



Safety Bulletin

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There's been a lot of buzz recently about the impending construction of the Historic Old Administration Building, and amidst the excitement, I've been getting many questions from our faculty and staff regarding the hazards that exist in the building and how they will be handled during the building's restoration. Since the building will be entering into construction in November, it's a good time to explain the project's hazard identification and mitigation process, and the safeguards that will be employed to make sure our health and safety is protected. The first phase of construction will begin on November 5 and will consist of hazard abatement and selective demolition. This phase is scheduled to last for 80 days.

Hazards

Like many homes constructed in the early 1900s, many materials installed during the original OAB construction, as well as materials used in subsequent renovations, are today considered potentially hazardous. These materials primarily consist of building materials containing asbestos and lead based

Hazard Identification and Abatement Plans

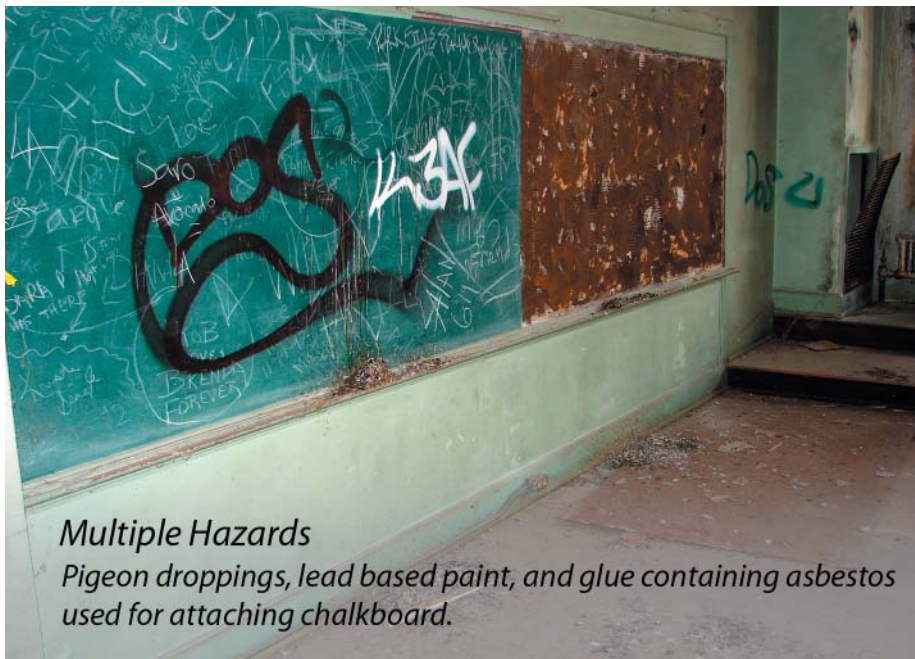
Anticipating the numerous hazards that would have to be addressed during the restoration of the OAB, in November 2006, the District retained the services of San Joaquin Environmental Inc. to conduct a comprehensive building inspection, develop a hazard identification catalog, and prepare systematic protocols for the removal or stabilization of the identified

hazards. Under the direction of San Joaquin Environmental's Christopher Tennant, Ph.D., CIH, REA, a thorough hazardous materials abatement plan was completed over the past summer. This effort included the contractor specifications necessary to safely and legally address the hazard abatement and all related environmental health and safety regulations and concerns.

Results of Investigation

In many regards, the results of the investigation were predictable. Indeed, the primary hazards were building materials containing asbestos, lead based paint, and biohazards.

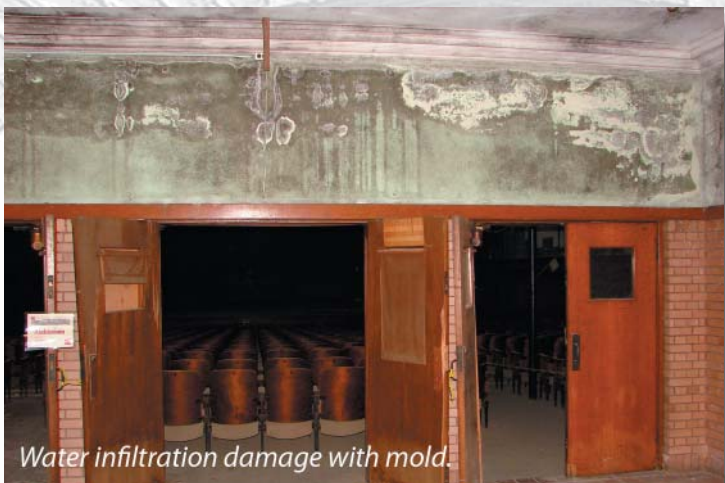
Biohazards were identified wherever there was water infiltration or evidence of pest infestation. Building materials containing asbestos were present in small quantities and limited locations and consisted of mostly non-friable (does not easily release airborne fibers) floor tiles, glues, and mastics. This was foreseeable since the build-



Multiple Hazards

Pigeon droppings, lead based paint, and glue containing asbestos used for attaching chalkboard.

paint. In addition to these hazards, water infiltration, (mostly due to roof leaks) and pest infestation, (e.g., pigeon and rodent droppings) have resulted in significant biohazards present in the building.



ing's construction predated the widespread use of asbestos in construction materials. However, what was completely unpredictable, if not puzzling, was the complete random nature of the application of lead based paint. Nearly every room and hallway in the OAB contained some lead based paint; however, its application within an area was completely random. For example, in some rooms only one wall would be painted with lead based paint and the others would be lead free. In other rooms, only the top three or four feet of the walls were painted with lead based paint. And in some hallways, lead based paint was used for large sections and then suddenly be absent, only to be present again a few feet later. This curiosity will likely never be understood.

Hazard Abatement

Because of the widespread nature of the identified hazards, abatement will occur in most areas of the building. The primary technique for abating the hazards will be the same; the use of specially constructed containment areas and critical barriers. Containment of an abatement area is accomplished by geographically isolating, or sealing off the hazardous area with thick plastic sheeting. The containment area is then placed under negative pressure with respect to rest of the building by exhausting air from the containment space to the outside with the use of specialized fans and high efficiency air filters that prevent the hazardous materials from escaping into the environment. Once a containment area is established, abatement work is performed by specially trained workers. Approximately 110 individual containment areas will be constructed as part of this project!

Our Safeguards: Quality Assurance and Quality Control

Hazard abatement is a specialized and highly regulated activity that requires special certifications, skill, attention to detail, and rigorous oversight. It is important for everybody to understand that all of this work will be conducted in strict accordance with federal, state, and local regulations and standards by the District's fully licensed and certified hazard abatement contractor. In addition to the hazard abatement contractor, all abatement-related work will be overseen by Dr. Tennant in coordination with District and FCC Environmental Health and Safety departments. Furthermore, these activities are additionally overseen and/or regulated by OSHA, Cal-OSHA, and the San Joaquin Valley



Air Pollution Control District.

Pursuant to the requirements of the agencies listed above, and in the interest of public health, during the course of the hazard abatement process, Dr. Tennant will conduct or oversee frequent and routine air monitoring for the abatement workers as well as ambient, building perimeter monitoring to ensure the effectiveness of the hazard controls. Upon completion of the abatement, Dr. Tennant will also perform "clearance" monitoring to make certain the abated areas are safe for human occupancy.

I realize I'm presenting you will a lot of information in this Safety Bulletin, but it's important that all faculty and staff have this information, have a basic understanding of the project, know that we are taking these issues seriously and with professionalism, and have confidence in the safeguards we have implemented to ensure your health and safety are protected.

A message from Darren Cousineau,
Occupational Health and Safety Officer