

A REVIEW OF THE SEISMIC BEHAVIOR
OF EARTHEN HOUSING IN NICARAGUA.

DR. CELINA U. PEÑALBA
RESEARCH DIVISION
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

ABSTRACT : Earthen construction is typical in the rural areas of Nicaragua. Two types are identified: The Taquezal and the Adobe which seem promising for low cost massive housing. However, their vulnerability to earthquakes and other environmental risk had limited their use.

The paper describes efforts to make earthen construction safer, appropriate for energy conservation and suitable for using alternate forms of energy.