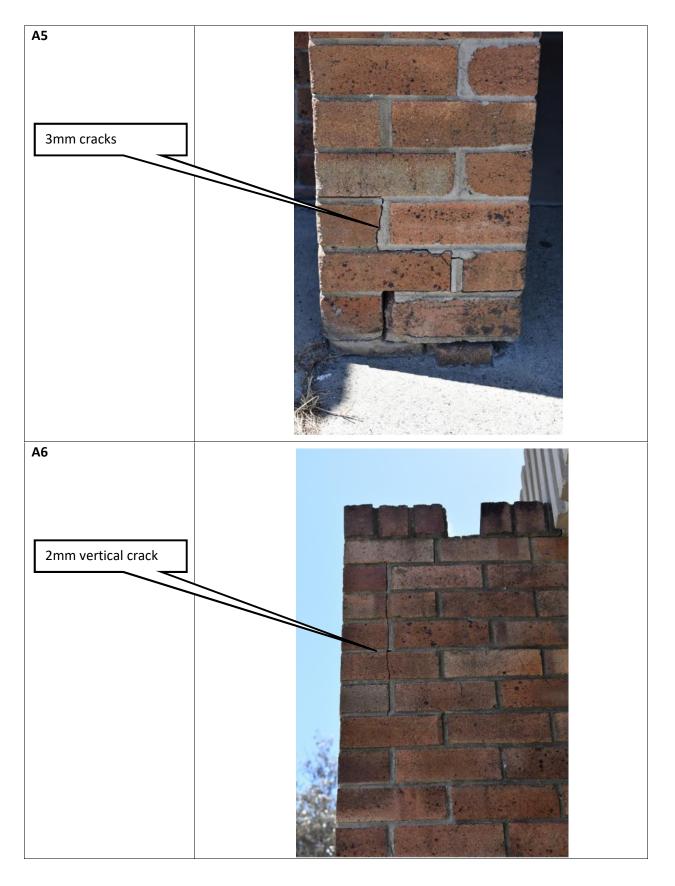




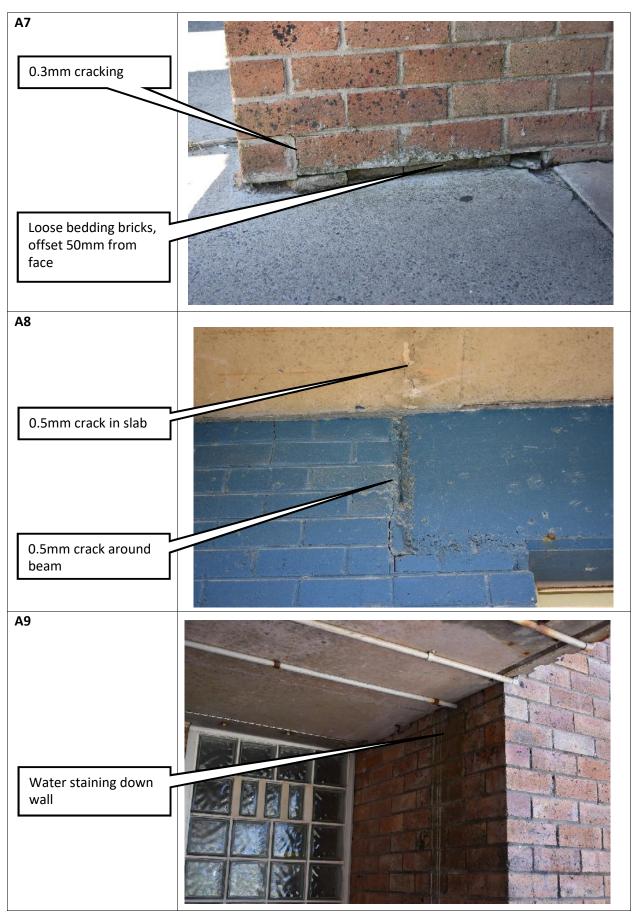










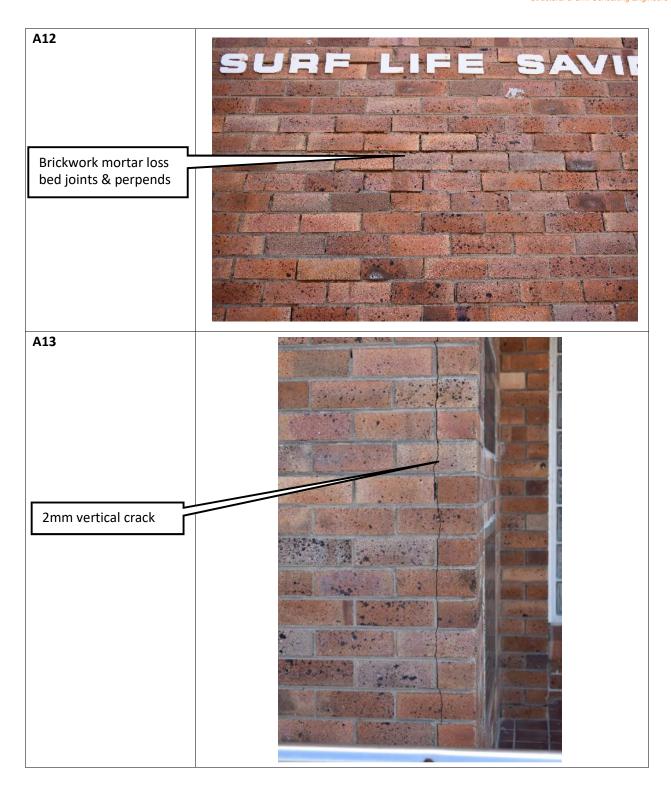


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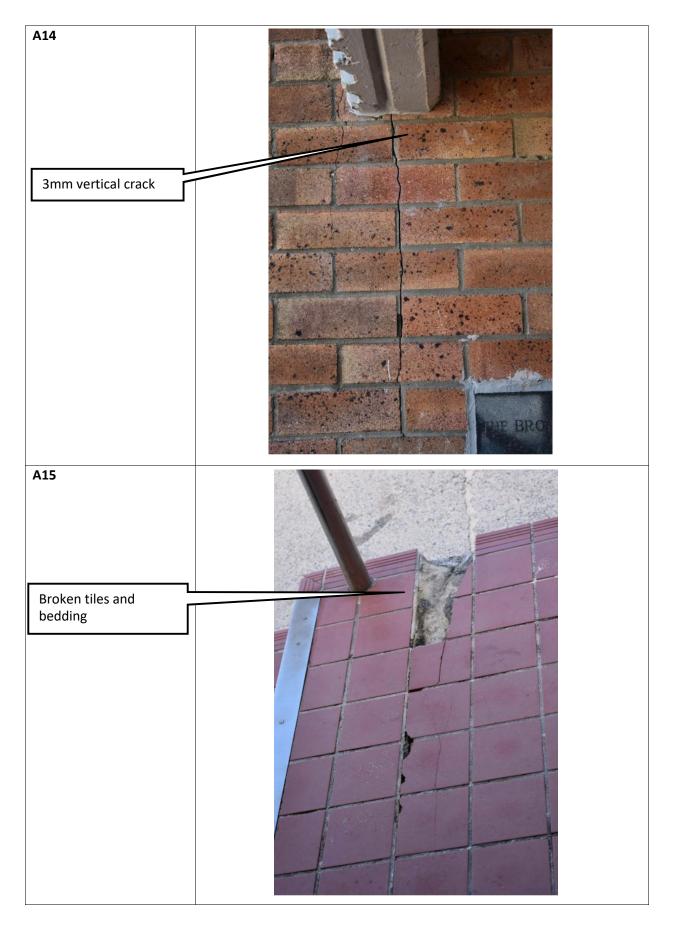


| A10 2.5mm vertical crack | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| A11 2mm vertical crack | |

