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STANDARDS AUSTRALIA
Australian Standard
2121-1979

SAA EARTHQUAKE CODE



STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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THE FOLLOWING SCIENTIFIC, INDUSTRIAL, PROFESSIONAL AND GOVERNMENTAL organizations and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

Association of Consulting Engineers, Australia
Australian Atomic Energy Commission
Australian National Committee on Large Dams
Australian Road Research Board
Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics
Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia
Brick Development Research Institute
Concrete Institute of Australia
Concrete Masonry Association of Australia Co-op Limited
CSIRO, Division of Building Research
Department of Housing and Construction
Department of Public Works, Western Australia
Electricity Supply Association of Australia
Experimental Building Station
Geological Society of Australia Incorporated
Hydro Electric Commission, Tasmania
Insurance Council of Australia
Public Buildings Department, South Australia
University of Adelaide

This standard, prepared by Committee BD/12, Earthquake Engineering, was approved by the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 20 April 1979, and was published on 1 November 1979.

To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian standards are regularly reviewed. Suggestions for improvements to published standards, addressed to the head office of the Association, are welcomed.

This standard was issued in draft form for public review as DR 76100.

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD

**THE DESIGN OF
EARTHQUAKE-RESISTANT BUILDINGS**

known as the
SAA EARTHQUAKE CODE

AS 2121 1979

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| First published 1979 |
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PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Earthquake Engineering, on the basis of a first draft submitted by the Australian National Committee on Earthquake Engineering.

Reference was made, in the drafting of detailed code requirements, to the following base documents to which acknowledgement is accordingly made:

- Seismology Committee, Structural Engineers Association of California — 'Recommended lateral force requirements and commentary', 1977 edition
- International Conference of Building Officials, California, U.S.A. — 'Uniform building code', 1976 edition

Other documents to which reference was made are noted in the commentary.

The seismic zone map of Australia was prepared on the basis of collated historical earthquake records, and was drawn up by the Australian Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics.

Attention is drawn to the following Australian standards which may be required for use in connection with this standard:

- AS 1155 Metric Units for Use in the Construction Industry
- AS 1163 Welded and Seamless Hollow Sections for General Structural Purposes
- AS 1170 SAA Loading Code
 - Part 1 — Dead and Live Loads
 - Part 2 — Wind Forces
- AS 1204 Structural Steels — Ordinary Weldable Grades
- AS 1205 Structural Steels — Weather-resistant Weldable Grades
- AS 1250 SAA Steel Structures Code
- AS 1475 SAA Blockwork Code
 - Part 1 — Unreinforced Blockwork
 - Part 2 — Reinforced Blockwork*
- AS 1480 SAA Concrete Structures Code
- AS 1481 SAA Prestressed Concrete Code
- AS 1554 SAA Code for Welding in Building
- AS 1640 SAA Brickwork Code
- AS 1720 SAA Timber Engineering Code

* In course of preparation.

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COMMENTARY

(Commentary on individual Clauses, Sections, Figures and Appendices, is identified by the prefix C preceding the Clause, Section, Figure or Appendix reference number or letter. For example, C6.3.1 would be the commentary on Clause 6.3.1. Commentary is presented on the same page as the corresponding Clause, Section or Figure, or on the facing left-hand page.)

CONTENTS

For a particular site or location, it should be necessary for the designer to refer to only three of the five Parts of this standard.

The Parts requiring reference will be—

- Part 1 — General
- Part 2 — Structural Analysis
- and Part 3 — Zone A rules
- or Part 4 — Zone 1 rules
- or Part 5 — Zone 2 rules

This approach is indicated in the flowchart below:

