

building designers, urban and regional planners, and officials in government and municipal departments concerned with building and disaster mitigation. It deals with technical matters, but does so in a way that should allow general readers without an engineering background to understand the concepts and ideas incorporated in the material.

**Title:** "Simplicity and Confidence in Seismic Design"  
**Author:** T. Paulay  
**Publisher:** John Wiley and Sons, Chichester, UK, 1993, 68pp  
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**ISBN:** 0 471 94310 X

This publication presents the text of the fourth Mallet-Milne lecture given at the Institution of Civil Engineers, London, in May 1993. The biennial Mallet-Milne lecture was inaugurated by the Society for Earthquakes and Civil Engineering Dynamics to commemorate the life of two British pioneers in the fields of earthquake engineering and seismology: Robert Mallet (1810-1881) and John Milne (1850-1913). Previous lecturers have been Professor Nick Ambraseys on Engineering Seismology, Professor George Housner on Coping with Natural Disasters, and Professor Geoff Warburton on Reduction of Vibrations. In this fourth lecture, Professor Tom Paulay presented his views on simple and reliable seismic design procedures.

Those who are familiar with the work of Tom Paulay - whether they be academic colleagues, past students, or anyone who has listened to a presentation of one of his many papers - will find much of the material in this publication looks familiar, as it should, since it is a summary of his intense interest in the behaviour of structures. As the "originator" of the concept of "capacity design", it is not surprising to find that Professor Paulay used the concept as a framework for the treatment of the subject, dealing as it does with material, section, member and structural characteristics for optimum failure mode control of buildings subjected to earthquake loading. Since modern codes of practice for earthquake resistance are increasingly making use of the concept of capacity design, this fourth Mallet-Milne lecture provides a compact and comprehensive reference to the work of one of the pioneers in the field of design for earthquake resistance of structures.

With the considerable detail and spread of ideas presented in the book, readers may find that it best to read parts of the book in detail and browse through the rest rather than attempt to read from cover to cover in a short time. Nevertheless, it is a book that merits reading and there should be at least several parts of the book to set every reader thinking about the situation in their own region and locality. The book can be recommended to anyone with an interest in the subject or who needs to know more about the topics discussed in it.

The book follows a logical progression in its coverage of seismic design with the chapter topics covering:

1. Introduction
2. Basic Aims in Seismic Design
3. Limits Imposed by Material Properties
4. A Deterministic Limit State Design Strategy
5. Fundamental Strength Relationships
6. Ductility Demand and Capacity
7. Structural Seismic Performance Criteria
8. Reinforced Concrete Ductile Frames
9. Structural Walls
10. Dual Structural Systems
11. Detailing of Ductility
12. Structures with Restricted Ductility
13. Conclusions

In addition, the book also contains a useful list of references.

This book can be recommended as a very useful summary of the subject matter and it is a worthy contribution to the lecture series established in memory of Robert Mallet and John Milne.