

Designation: C1242 - 05

# Standard Guide for Selection, Design, and Installation of Dimension Stone Anchoring Systems<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C1242; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\varepsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

#### INTRODUCTION

Natural building stone is chosen as a building's cladding for its beauty which endures with minimal maintenance. Stone is durable when used properly. Exercising good judgment when selecting the particular stone, determining the quarrying and fabrication techniques, designing the method of attachment, and installing all components correctly maximizes these benefits. A properly executed stone cladding is designed and installed within the capabilities and limitations of the stone and support system to resist all forces that work on them.

This guide presents design principles that require consideration when designing anchorages and evaluating exterior stone to be compatible with its proposed use. It is an overview of current techniques and a review of minimum requirements for sound stone engineering and construction. The guide does not list all possible methods of attachment nor does it provide a step-by-step procedure for stone anchor engineering. Knowledge gained from new engineering designs, testing of applications, and the investigation of existing problems are continually reviewed to update this guide. Comment from users is encouraged.

Good judgment by architects, engineers, and contractors when specifying, designing, engineering, and constructing stone and other work that interfaces stone is necessary to use this guide. Users of this guide should combine known performance characteristics of the stone, the building's structural behavior, and knowledge of materials and construction methods with proven engineering practice.

#### 1. Scope

1.1 This guide covers the categories of anchors and anchoring systems and discusses the design principles to be considered in selecting anchors or systems that will resist gravity loads and applied loads.

1.2 This guide sets forth basic requirements for the design of stone anchorage and provides a practical checklist of those design considerations.

1.3 This guide pertains to:

1.3.1 The anchoring of stone panels directly to the building structure for support,

5.41.3.2 The anchoring of stone panels to subframes or to curtainwall components after these support systems are attached to the building structure,

1.3.3 The anchoring of stone panels to subframes or to curtainwall components with stone cladding preassembled before these support systems are attached to the building structure, and

1.3.4 The supervision and inspection of fabrication and installation of the above.

1.4 Observe all applicable regulations, specific recommendations of the manufacturers, and standards governing interfacing work.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C18 on Dimension Stone and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C18.06 on Anchorage Components and Systems.

Current edition approved June 1, 2005. Published July 2005. Originally approved in 1993. Last previous edition approved in 2004 as C1242-04a. DOI: 10.1520/C1242-05.

1.5 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as the standard. The SI units given in parentheses are for information only.

1.6 This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use. (See Tables 1 and 2.)

# 2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1 ASTM Standards:<sup>2</sup>
- C97 Test Methods for Absorption and Bulk Specific Gravity of Dimension Stone
- C99 Test Method for Modulus of Rupture of Dimension Stone
- C119 Terminology Relating to Dimension Stone
- C170 Test Method for Compressive Strength of Dimension Stone
- C406 Specification for Roofing Slate
- C503 Specification for Marble Dimension Stone
- C568 Specification for Limestone Dimension Stone
- C615 Specification for Granite Dimension Stone
- C616 Specification for Quartz-Based Dimension Stone
- C629 Specification for Slate Dimension Stone
- C880 Test Method for Flexural Strength of Dimension Stone
- C1201 Test Method for Structural Performance of Exterior Dimension Stone Cladding Systems by Uniform Static Air Pressure Difference
- C1353 Test Method Using the Taber Abraser for Abrasion Resistance of Dimension Stone Subjected to Foot Traffic
- C1354 Test Method for Strength of Individual Stone Anchorages in Dimension Stone ASTM C1
- C1526 Specification for Serpentine Dimension Stone
- C1527 Specification for Travertine Dimension Stone

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

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<sup>A</sup> This stone type is a subclassification.

<sup>B</sup> This stone type has subclassifications or grades.

**TABLE 2** Dimension Stone Test Methods

Measures	ASTM Test Method
liquid porosity and relative density	C97
combined shear with tensile unit strength from bending	C99
ultimate crushing unit strength	C170
primary tensile unit strength from bending	C880
capacity and deflections of panels assembled with	C1201
their anchors onto their supporting backup structure	
individual anchor strength	C1354
accelerated production of service life	E632

E632 Practice for Developing Accelerated Tests to Aid Prediction of the Service Life of Building Components and Materials

## 3. Terminology

3.1 *General Definitions*—For definitions of terms used in this guide, refer to Terminology C119.

3.2 Specific definitions used in the design process are listed in 8.4.

#### 4. Significance and Use

4.1 This guide is intended to be used by architects, engineers, and contractors who either design or install exterior stone cladding for architectural structures.

4.2 This guide is an industry standard for engineering design considerations, documentation, material considerations, anchor type applications, and installation workmanship to assist designers and installers to achieve a proper and durable stone cladding.

