

ARTICLE

# Assessment of the Cause and Effect of Early Damage of Cobble Stone Road Construction and Its Remedial Measurements: A Case of Nekemte Town Cheleleki Sub City

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ABSTRACT

Road constructing in Ethiopia is increasingly in demand to meet its medium and long term development programs. Most internal roads of Oromia city/town are cobblestone and gravel. Some portions along the alignment proposed and existing roads traversed low resistance of the subgrade that affect the stability of the upper layers of cobblestones. Structural failure is observed on cobblestone roads, and it would be constructed with good quality or low quality of materials. Nekemte Cobblestones Projects have been started in 2014 widely which were filled in most areas today as we observed that needs to be addressed and a corresponding remedial measures must be drawn. A possible counteractive actions had been ordered for every observed destroyed to achieve the standard road situation of the study zone. An evaluation was made use observation, interviews, laboratory test and field test to govern an appropriateness of cobblestones. The lie beneath soil used for bottom layers of road structure based on standard of Ethiopian Road Authority (ERA) low volume road standards. Therefore, result from the field test and laboratory test shown, causes of cobblestone road failures of Nekemte street segment were mostly because of the construction steps/sequence, quality of materials, road construction time, absence of appropriate design, quality supervisor, absences of drainage structures, lack of highly compaction, lack of accurately fill fine aggregate and suddenly high loads vehicle applied on cobblestone road.

## 1. Introduction

In the world governments control different highway networks. International and national highway authorities control the national street network. Regularly the national transportation runs through several provinces. The regional consultants were accountable for the area road system.

The road segment joins managerial, monetary and ethnic centers in the area<sup>[11]</sup>.

Metropolitan infrastructures usually run within the town borders. The main objective of highway is organizations were delivering access within financial and law-making framework. Businesses were in demand highway for the gathering contributions and spreading goods to

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customer, storage in addition other manufacturing services before other distribution systems of transportation. The government sector and road users were the key implementers of roads. Traffic police, fire brigade and ambulance are standby [2].

In the meantime the commencement of sophistication, man had needed to travel from place to place. The human want to develop road construction in the worldwide and change to sophisticate technology like cobble construction. Cobblestones have been a popular choice for roads and sidewalks for developing and developed countries. Cobblestones are small to medium-sized rounded, square stones used as pavement material for roads and walkways. In English, word cobblestone is derived from cobble, a word which appeared in the 15th century toward define rounded rocks or stones [3].

The cobbles were highly durable stones, usually granite or basalt. The cobblestones were set in sand or mortar. Sand permits the road gradually give to traffic, avoiding the cracking related to pavement. Streets paved through cobblestones had proven their strength and longevity by showing up through damaged available sections of paved roads throughout the world. The term cobble is a geological term used to define a stone of a particular size, which is almost two and a half to ten inches (64 to 256 millimeters) [6].

Shapes of cobblestone roads be subject to the imagination of the workers whom considered roads and fixed the cobbles. Paving stone road building contains 3 stages, quarry manufacturing fresh; renovating the raw settees and placing the cobble. Even though, appropriate control was wanted in the 3<sup>rd</sup> step, management among different participants were important in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> stages. The boulder naturally did not have quality to be an ultimate materials for roads that necessitates more strong suit and toughness than it can offer [1].

The supply even though the obtainability of basaltic stone in the entire country. Sandstone was more difficult to hold together. Furthermore, it did not have the volume to resist big loads. The achievement and durability of road project at the end of the day rests on the groundwork of the bed layers and the use of suitable bedding materials.

### 1.1 Problem of Statement

Today in Ethiopia and most 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries cobblestone is the most preferable construction material for road construction [2]. But the cobblestone construction method in general has a problem throughout Ethiopia especially in Nekemte town as everybody knows. Any infrastructure construction has its own procedure. However, construction of cobblestone in Nekemte town is reversible; before

constructions of drainage structures cobblestones have been constructed, compacting the surface before and after the cobble road construction is not properly done and it could not provide the nature of the slope for cobble stone bedding.

### 1.2 Objective

- To identify major causes of the different repetitive failures of the cobblestone road surface;
- To investigate and analyses the different cobblestones road failure types;
- To provide the procedure of cobble stone road construction and recommend mitigation measures based on the findings.

## 2. Method and Material

### 2.1 Study Area

Nekemte is located at 328 km West of Addis Ababa along the main road to Asosa, enclosing between 9<sup>o</sup> 35' 00" to 9<sup>o</sup>36' 00" north latitude and 36<sup>o</sup> 11' 57 to "36<sup>o</sup> 21' 15" east longitude at an average altitude of 2100 m above sea level. East Wollega zone, in which Nekemte is located forms a part of the mid central plateau physiographies unit.

