



Public Works Department

Quality Management Division

April 19, 2021

To: Christina Bies
Project Coordinator
Parks & Recreation Department, City of Austin

Re: Elisabet Ney Museum
304 East 44th Street, Austin Texas, 78751
Existing Exterior Balcony

Ms. Bies,

This letter is in regard to the structural integrity of the existing elevated balcony. A site visit was conducted on April 7, 2021, to perform a structural observation of the exterior balcony located to the east of the main entrance. See photo A

The existing building appears to be a stone structure, a full assessment of the building was not made at the time of our site visit. The existing balcony is located to the east of the main entrance of the museum. See photo B. The balcony floor system consists of wood floor joists that are supported by a double wood member beam at both supporting ends. See photos C and D. The joist sizes and supporting wood members were not measured during the site visit. There are two (2) steel lintels that support a low stone guard rail wall on along the south and east side of the balcony, the steel lintels are supported by stone columns. At the time of our site visit the two (2) steel lintels were rusted and were delaminated. See photos E and F. The stone column support located against the building along the east side of the balcony is leaning southward away from the building and a limestone block has split in the stone capital. See photos G and H.

The structural integrity of the existing stone column capital and the two (2) steel lintels have been compromised, creating imminent hazard and danger to the health, safety and welfare of the public. The balcony is not to be accessed and the area needs to be roped off. It is my professional recommendation that this be addressed immediately to minimize any further damage.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,



Karim Helmi, PE
City Structural Engineer
QUALITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION
Public Works Department | City of Austin
512.974.6539 | karim.helmi@austintexas.gov



Photo A: Building Front View

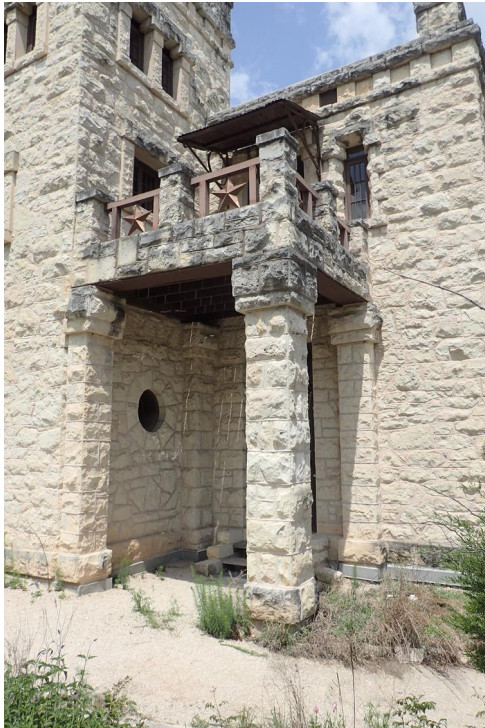


Photo B: Exiting Balcony



Photo C: Balcony Wood Framing



Photo D: Balcony Wood Framing



Photo E: Existing Steel Lintel



Photo F: Existing Steel Lintel



Photo G: Existing Stone Column



Photo H: Existing Split Stone Capital