4.3 Stone and its support systems are part of a building's skin and shall be compatible with the behavior and performance of other interfacing systems, such as the curtainwall and superstructure frame.

4.3.1 Every stone work application shall comply with applicable building codes.

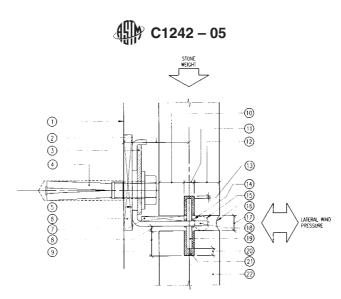
4.3.2 It is not the intent of this Guide to supercede published recommendations for specific stone types. Provisions of other dimension stone industry publications should be reviewed and considered in addition to this Guide's recommendations. All industry information should be considered with respect to project specifications and requirements. If provisions of such publications differ from those in this Guide, it is acceptable practice to follow the publication's provisions if recommended by the stone specialist defined in 4.4 for the specific conditions of the individual project.

4.3.3 Because stone properties vary, the range and variability of pertinent properties of the stone proposed for use should be determined by testing and statistical methods that are evaluated using sound engineering principles. Use recent test data where applicable. Always reference proven performance of relevant existing structures.

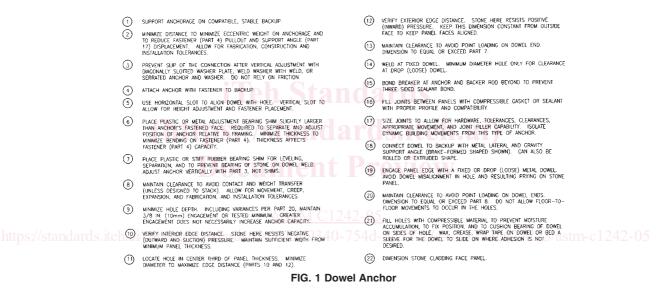
4.3.4 Changes in properties over time shall be considered.

4.3.5 Overall behaviors of all building systems and components including the stone shall be interactively compatible.

4.4 *Stone Specialist*—Some conditions require professional expertise to select and plan a proper anchoring system,



ANCHOR IN HORIZONTAL JOINT CAN SUPPORT GRAVITY AND LATERAL LOADS (FIGURE AS SECTION VEW) ANCHOR IN VERTICAL JOINT CAN SUPPORT ONLY LATERAL LOADS (FIGURE AS PLAN VIEW)



establish appropriate testing requirements, interpret tests, design and engineer the anchoring system, or monitor its fabrication and installation. A specialist is a person that complements the capabilities of the project team by contributing specific expert experience with the use, selection, design, and installation of dimension stone.

4.4.1 Particular conditions where special expertise is suggested to achieve a reliable installation:

4.4.1.1 Where complex connections or anchoring methods of unknown or questionable performance records are likely to be considered or specified;

4.4.1.2 Where the performance record of the specified systems and materials is not known or questionable;

4.4.1.3 When multiple cladding materials occur on the same facade;

4.4.1.4 If the supporting structure or backup is more flexible than L/600 in any direction;

4.4.1.5 If extreme loading could be caused by seismic, hurricane, tornado, or installation and handling methods;

4.4.1.6 When special building code requirements prevail. 4.4.1.7 If provisions of stone industry publications or project specifications differ from this guide.

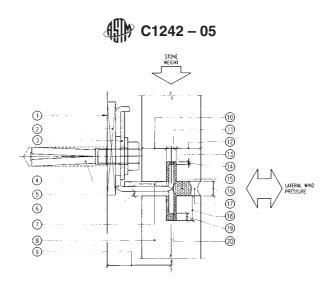
## 5. Installation Standards

5.1 *Documentation*—The basis for standard workmanship shall be established in the design documents issued to describe, regulate, or control the construction. These documents may be issued by the architect, engineer, the design-build authority, the contractor, or others authorized to impose law or code. Examples are as follows:

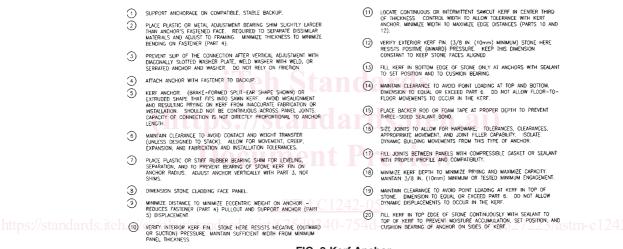
5.1.1 The architectural drawings and specifications identifying stone type, finish, thickness, sizes, and details and the relationship to other architectural elements and the building structure.