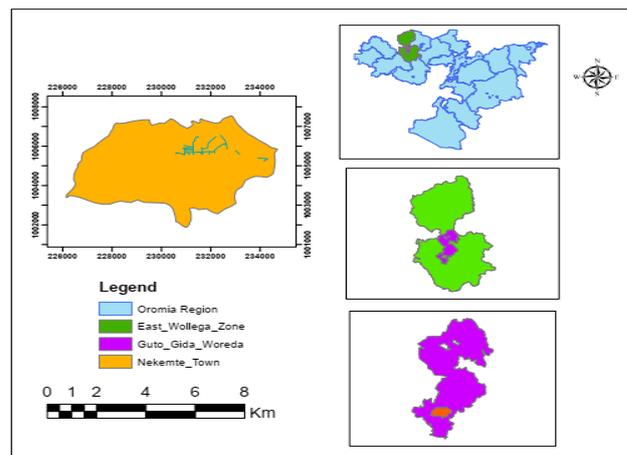


Figure 1. Location of study area

### 2.2 Study Design

Methodology follows in this study was included; questionnaire surveys, gather data and software based analysis to find appropriate mitigations beside all Nekemte town Cheleleki sub city cobblestone streets. Procedures of the study could be summarized as follows: site observation, surveying, data collection of questionnaires and interview, data analysis and presentation.

### 2.3 Method

In the current study, principal and minor data are used. The primary data were collected from field surveys using laboratory test, questionnaires and interviews to measure the construction sequences in the study area. The primary data were collected from the Cheleleki sub city of Nekemte town using instruments to measure and digging out a sample of around location in the study zone. Whereas, the secondary data for the study were acquired from administrative institutions, reports, books, journals and the internet. The main data uses for this study were, design of cobblestones, construction of cobblestone, drainage structure, road users (public), consultant and contractors of in the study area.

### 2.4 Materials

The selected locations present in selected identified samples. Each sample was taken at 200 m distance by hand digging tool and the properties of the samples were investigated. For each sample, the classification rendering to the Unified Soil Classification, and American Association of State Highway and Transportation [9]. Statistical Package for Social Sciences, and it's used for various kinds of research data analysis. SPSS in this research was used to determine our data analysis

The other Material used is GPS. In the similar way, the satellite positions are known with great correctness. GPS receivers had clocks as well, but they were unstable and imprecise. Using the handheld GPS, location of cobble stones constructed the exact area of cobble stones damaged and area were constructed cobbles have errors would be collected.

#### 2.4.1 Process of Data Collection

Process of data collection was delivered in different study areas. Few questionnaires and interviews were organized to collect the data from all highway user's public about the cobblestones construction procedure.

#### 2.4.2 Data Processing and Analysis

Since all information to be collected was relevant/necessary, it was mostly done some data processing & analysis. Data collected and analyzed in terms of tables, graphs, numbers and statements.

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1 Cobblestone Pavement

Cobblestone surface contains fine aggregate placed

right side and left side on sand soil. The term cobblestone was a physically denoting rock with a dimensions ranging from 5 to 25 cm in width. This roadway, frequently depend on stream stone was frequently used in earlier road European towns. The selected size of the cobblestone had an elongated diameter of 150 to 250 mm smaller diameter typically not below 50 to 100 mm.

The boulder was placed through an elongated width in upright location through each boulder sited forcefully succeeding to each supplementary. The rock could be organized in shapes randomly. The connections situated typically filled through sand. The final surface was compacted using plate compactor or small roller. For roads in town zones, it was common exercised to fix the stone in bedding concrete.

Cobblestones should be basalt, properly uniform shape and color which free from cracked and other structural deficiencies or faults that would impair its essential reliability and of a level appearance.

Natural pigment differences that characteristic of the deposition source would be permitted. Cobblestones should be related to existing cobblestones on several downtown roads. The Nantucket Arrangement Board should submit samples for approval [8].

**Table 1.** Stone dirt should conform to graduation requirements

Sieve No	Sieve open	% Passing
No	4	98
No.	50	88
No.	200	64

### 3.2 Compare and Contract Cobblestone Road Construction with Standard

#### 3.2.1 Pre-Construction Survey

It is a procedure for recording the pre-existing situations of a proposed road before building begins. To identify the start and end of the road development. It is a joined undertaking of the following parties: Government representatives, Contractor; and Consultants. In case of building of cobblestone road there is no leave-taking of the bodies of government representative and consultant. They are the same body that is suitable for dishonesties.