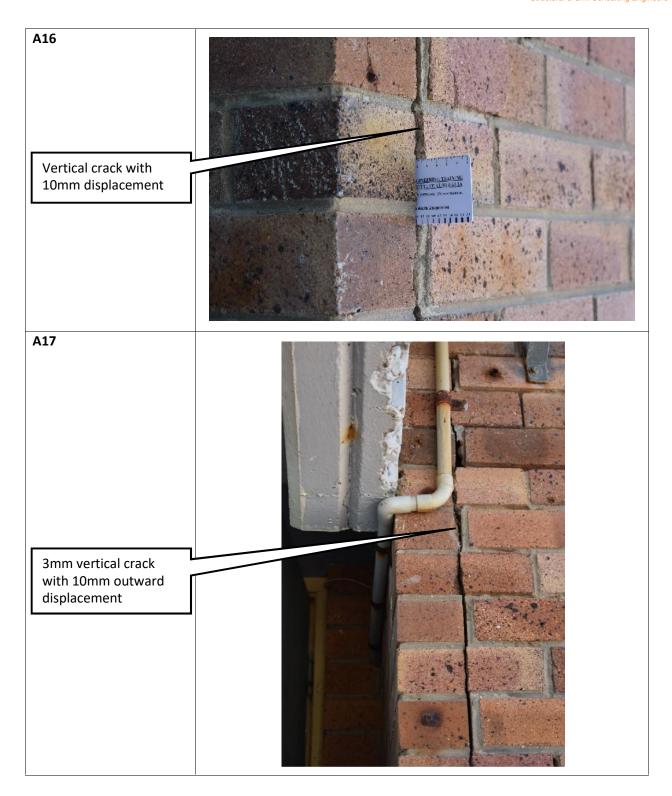




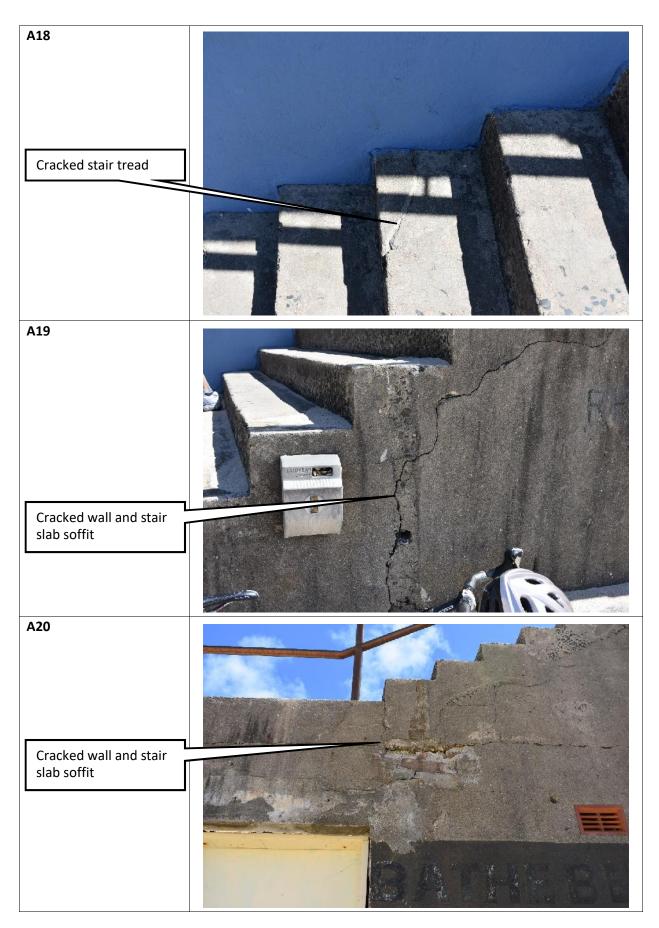






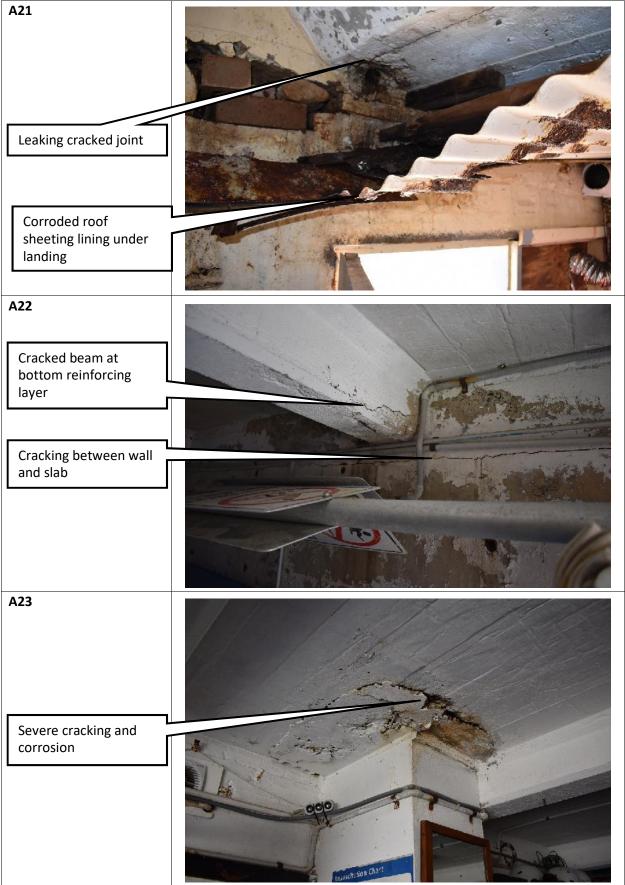




