

THE AUSTRALIAN EARTHQUAKE LOADING STANDARD

3 years on - how is it working and what have we learned ?



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*Ground failure near Robe, S.A. after the 1897 Beachport
earthquake in South Australia*

*Earthquake damage, Beachport, S.A. Post Office after the 1897
earthquake*

FOREWORD

This volume of the proceedings of the Society's Technical Seminar, held in Adelaide in 1996, is the fourth in the series published by the Society since it was formed in 1990 following the Newcastle Earthquake.

The theme for the 1996 seminar was "The Australian Earthquake Loading Standard: 3 years on - how is it working and what have we learned?". The seminar was well supported with 23 papers being presented. The keynote address on "Performance Based Earthquake Engineering" by Dr. Andrew Whittaker, Associate Director of the Earthquake Engineering Research Center at the University of California, was especially informative and thought provoking.

Indeed, the papers presented in each of the four seminar sessions covering the topics of Earthquake Codes, Insurance, Seismology and Unreinforced Masonry are all well worth reading. I commend them to you and look forward to our next meeting - in Brisbane.

Michael C. Griffith
Seminar Organiser

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