Joe Kelly
Roughan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers

Maintenance & Repair of Bridge Structures

- Part A Introduction to the Irish Experience
- Part B Common Defects, Testing & Inspection
- Part C Examples of Bridge Refurbishment Projects





Part A – Introduction to the Irish Experience





Bridge Failures







Introduction to the Irish Experience

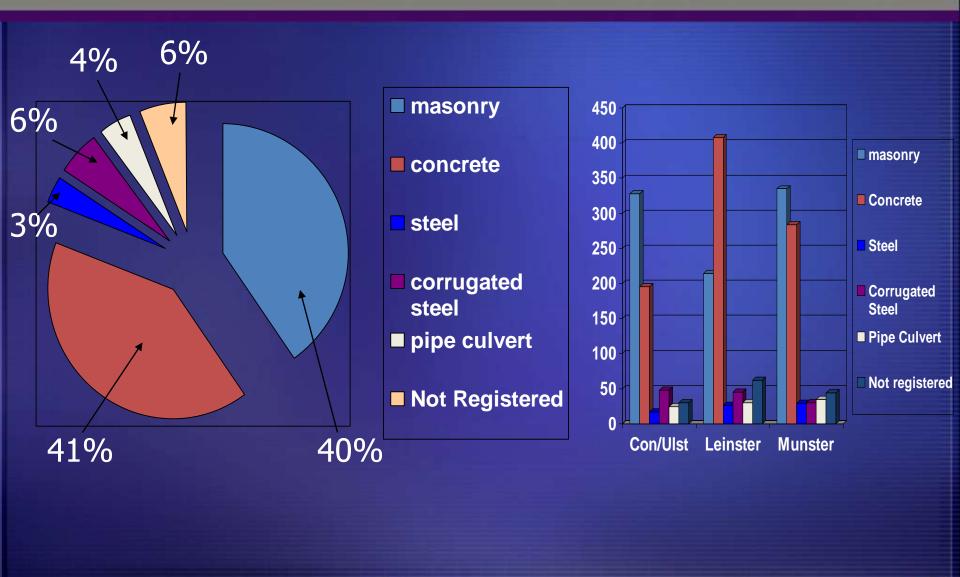
Influencing Factors

- Maintenance History
 - Historically, investment in maintenance has been perceived to be very low
 - Both advantages and disadvantages to this
- Bridge Stock Inventory
 - Roads bridge stock consists of both very old and very new structures
 - Rail and Waterways bridge stock is predominantly very old structures
- Principal Cause of Defects
 - Corrosion (carbonation, chloride ion)
 - Alkali Silica Attack (very limited in Ireland)
 - Sulphate Attack (Thaumasite Attack) (very limited in Ireland)
 - Inadequate Design
 - Scour undermining foundation through action of moving water
 - Impact
 - Overloading





Introduction to the Irish Experience







Part B – Common Defects, Testing & Inspection





Common Defects

Typical Causes of defects

Cause	Defect
Structure movement	SettlementSlidingRotationDifferential movement
Water Leakage	 Poor detailing Failed joints Lack of maintenance Soft verges Loss of pointing / masonry
Ground level changes	ScourExcavation / loweringFill / raising

Cause	Defect
Chemical attack	Sulphate in groundwaterAlkali aggregate reactionChloride ion ingressCarbonation
Steel corrosion	Poor paintworkLow coverCorrosion of exposed piles
Accidental	ImpactOverloadDesign ErrorsConstruction Defects





Common Defects







Testing

Site tests

- Carbonation
- Schmidt hammer
- Covermeter
- Half-cell potential measurement
- Resistivity
- In-situ moisture content
- Permeability and surface absorption
- Void detection
- Internal tendon examination
- In-situ stress condition
- Capo pull off test

Laboratory tests

- Core compressive test
- Laboratory moisture content
- Density measurement
- Reinforcement yield strength
- Core expansion (ASR) test
- Petrographic analysis
- Diffusion test
- Sulphate resistance of concrete
- Chloride content
- Sulphate content
- Alkali content
- Cement Content





Part C – Examples of Bridge Refurbishment Projects





Ballysmutten Bridge









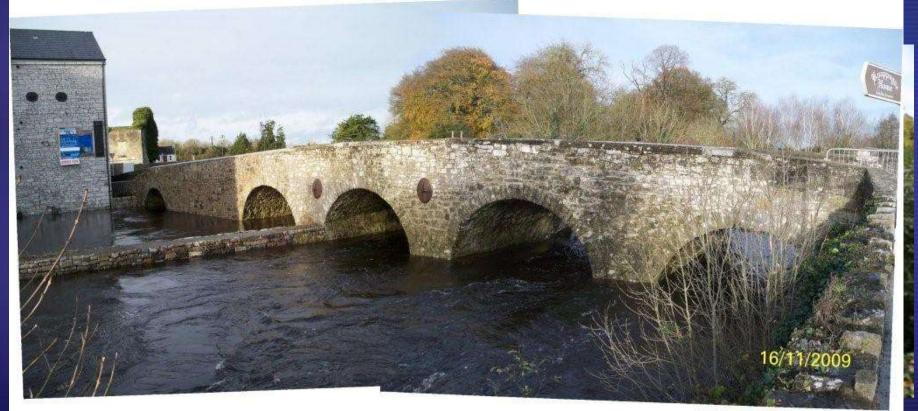
Brownsbarn Bridge







Richmond Bridge

















Killongford Bridge