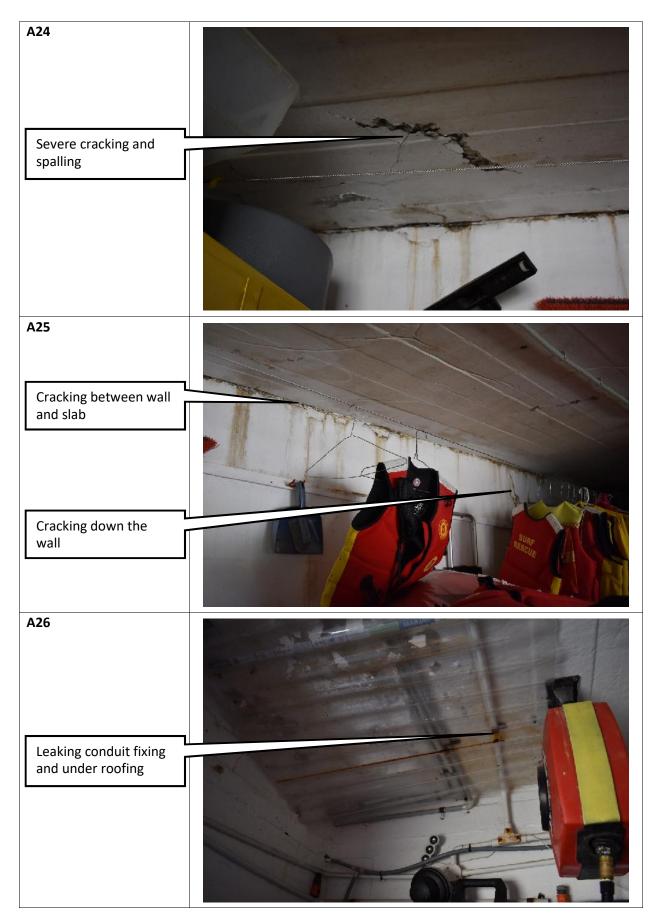




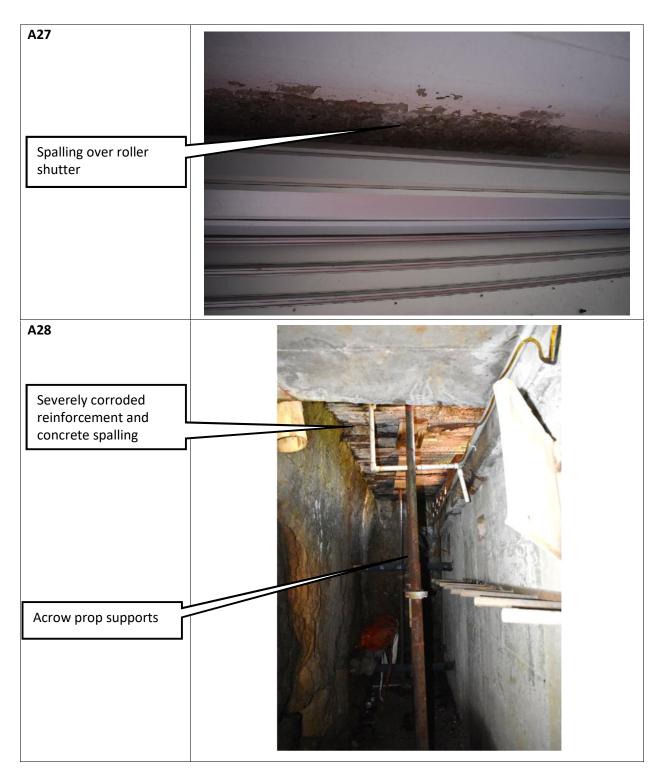




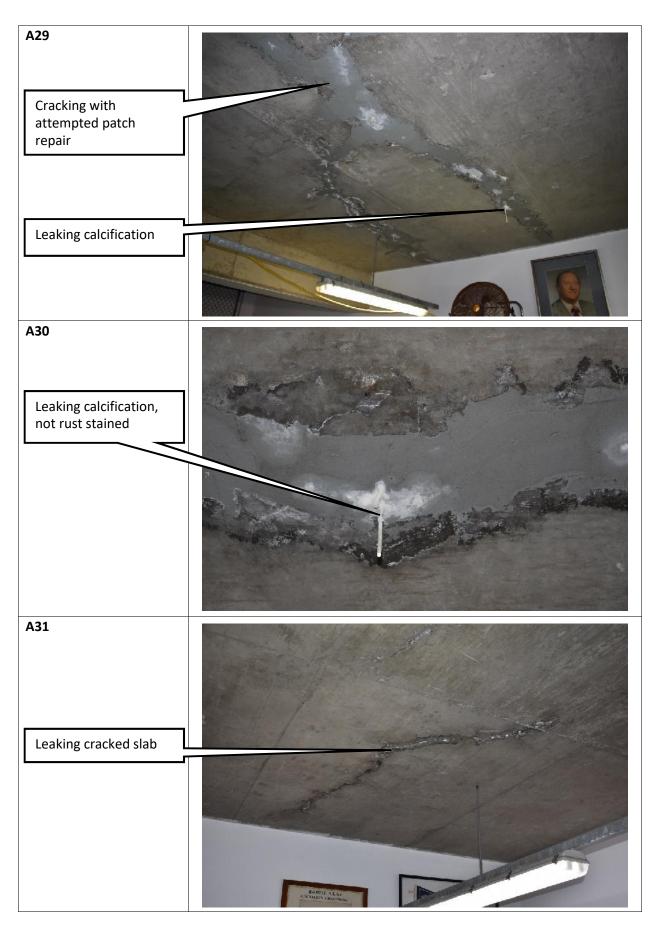




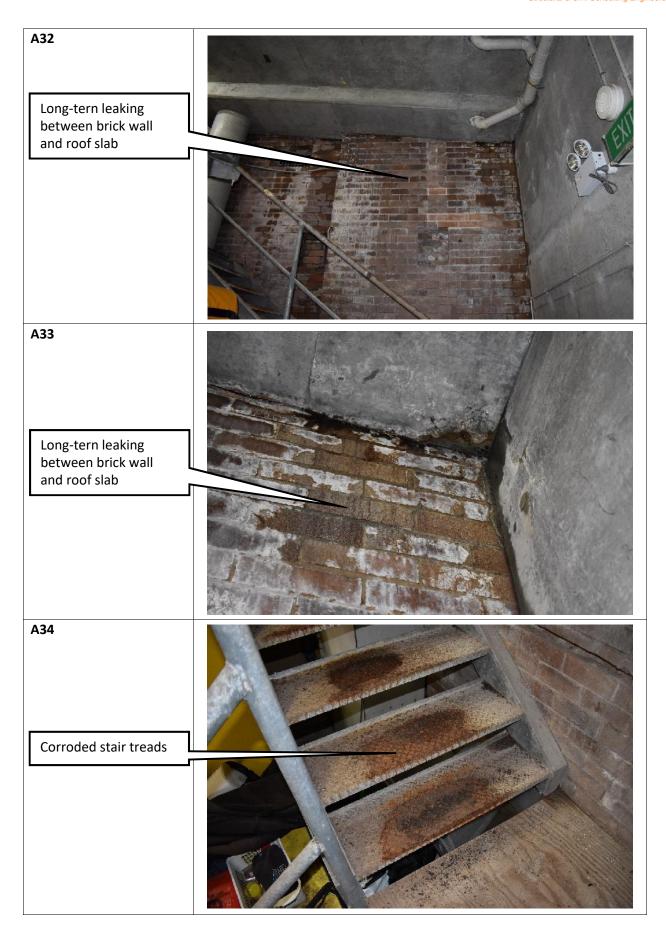




