

MHPO Staff Report states: “This product (TexCote) is designed to obliterate variability in color and texture....

- Incorrect. TexCote is designed to preserve and protect concrete from the intrusion of water and moisture while allowing the concrete to breathe, thereby preserving the historic fabric of the bridge.

MHPO Staff Report states: “...the manufacturer’s own literature recommends it **only** for new concrete”.

- Incorrect. TexCote does not recommend the product **only** for new concrete.
- The literature recommends the product for “Properly prepared new pre-cast, tilt-up, or poured concrete and other manufacturer approved substrates.”
- “Properly prepared new” is intended to inform users that form oils and such must be removed from new concrete surfaces for proper application.
- TexCote has been, and will be, used on existing structures for many years.

MHPO Staff Report states: “There are substantial exposed horizontal surfaces and preventing infiltration of water and salt is vital to protect the embedded steel from rusting. **However, this is equally possible without an elastomeric coating** that eliminate part of the historic character of the bridge. Products exist that allow this protection with a matching cementitious coating rather than an elastomeric film.

- Penetrating sealers (silanes and siloxanes) are inferior to elastomeric coatings because they have limited ability to bridge gaps in concrete cracks.
- Penetrating sealers permanently change the appearance concrete while elastomeric coatings can be removed if deemed necessary.
- Use of an elastomeric compound beneath layers of a film forming coating with elastomeric properties will provide superior protection of the original concrete than a penetrating sealer with rigid repair materials. The farther one looks into the future, the more important this becomes. It is possible that use of and proper maintenance of a pigmented film forming coating in combination with elastomeric compounds will led to a service life of more than 50 years.

Remaining Original Concrete Surface: There is very little, if any, of the original concrete surface color, texture finish remaining on prominent east and west faces of the arch ribs and spandrel walls due to previous repairs, shotcrete application and application of what appears to be a cementitious parge coating.

Graffiti Removal: There has been, and likely will be, a substantial amount of graffiti applied to the north end of the bridge. Removal and repair of graffiti is believed to less laborious with a breathable coating such as the TexCote product.