### 3.2.2 Successful Roadway Design

Primary and constant community contribution throughout project, and the use of conception techniques aid the community, initial and throughout use multi criterial design group and the solicitation of flexible and creative design.

### 3.2.3 Unsuitable Materials

Materials comprising damage amounts of organic, for example grass, root & sewerage. Organic soil peat and muck were not good for construction. Soils with LL exceeding 80% and PI, is greater than 55%. Soil weight natural water content higher than 100 percent, Soil water very low usual density, 800 kg/m<sup>3</sup> or lower and Soils that could not be properly compacted.

Most construction of cobblestone in Nekemte contains the quantities of organic material like peat, muck and sewerage. The soils with liquid limit, plastic index and natural water content are exceeding the standard, because the cobblestones have been constructed during summer season. In case of improper compaction the soils very low natural density that is not recommended for construction of any types of roads.

### 3.2.4 Requirement of Construction

Earlier construction of embankment required clearing & grubbing area should be performed. Embankment & backfills should contain organic materials or other damaging substance were shown in the plans which surface of present ground should be compacted to a depth 150 mm. It provided on profile to show uppermost portions of the roadbed in both cut & fill, should contain of selected borrow for covering from quarries<sup>[7]</sup>.

### 3.2.5 Method of Building Cobblestones

When there was indication of inconsistencies arranged real altitudes that displayed on plan of construction. Investigation mentioned datum plan used in accepted design, should serve as origin for computation of the definite volume. As soon as fill was to be located & trampled on hillsides or condensed against prevailing fills was built half width a time that existing slopes which were sharper than 3:1 should be constantly benched above areas as the work was carried up in layers.

Wherever an embankment less than 1.2 m below sub-grade was to be made, all vegetable material should be removed & cleared exterior should be scarified to a minimum deepness of the 150 mm. Highway fill of soil materials should be located in straight layers not exceeding 200

mm, moveable dimension & should be compacted earlier the next layer was placed. Nevertheless, denser layer may be placed if vibratory roller high compaction strength used & providing the density necessity be obtained.

Effective distribution apparatus should be used to attain an identical depth as compaction of each layer growths, endless smoothing would be important to promise even density. Water should be additional or detached, if needing to acquire the mandatory density. After excavated material comprehends more than 25% quantity of stone larger than 150 mm the highest diameter & couldn't be sited in layers different depth without severe or crushing such materials may be located on an fill in layers not exceeding in depth, but not greater than 600 mm. Dumping (DT) & rolling equipment shall be kept detached, and no lift.

## 3.3 Discussions

### 3.3.1 Construction Methods of Cobblestones

The sub base lower the stone dirt location bed should be well ordered and thoroughly compacted. Cobblestones should be wisely laid on stone dust location bed as shown on the plans, and should be dependably rammed in place by hand. The cobbles should be established with the elongated axis of each stone vertical to the roadway surface. The sets should be conventional such that each cobblestone was moving extra cobblestone.

The cobbles should be compacted and tamped with a mechanical plate compactor or another technique accepted by the board or its agent. Subsequently an adequate area of roadway has been laid. The highway surface should be verified with a 10-foot straight edge and laid parallel with the centerline and any variations exceeding 12.5 mm should be adjusted and transported to proper grade. Any stone that becomes cracked throughout these procedures should be removed and replaced.

The cobblestones should be cleaned with a sand or cement mixture and muddled with water. The roadway surface should be shaken through a lightweight plate compactor to protect compaction between the joints. Additional joint filler of the sand or cement blend should be uniformly distributed as required to seal all of the voids. The process should be repeated for an extreme of 5 days till all the joints are full.

### 3.3.2 Cobblestone Surface

The rock exterior selection was used for country side road building where there was ready obtainability of rock material and it was appropriate for medium to high traffic thicknesses or where sections of the road have sharp longitudinal slopes. Stone developing may also deliver

appropriate surface treatments for road sections through rural settlements and communities as well as market places. The pebble surface could be formed using the natural shape of the stone and assigning it. The joint would be filled with smaller fine aggregate. The stone surface could be produced by wounding stone keen on cubic or rectangular forms in command to guarantee that they were placed at tight pattern. Dressing gravels in this way means the final superficial would be smoother than the stone uses only its natural shape.

In both selections the gravels were put on a ready road sub base per a blinding layer of beach cushion about 50 mm between the steppingstones and the road sub-base layers. The gravel cushion houses irregularities in the sands, permitting the stones to be accumulated with a flat and level horse-riding surface. The stone surface was sheltered by a layer of fine aggregate filling gaps between the stones and providing a smoother riding surface for traffic. The aggregate surface option could be used as a road base course layer for surfacing.