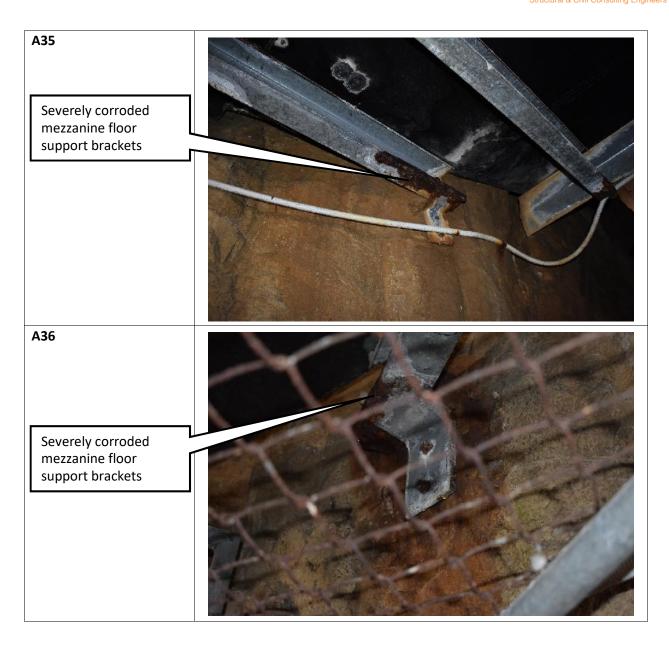




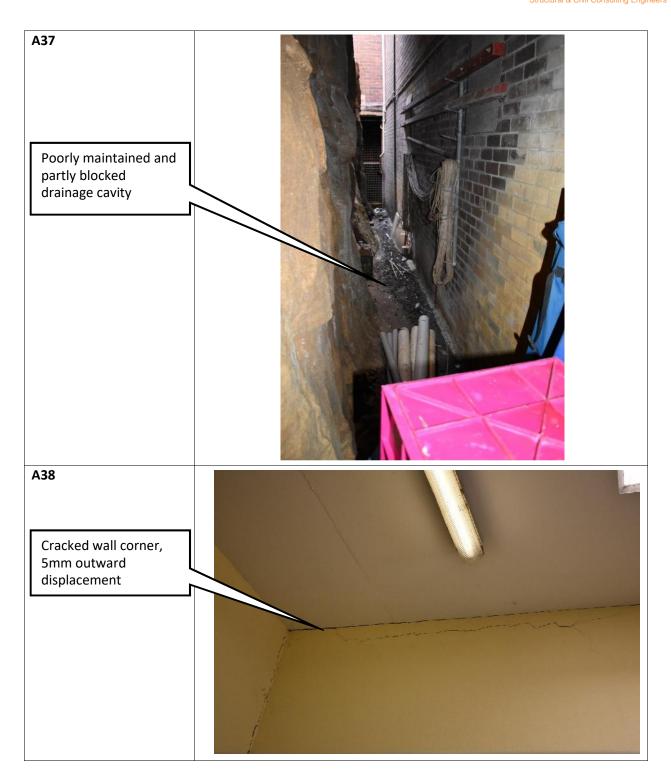




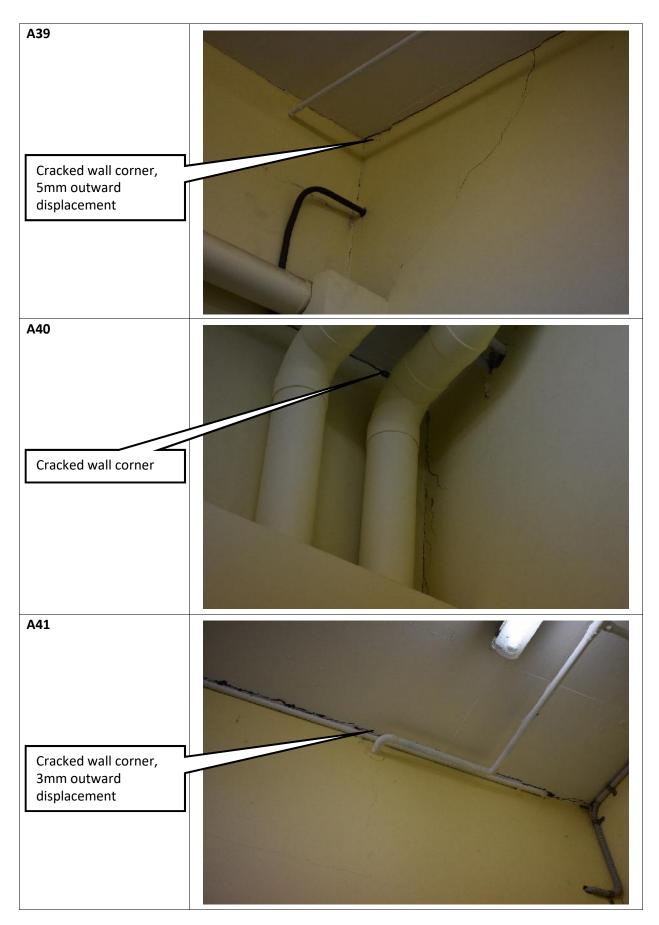