5.1.2 The architectural drawings and specifications identifying the scope of work and the materials required. These may: (1) define the performance criteria to be satisfied, (2) specify the standards of performance to be used in meeting those

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ANCHOR IN HORIZONTAL JOINT CAN SUPPORT GRAVITY AND LATERAL LOADS (FIGURE AS SECTION VEW) ANCHOR IN VERTICAL JOINT CAN SUPPORT ONLY LATERAL LOADS (FIGURE AS PLAN VEW)





criteria, (3) provide for adequate performance guarantees for the materials and methods of construction, and (4) prescribe definitive material details and systems to satisfy project requirements. In addition, the specifications shall establish stone fabrication and installation tolerances. The tolerances recommended by stone trade associations could be used as a guide and included in the specification.

5.1.3 Project specifications shall cite the ASTM standard material specification (see 2.1) governing the stone intended for use and identify the classification or grade within that standard specification.

5.1.4 Shop drawings indicating in detail all parts of the work required, including material types, thicknesses, finishes and all other pertinent information dealing with fabrication, anchorage, and installation. The drawings shall show contiguous materials or assemblies which are provided by others in their range of positions according to their specified tolerances.

5.2 *Tolerances*—Installation tolerances and requirements, once specified, bind the installation contractor, by contract, to perform the work within those specified tolerances. The

specification requires the installation contractor to progressively examine the construction to which his work attaches or adjoins, reporting to the prime contractor any condition that may prevent performance within the standard established. Some commonly specified installation tolerances follow:

5.2.1 Variation from plumb of wall surfaces, arises, external corners, joints, and other conspicuous lines should not exceed  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (6.4 mm) in any story or in 20 ft (6.1 m) maximum.

5.2.2 Variation in level from grades shown for horizontal joints and other conspicuous lines should not exceed  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. in 20 ft (6.4 mm in 6.1 m) maximum, nor  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. in 40 ft (19.1 mm in 12.2 m) or more.

5.2.3 Variation in linear building lines from positions shown on drawings and related portion of wall facing should not exceed  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (12.7 mm) in any bay or 20 ft (6.1 m) maximum, nor  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. in 40 ft (19.1 mm in 12.2 m) or more.

5.2.4 Variation in the face plane of adjacent pieces (lippage) should not exceed one fourth of the width of the joint between the pieces up to but not more than  $\frac{1}{16}$  in. (1.5 mm) unless panel finish is not smooth or panel size exceeds 20 ft<sup>2</sup>(1.8 mm<sup>2</sup>).

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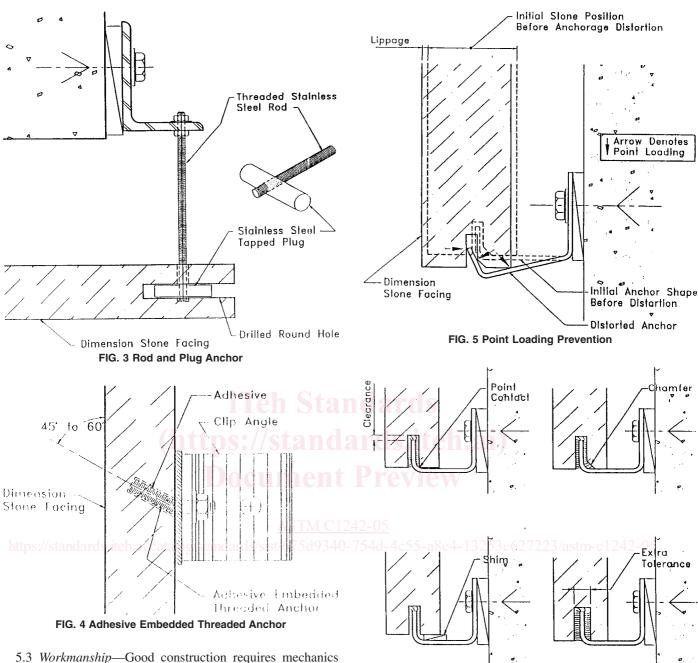


FIG. 5 Point Loading Prevention (continued) (continued)

5.3 *Workmanship*—Good construction requires mechanics that have previous successful experience installing similar stonework to do the new work. Less experienced personnel can only be allowed when they work in a crew continuously with the mechanic who has previous successful experience. Similar work means same type of site fabrication, anchorage, setting method, and support system as the new work.