### **3.3.3 Material for Construction of Cobblestone**

Material for building the cobble surface consists of coarse stone, aggregate and fine aggregate. The minimum required characteristic of the material was described below:

#### **Stones**

The stone to be used for the roadway must be clean, hard, durable and free from clay. Gravels should be cubic or rectangular. The boulder should not be able to be cracked under the impact of compaction equipment. Round shape stone or river stones were not recommended for this purpose. The size of the rocks may vary depending on the functions of the gravels or as specified in the standard.

Stone for surface should be 150 mm x 250 mm, with the smallest suitable size 100 cm x 150 mm. Stone from a quarry should be dressed or shaped to the required shape when delivered to site. Curbstones from an excavation should be dressed to shape when delivered. The curbstones is crucial for holding the other stones in place. Small stones for filling the gaps should be 20 mm x 30 mm and 30 mm x 50 mm.

#### **Sand**

Sand from the pebble surface was used to accommodate any irregularities in the shape of the gravels allowing the stones to be assembled with a smooth and level equine surface. The sand was used as a drainage moderate for

any water ingoing between the stones. The sand should be coarse sand either from a river or mountain sand must be clean, free of leaves, grass, compost, clay lumps, or dust etc.

#### **Gravel**

Gravel was used to fill gaps among stones to restrain the stones' movement when under traffic load.

The gravel also acts to provide a smooth running surface in the final layer. The gravel was rested over the stone surface and would seal the gaps. The gravel for this purpose could be highland gravel or river gravel should be well graded. The maximum size of the gravel, however, should not be greater than 5 cm and must be clean, free of leaves, grass, compost, clay lumps etc.

### **3.3.4 Work Stages**

#### **Stage 1: Setting Out**

The cross section should be set for every 5 m interval. Mark the finished level of the stone surface in the center line and transfer with the design crown to edge pegs. The crown from the centerline to the edge Pegs should be 4% to 5%. The width of the base should be 250 mm to 300 mm and depth should be 150 mm to 200 mm. Bed level of, the foundation of both ends should be checked using a line level to guarantee they were at the same level. Position curbstones in the quarried foundation in upright position by keeping the top level of the stone as fixed in the peg. Back fill the curbstones with gravel and deliver compaction by hand hammer.

#### **Stage 2: Blinding Course**

Prepare the road sub-base by shaping the sub-base level and ensuring 4 percent to 5% camber. Compact the arranged sub-base, then place and spread the blinding course layer of coarse sand of 50 mm thickness.

#### **Stage 3: Placing Stone**

Ensure the string line was stiffened at the noticeable levels and linked from edge peg to centerline peg. Place the stones on the spread sand as close organized as possible. Where some gravels are slightly wedge-shape, it was needed to place the wide end down onto the sand layer. The stones should be placed starting from the outside edge and then working towards the centerline of the road. Safeguard the top level of the gravels was at the level agreed by the rope line. Wherever the top level of the stone was advanced than the set string line, such stones should be hammered down into the sand to level. After the

huge stones were placed, it was important to used small stones to stiffen the larger stones by introducing the small gravels into gaps between the large stones. The laying of the stone surface necessary skillful labor to attain good workmanship<sup>[10]</sup>.

**Stage 4: Surface Gravelling and Compaction**

To avoid movement of the stone, a thin layer of sand was spread over the stone surface and washed into the voids by broom. In order to make the stone surface waterproof and to deliver a smoother surface for vehicles. A thin layer 50 mm of selected gravel should cover the stone paving. The selected gravel had to contain mixture sand and coarse aggregate grading not larger than 5 cm with a small portion of clay. Some portions of the fine aggregate would be filled the stones gaps to further strengthen the stability of the stones and other fine aggregate would remain on the surface. The compaction would level the height of the stones providing a smoother surface on the carriageway. The compaction should be carried out from the road edge towards the centerline of the road<sup>[5]</sup>.

**Stage 5: Constructing Road Shoulder**

Road shoulders should be filled using mountain gravel or leatherette. Before filling, the present shoulder should be watered. The filled material was spread to form a slope of 7 percent to 8 percent away from the road. Compaction

was then carried out by vibrating roller or plate compactor/vibrating tamper.

**Stage 6: Constructing Filter Drain**

Filter drains were constructed to drain water from surface of road to ditches. The filter drains should be constructed at the time of filling road shoulders by excavating the drain across the road shoulders in rectangular shapes of 20 cm to 30 cm varied with the overturn. The bottom level of the drain the same as the bottom level of the curbstones and oblique slightly away from the road. Compaction can then be begun at the time of compacting for road shoulders.

