

**POST-WAR BUILDING STUDIES**

**NO. 14**

**SOUND INSULATION  
AND ACOUSTICS**

**BY**

**THE ACOUSTICS COMMITTEE  
OF THE BUILDING RESEARCH BOARD  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
SCIENTIFIC & INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH**



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SOUND INSULATION AND  
ACOUSTICS OF BUILDINGS

## TO THE BUILDING RESEARCH BOARD

GENTLEMEN, We, the Committee appointed by you in December 1942, to consider Sound Insulation and Acoustics of Buildings, beg leave to present our Report.

Our terms of reference were as follows:

- i. To review existing scientific information and practice in this country and abroad on the sound insulation and acoustics of buildings.
- ii. To make recommendations for practice in post-war buildings.
- iii. To make such recommendations for further research as may suggest themselves in considering (i) and (ii).

We have held five meetings, during which we have considered the existing information on sound insulation and acoustics. Our attention has been drawn to the fact that there may be special conditions which apply to practice in Scotland, and this has been kept in mind during our work.

## EVIDENCE RECEIVED

We have received evidence from the Society of Women Housing Managers and from the Honorary Secretary of the Noise Abatement League. In addition, we have received from the Ministry of Works a paper on planning in relation to sound insulation by D. D. Harrison, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., and from an informal committee of musicians, information regarding the special needs of teachers and students of music and associated matters. We are grateful for this valuable help, which was willingly given to us.

We wish also to express our appreciation of the help we have received in our work from the officers of the Department. The secretarial work was carried out by Mr. William Allen of the Building Research Station, and he rendered invaluable assistance in the preparation of our Report. Mr. W. F. Higgins and Mr. N. Fleming of the National Physical Laboratory also were associated with us throughout our inquiry, and their contributions have been of great help to us in our discussions of the different problems involved.

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Mr. J. Wilson was originally appointed to the Committee. On his retirement from the Department of Health for Scotland Mr. Wilson's place on the Committee was taken by Mr. G. D. Macniven.

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

- I. To review existing scientific information and practice in this country and abroad on the acoustics and sound insulation of buildings.
- II. To make recommendations for practice in post-war buildings.
- III. To make such recommendations for further research as may suggest themselves in considering (I) and (II).

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