# 6. Materials of Construction

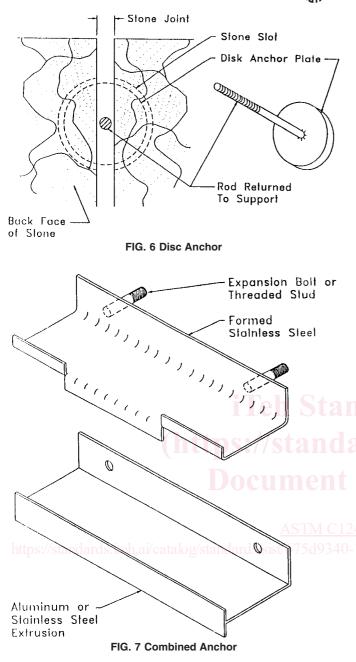
## 6.1 *Metals*:

6.1.1 Metals used for anchors or anchorage system components are selected according to their use:

6.1.1.1 Metal in contact with stone should be AISI Type 304 or 316 stainless steel, or bronze, or aluminum coated with epoxy paint or equivalent coating after fabrication. Mill finish or anodized aluminum can be used with granite. Consult metal industry references regarding specific application limitations and requirements, however, use Type 316 stainless steel when the project is exposed to chlorides, including locations exposed to deicing salt-laden road mists and locations within 5 to 10 miles of a saltwater body. Copper, brass and stainless steel wire are used for ties.

6.1.1.2 Stainless steel components less than <sup>1</sup>/4-in. (6-mm) thick should not be welded. Where welding is required in the assembly, use low-carbon versions of the alloys such as Type 304L where Type 304 is allowed and Type 316L where Type 316 is allowed.

6.1.1.3 Exterior wire ties used with cement mortar spots should be ductile stainless steel. Avoid copper and aluminum with mortar due to incompatibility. Stainless steel, copper, 🕼 C1242 – 05



brass and aluminum can be used with gypsum or molding plaster for interior applications. Verify mortar or plaster will not darken or stain stone before using wire ties with spots for anchors.

6.1.1.4 Metal not in direct contact with stone exposed to weather should be stainless steel, galvanized steel, zinc-rich painted or epoxy-coated steel, or aluminum.

6.2 Joint Sealants:

6.2.1 Sealants used in contact with stone can be of the type recommended for the application by the manufacturer, but proper consideration should be given to their ability to satisfy the required properties of tear and peel strength, elasticity, compressibility, durometer, resistance to soiling and fading, and compatibility with any other sealant with which it may come in contact.

6.2.1.1 The manufacturer's recommendation should be followed in respect to temperature range of application, the condition of the substrate and the necessity for a primer.

6.2.1.2 Some sealants may bleed into stone; proper testing is recommended.

6.3 Mortar Materials:

6.3.1 Portland cement, masonry cement, and lime used in preparing cement and lime mortar should be non-staining.

6.3.2 Non-shrink grout should not be used.

6.4 Gasket Materials:

6.4.1 Gasket material selection should be made to satisfy the movement and tolerance requirements. Gaskets are available in a variety of sections: tubular, lobed, and cellular being the most common. Some gasket materials may bleed into some stones and cause staining. The recommendation of the manufacturer should be followed. Testing may be prudent where information from the manufacturer is not sufficient assurance that bleeding will not occur.

6.4.1.1 Extruded gaskets are usually neoprene or vinyl.

6.4.1.2 Cellular gaskets are usually foamed butyl, polyethylene, or polyurethane.

## 7. Selection Considerations

7.1 Review the following factors before selecting a stone material, an anchoring system and subframe system from those options being considered:

7.1.1 Have the stone materials under consideration performed well on existing buildings in similar exposures?

7.1.2 Have the different anchoring and subframe systems under consideration performed well on existing buildings in similar exposures?

7.1.3 How is the performance of the anchor and its engagement into the stone affected by installation and handling procedures?

7.1.4 How are the performance and appearance of the subframe, the anchor's connection to the subframe, and the subframe's connections to the building structure affected by differential movements?

7.1.5 Do the physical characteristics of the stone measured by standard tests show the material has structural limitations? Which physical properties are important to the application, and which test methods measure those properties and their variability? Refer to Table 2 for standard test methods and properties they measure.

7.1.6 Do the physical characteristics of the stone not measured by standard tests suggest the material may have longterm durability concerns? Other properties, including (but not limited to) resistance to chemical attack, weather-related strength reduction, and dimensional changes, might be evaluated by special laboratory tests designed to obtain data under simulated conditions.

7.1.7 Does the project location or shape develop exceptional design wind, or seismic loads, or does the stone material require higher safety factors than other stones not anticipated by statutory codes?

7.1.8 Do the anchor and subframe system accommodate building dimensional changes caused by wind and seismic sway, thermal and elastic deformation, creep and shrinkage, and their combined effects?