Chapter 1
General

1-1. Purpose and Scope

This manual provides guidance for the design and construction of architectural concrete, including planning and design, forms, materials and proportions, batching and transporting, placement, curing and form removal, exposed aggregate surfaces, finishing, and quality assurance.

1-2. Applicability

This manual applies to all HQUSACE elements and all field operating activities (FOA) having civil works and/or military programs responsibility.

1-3. References

References cited in this manual are listed in Appendix A.

1-4. Distribution Statement

Approved for public release, distribution is unlimited.

1-5. Definition-Architectural Concrete

The American Concrete Institute (ACI) defines architectural concrete as concrete exposed as an interior or exterior surface in the completed structure.

1-6. Specifications

Specifications can be performance type, where the quality of the end product is specified or prescription type, where methods, materials, and procedures are specified. The performance type requires the contractor to be entirely responsible for the quality of the end product. The prescription type requires acceptance of the completed product if the contractor has followed the specifications. An architectural concrete specification is usually a combination of both.

1-7. Drawings

Architectural concrete contributes to the visual character of the structure and must be designated as such in the contract drawings and specifications. All surfaces to have an architectural concrete appearance must be labeled on the contract drawings in order to prevent controversy during construction. This includes limits, location, and type of treatment.