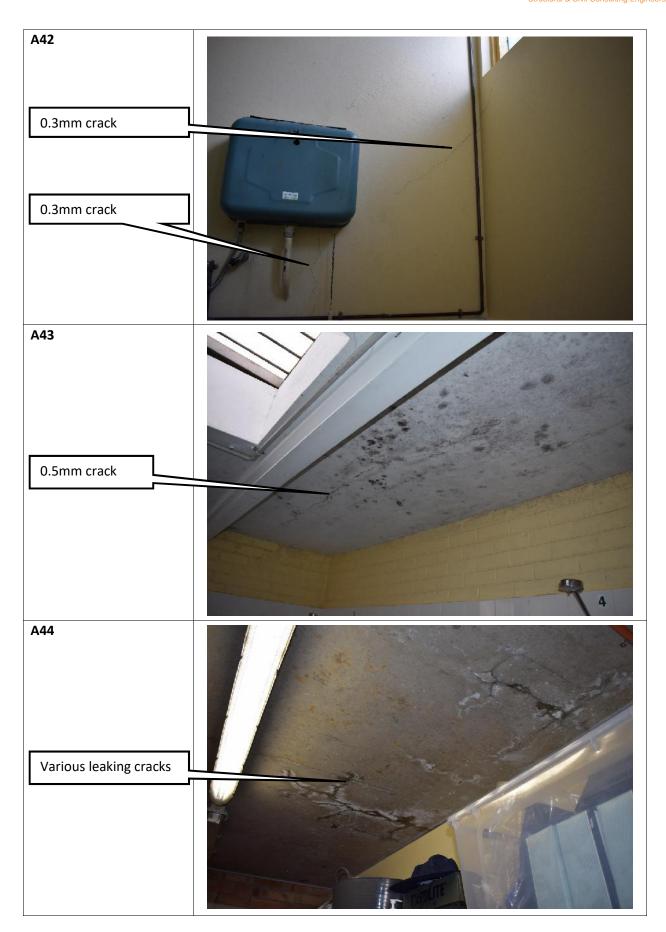




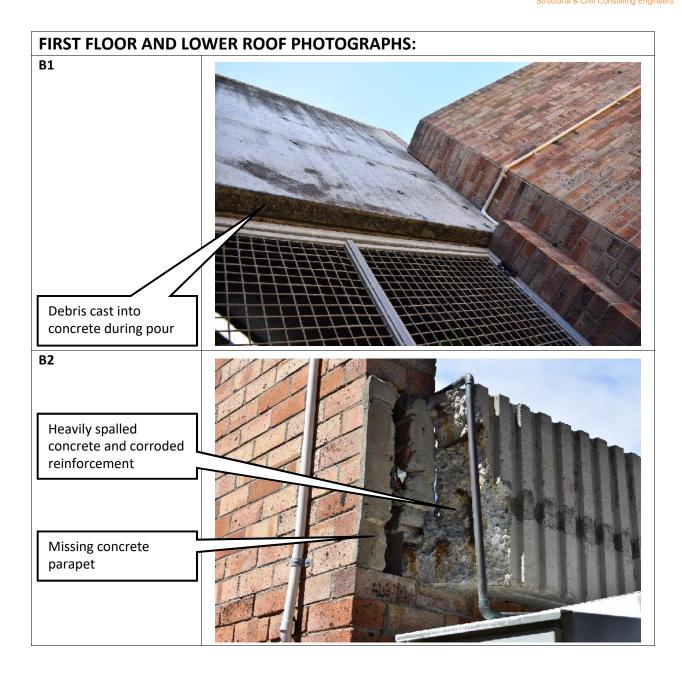




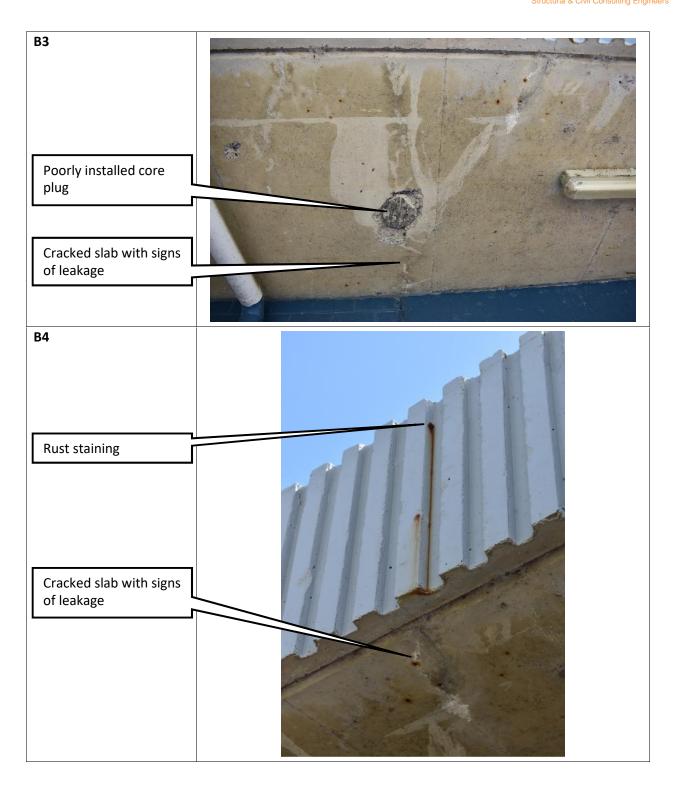




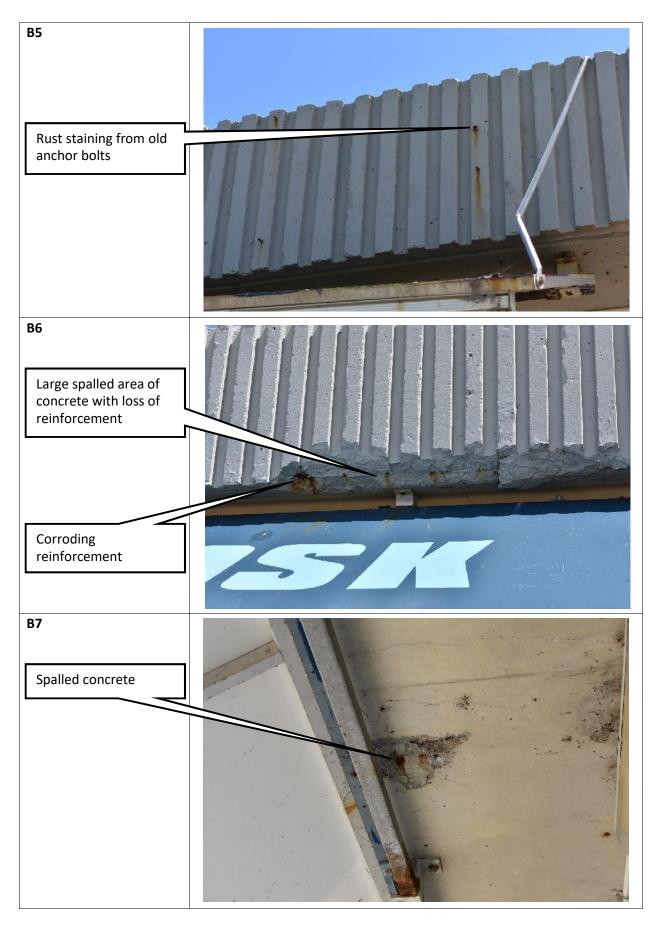




