

SEVENTH EDITION

Construction Methods and Management

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To Joan, Steve, Jan, and John

Preface

This book is based on the author's years of experience in construction, engineering, and education. The objective of this seventh edition continues to be to guide construction engineers and construction managers in planning, estimating, and directing construction operations in a manner that will attain the best possible results. It is believed that the material presented is comprehensive enough to serve as the basic text for a variety of construction courses as well as for self-study. For an introductory course, upper-division college and university-level students should be able to cover the material in one semester. For more in-depth coverage, the material may be split between two or more courses. Topics may, of course, be omitted or augmented as appropriate to the nature of the course and the desires of the instructor. In solving the computer problems contained in the end-of-chapter exercises, it is suggested that students be encouraged to use electronic spreadsheets and their associated functions in addition to conventional computer programming languages. Instructors are reminded that an Instructor's Manual is available from the publisher. It is strongly recommended that study of the text in an academic environment be supplemented by visits to construction projects and/or audiovisual material.

Responding to industry developments and user comments, this edition incorporates new and revised material to reflect current developments in the construction industry. New and expanded topics include building codes, concrete and masonry construction, construction economics, construction productivity, construction safety, design of concrete formwork, fuel-resistant asphalt, soil and asphalt compaction, and wood preservation, in addition to updated text, illustrations, references, and end-of-chapter problems.

It would not be possible to produce a book of this type without the assistance of many individuals and organizations. The assistance of construction industry associations and construction equipment manufacturers in providing information and photographs and in permitting reproduction of certain elements of their material is gratefully acknowledged. Where possible, appropriate credit has been provided. I would also like to express my appreciation to my colleagues and to my former students for their helpful comments and suggestions. In addition, particular thanks are due to Charles Patrick, Ph.D., Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, for his assistance with the seventh edition text review.

Comments from readers regarding errors and suggestions for improvement are solicited. Please send to nunnallysj@juno.com.

S. W. Nunnally

Contents

1 Introduction 1

- 1-1 The Construction Industry 1
- 1-2 The Construction Process 3
- 1-3 Codes and Regulations 8
- 1-4 State of the Industry 10
- 1-5 Construction Management 11
- 1-6 Construction Trends and Prospects 15
- Problems 16
- References 16

PART ONE Earthmoving and Heavy Construction 17

2 Earthmoving Materials and Operations 19

- 2-1 Introduction to Earthmoving 19
- 2-2 Earthmoving Materials 21
- 2-3 Soil Identification and Classification 22
- 2-4 Soil Volume-Change Characteristics 26
- 2-5 Spoil Banks 30
- 2-6 Estimating Earthwork Volume 32
- 2-7 Construction Use of the Mass Diagram 36
- Problems 39
- References 40

3 Excavating and Lifting 41

- 3-1 Introduction 41
- 3-2 Hydraulic Excavators 46
- 3-3 Shovels 50
- 3-4 Draglines 54

- 3-5 Clamshells 60
- 3-6 Trenching and Trenchless Technology 62
- 3-7 Cranes 66
 - Problems 78
 - References 79
- 4 Loading and Hauling 81**
 - 4-1 Estimating Equipment Travel Time 81
 - 4-2 Dozers 91
 - 4-3 Loaders 98
 - 4-4 Scrapers 106
 - 4-5 Trucks and Wagons 118
 - Problems 124
 - References 125
- 5 Compacting and Finishing 127**
 - 5-1 Principles of Compaction 127
 - 5-2 Compaction Equipment and Procedures 132
 - 5-3 Ground Modification 143
 - 5-4 Grading and Finishing 146
 - Problems 152
 - References 153
- 6 Rock Excavation 155**
 - 6-1 Introduction 155
 - 6-2 Drilling 160
 - 6-3 Blasting 168
 - 6-4 Rock Ripping 176
 - 6-5 Estimating Production and Cost 179
 - Problems 182
 - References 183
- 7 Production of Aggregate, Concrete, and Asphalt Mixes 185**
 - 7-1 Production of Aggregate 185
 - 7-2 Production of Concrete 196
 - 7-3 Production of Asphalt Mixes 206
 - Problems 211
 - References 213
- 8 Paving and Surface Treatments 215**
 - 8-1 Concrete Paving 215
 - 8-2 Asphalt Paving and Surface Treatments 219

