

**UNIFORM BUILDING CODE STANDARD 21-8
POINTING OF UNREINFORCED MASONRY WALLS**

See Appendix Chapter 1, Section A1 06.3.3.2, *Uniform Code for Building Conservation*

Note: See Appendix Chapter A1, Section A103 and A106.3.3.9, California Existing Building Code.

SECTION 21.801 — SCOPE

Pointing of deteriorated mortar joints when required by the *Uniform Code for Building Conservation (California Existing Building Code)* shall be in accordance with this standard.

SECTION 21.802 — JOINT PREPARATION

The old or deteriorated mortar joint shall be cut out, by means of a toothing chisel or nonimpact power tool, to a uniform depth of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (19 mm) until sound mortar is reached. Care shall be taken not to damage the brick edges. After cutting is complete, all loose material shall be removed with a brush, air or water stream.

SECTION 21.803 — MORTAR PREPARATION

The mortar mix shall be Type N or Type S proportioned as required by the construction specifications. The pointing mortar shall be pre-hydrated by first thoroughly mixing all ingredients dry and then mixing again, adding only enough water to produce a damp unworkable mix which will retain its form when pressed into a ball. The mortar shall be kept in a damp condition for one and one-half hours; then sufficient water shall be added to bring it to a consistency that is somewhat drier than conventional masonry mortar.

SECTION 21.804 — PACKING

The joint into which the mortar is to be packed shall be damp but without freestanding water. The mortar shall be tightly packed into the joint in layers not exceeding $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6.4 mm) in depth until it is filled; then it shall be tooled to a smooth surface to match the original profile.