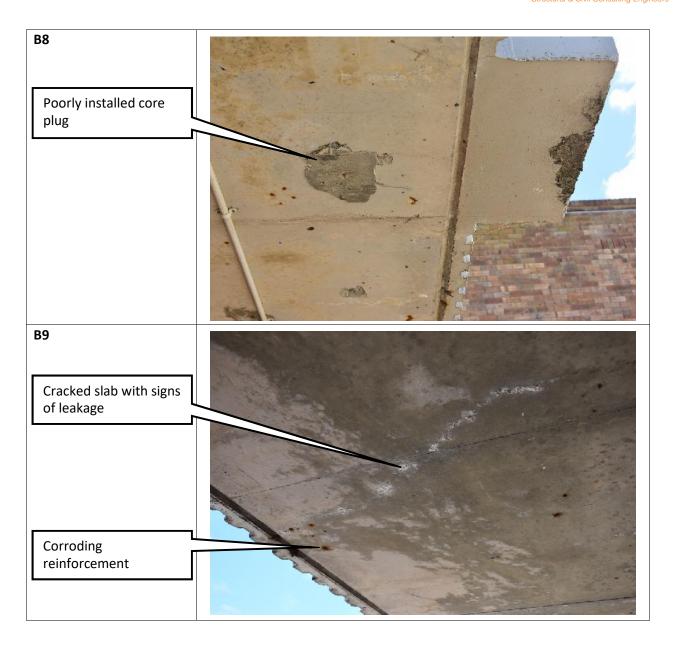




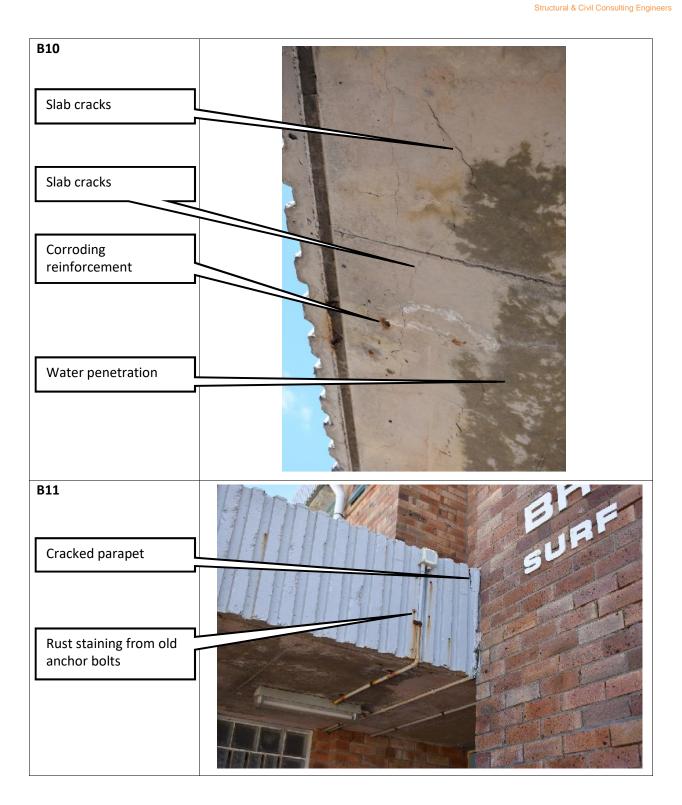




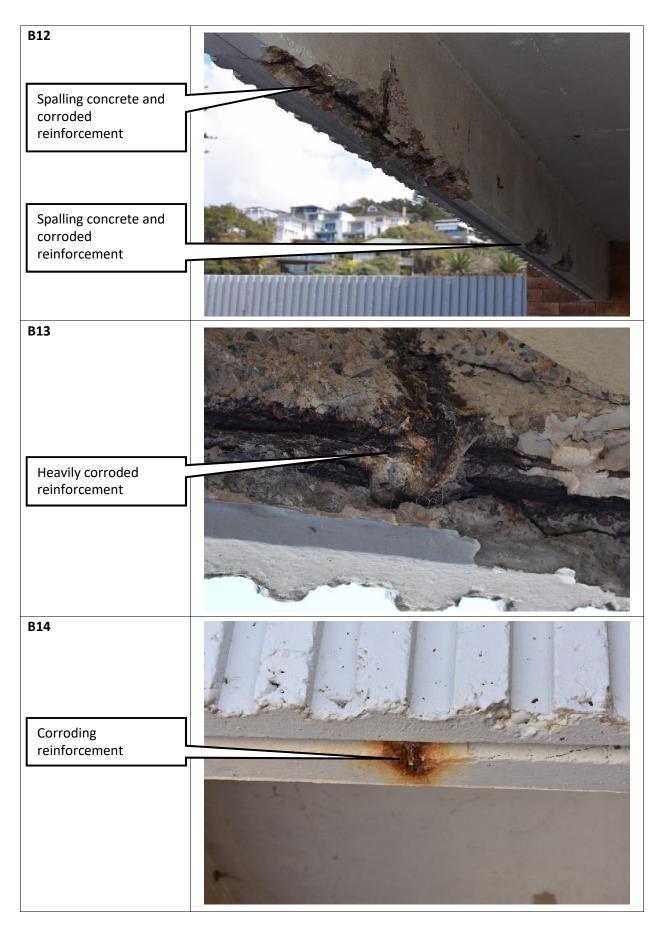