- 8-3 Pavement Repair and Rehabilitation 227
 - Problems 231
 - References 231

9 Compressed Air and Water Systems 233

- 9-1 Introduction 233
- 9-2 Compressed Air Systems 233
- 9-3 Water Supply Systems 246
 - Problems 259
 - References 260

PART TWO Building Construction 261

10 Foundations 263

- 10-1 Foundation Systems 263
- 10-2 Spread Footings 263
- 10-3 Piles 265
- 10-4 Piers and Caissons 275
- 10-5 Stability of Excavations 276
- 10-6 Protecting Excavations and Workers 281
- 10-7 Dewatering Excavations 286
- 10-8 Pressure Grouting 289
 - Problems 292
 - References 293

11 Wood Construction 295

- 11-1 Introduction 295
- 11-2 Wood Materials and Properties 295
- 11-3 Frame Construction 300
- 11-4 Timber Construction 321
- 11-5 Fastenings, Connections, and Notching 327
 - Problems 333
 - References 333

12 Concrete Construction 335

- 12-1 Construction Applications of Concrete 335
- 12-2 Concrete Construction Practices 346
- 12-3 Concrete Formwork 352
- 12-4 Reinforcing Steel 361
- 12-5 Quality Control 367
 - Problems 368
 - References 369

- 13 Concrete Form Design 371**
 - 13-1 Design Principles 371
 - 13-2 Design Loads 371
 - 13-3 Method of Analysis 374
 - 13-4 Slab Form Design 376
 - 13-5 Wall and Column Form Design 390
 - 13-6 Design of Lateral Bracing 396
 - Problems 400
 - References 401

- 14 Masonry Construction 403**
 - 14-1 Brick Masonry 403
 - 14-2 Concrete Masonry 414
 - 14-3 Other Masonry Materials 420
 - 14-4 Estimating Quantity of Masonry 422
 - 14-5 Construction Practice 424
 - Problems 430
 - References 430

- 15 Steel Construction 433**
 - 15-1 Introduction 433
 - 15-2 Structural Steel 434
 - 15-3 Steel Erection 438
 - 15-4 Field Connections 443
 - 15-5 Safety 448
 - Problems 449
 - References 449

- PART THREE Construction Management 451**

- 16 Planning and Scheduling 453**
 - 16-1 Introduction 453
 - 16-2 Bar Graph Method 454
 - 16-3 CPM—The Critical Path Method 459
 - 16-4 Scheduling and Resource Assignment Using CPM 471
 - 16-5 Practical Considerations in Network Use 475
 - 16-6 Linear Scheduling Methods 476
 - Problems 478
 - References 480

- 17 Construction Economics 481**
 - 17-1 Introduction 481
 - 17-2 Time Value of Money 481

17-3	Equipment Cost	482
17-4	Equipment Rental	494
17-5	The Rent-Lease-Buy Decision	495
17-6	Financial Management of Construction	498
	Problems	502
	References	504
18	Contract Construction	505
18-1	Introduction	505
18-2	Bidding and Contract Award	505
18-3	Construction Contracts	508
18-4	Plans and Specifications	511
18-5	Contract Administration	512
	Problems	515
	References	516
19	Construction Safety and Health and Equipment Maintenance	517
19-1	Importance of Safety	517
19-2	OSHA	518
19-3	Safety Programs	518
19-4	Safety Procedures	520
19-5	Environmental Health in Construction	523
19-6	Equipment Maintenance	525
	Problems	529
	References	530
20	Improving Productivity and Performance	531
20-1	The Big Picture	531
20-2	Work Improvement	532
20-3	Quantitative Management Methods	539
20-4	Computers and Other Tools	544
20-5	Robots in Construction	548
20-6	The Future	550
	Problems	551
	References	552
	Appendix A: Metric Conversion Factors	553
	Appendix B: Construction Industry Organizations	554
	Appendix C: Construction Internet Sources	558
	Index	559