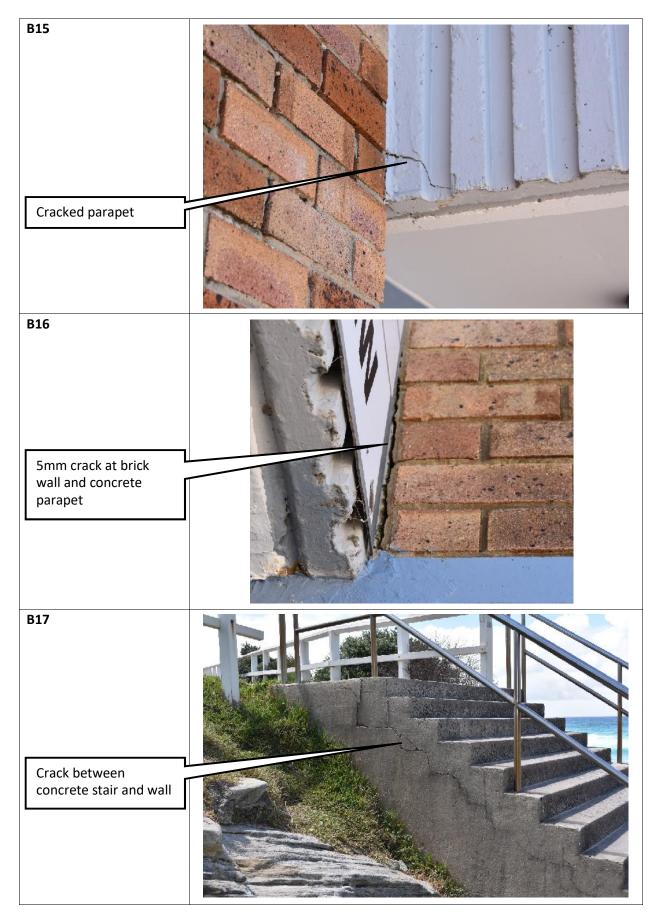




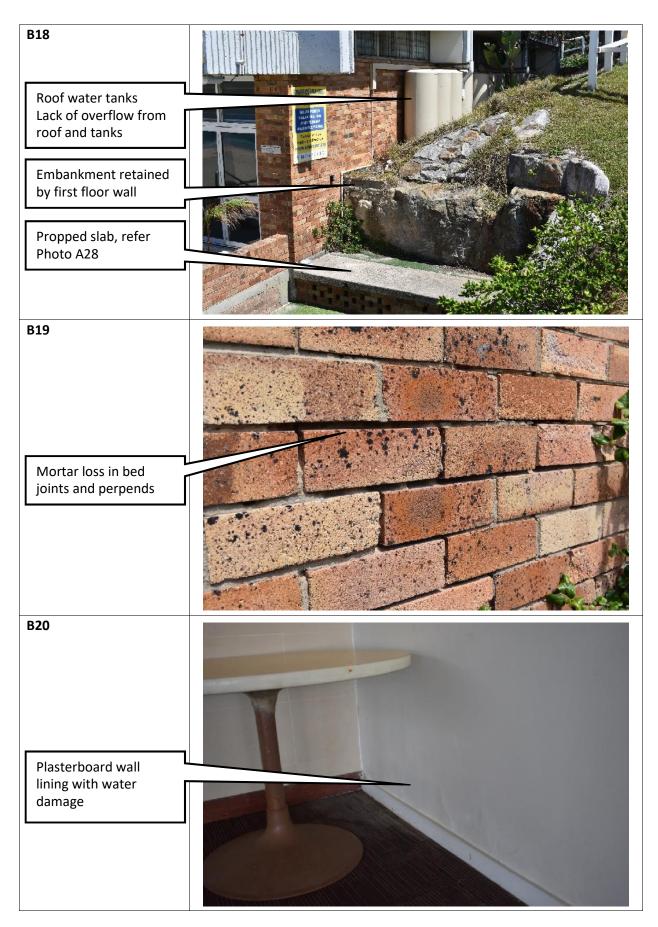




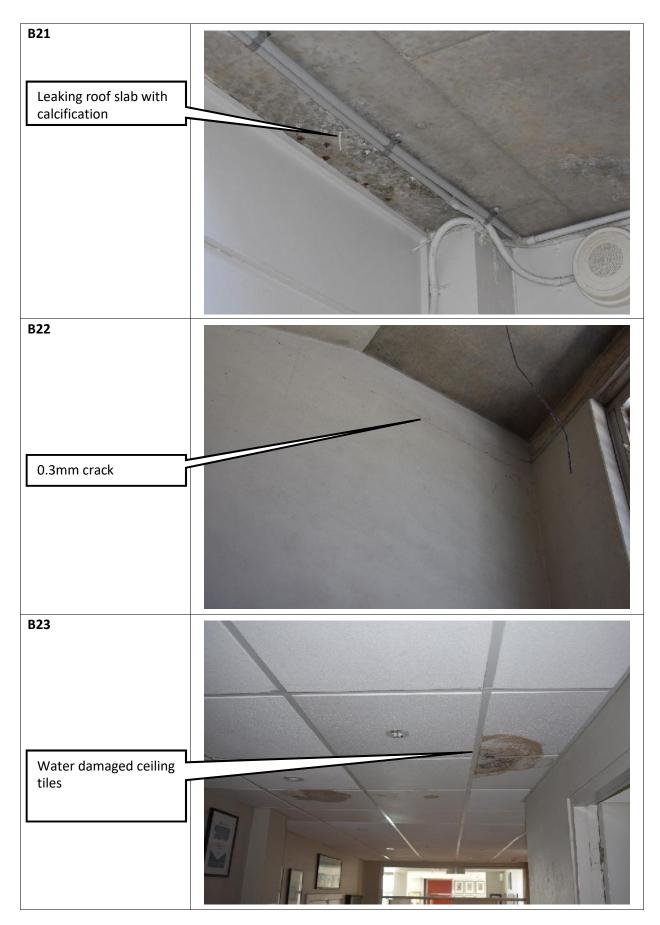




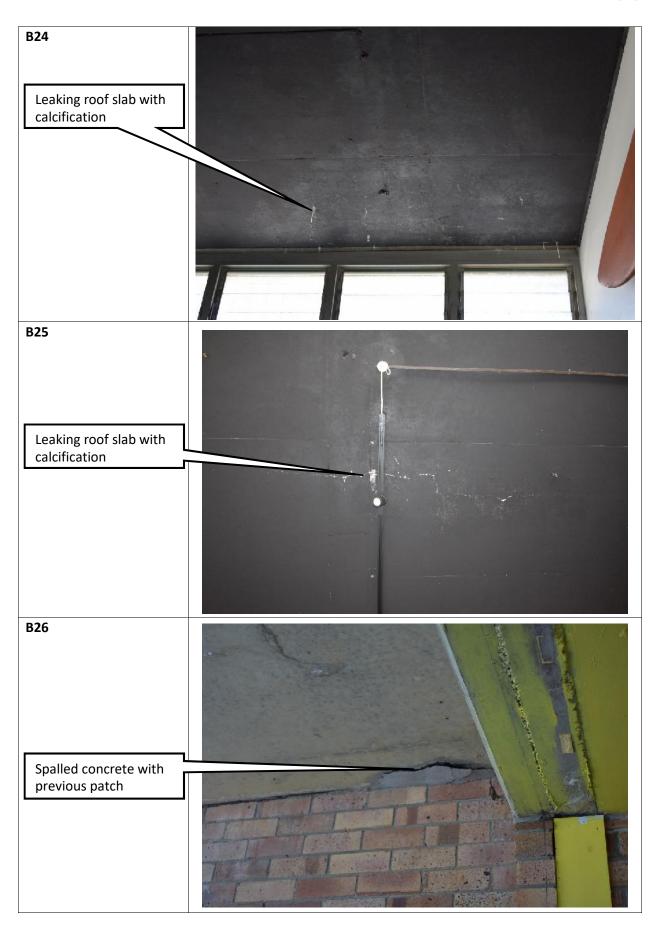




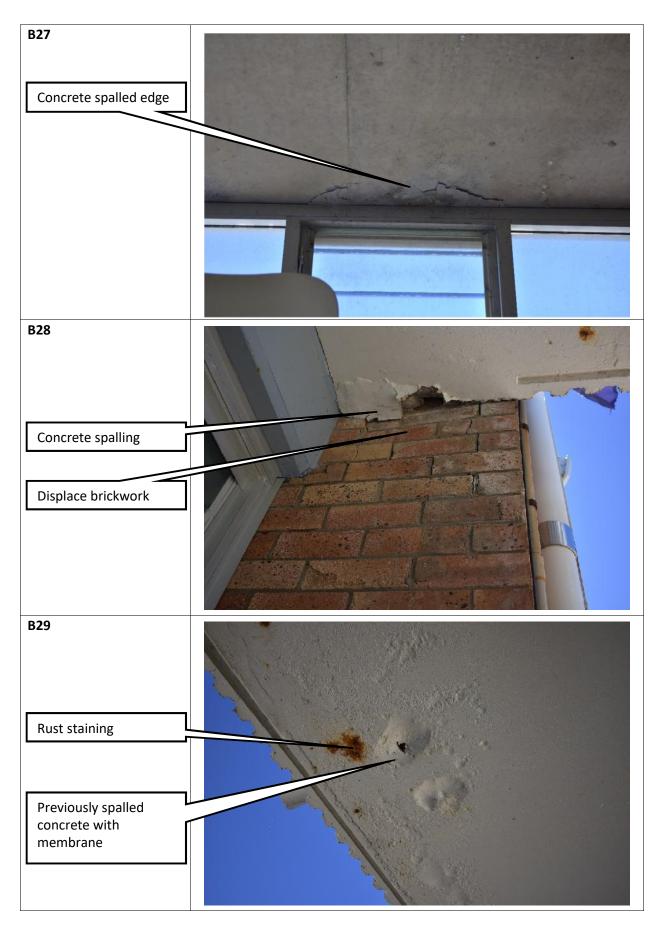




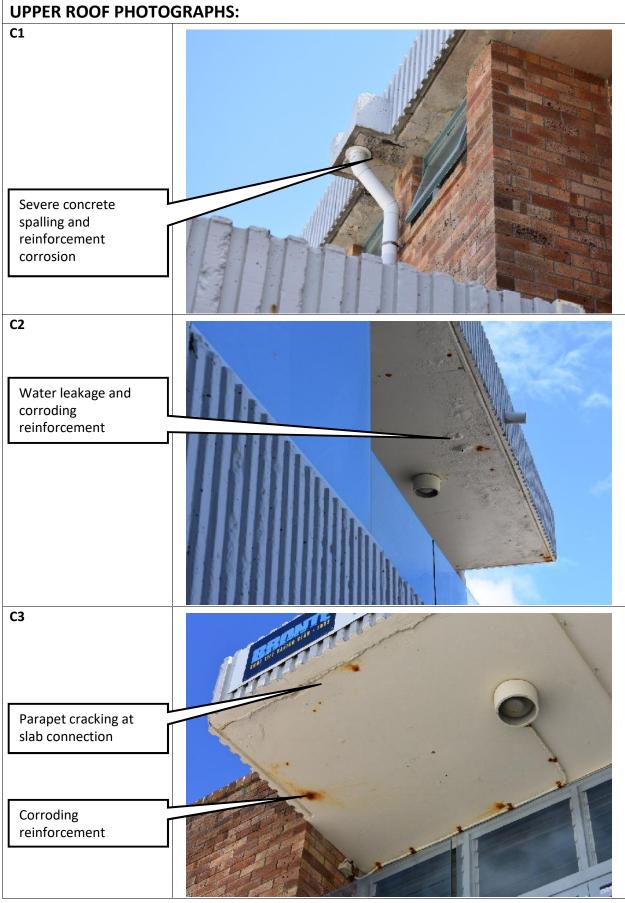












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