**Stage 7: Slope Protection**

The road shoulders and grades should be protected from erosion by planting grass and turning. The roots of the grass could help to retain the soil and stabilize the slopes and shoulders by preventing the surface soil from being washed away.

**3.3.5 Control Quality of Cobblestone**

The building of sett roadway included the selection, testing of materials, preparation and settlement of stone. Quality control and testing for these worked include checking the suitability of the materials. Some of these tests could be carried out in the field, but certain tests

**Table 2.** Resolve LL & PL of Soil

Resolve of Liquid Limit & Plastic Limit of Soil						
TEST METHOD:AASHTO T89						
Determination	Number of blows	Liquid Limit			Plastic Limit	
		32	27	21		
Test	No	1	2	3	1	2
Container		B1	A3	D1	A	D4
Wt. of container + wet soil,	(g)	53.20	49.80	48.22	24.21	24.23
Wt. of container + dry soil,	(g)	44.30	41.50	40.20	22.80	22.80
Wt. of container,	(g)	17.70	17.40	17.60	17.76	17.68
Wt. of water,	(g)	8.90	8.30	8.02	1.39	1.43
Wt. of dry soil,	(g)	26.60	24.10	22.60	5.06	5.12
Moisture container,	(%)	33.5	34.4	35.5	27.5	27.9
Average		(%) 34.46			28	

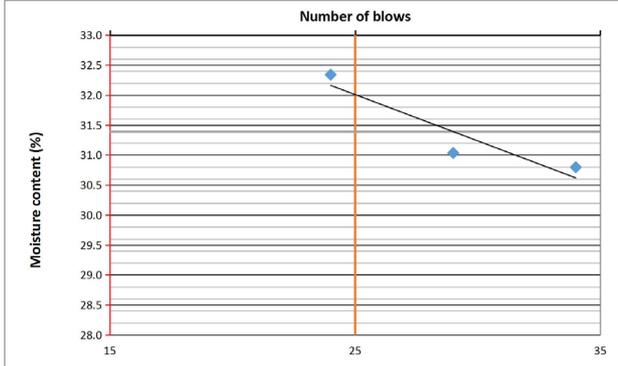
should be carried out in a laboratory test.

**Table 3.** Determination of linear shrinkage

**3.4 Laboratories Test**

**3.4.1 Atterberg’s Limit Test**

The Plasticity of base and sub base materials were found to be non-plastic and to seal and subgrade materials are shown in the table below.



**Figure 2.** Moisture Content

Linear shrinkage

Initial length of specimen (L<sub>1</sub>) \_\_\_\_\_

Length of dried specimen (L<sub>2</sub>) \_\_\_\_\_

Linear shrinkage = \_\_\_\_\_

If LL or PL cannot be determined

use  $PI = 2.13 \times LS = \left( \frac{(L_1 - L_2) \times 100}{L_1} \right)$

Remark \_\_\_\_\_

DENSITY		1	2	3	4	5		
TRIAL NUMBER								
GHT OF SAMPLE (g)		6000	6000	6000	6000			
WATER ADDED (litre)		1500	300	450	600			
TYPE OF WATER +MOLD		11.07	11.33	11.74	11.49			
WEIGHT OF MOLD(g)		6590	6590	6590	6590			
WEIGHT OF SOIL(g)		4480	4740	5150	4900			
OF MOLD (cc)		2105	2105	2105	2105			
WET DENSITY OF SOIL(g/cc)		2.13	2.25	2.45	2.33			NMC
MOISTURE								
CONTAINER NUMBER		F	CH	X	A4			A2
WET SOIL+CONTAINER(g)		244.80	262.60	237.60	237.70			205.9
DRY SOIL+CONTAINER(g)		226.90	237.90	211.60	208.20			198.1
WEIGHT OF WATER (g)		17.90	24.70	26.00	29.50			7.8
WEIGHT OF CONTAINER(g)		26.50	26.30	25.90	25.30			25.7
WEIGHT OF DRY SOIL (g)		200.40	211.60	185.70	182.70			172.4
MOISTURE CONTENT (%)		8.90	11.70	14.00	16.15			4.5
DRY DENSITY OF SOIL (g/cc)		1.95	2.02	2.15	2.00			
MMD(gm/cc): 2.15								
OMC(%): 14.0								
REMARK								

**Figure 3.** Moisture content density

**Table 4.** Plastic Index

Determination of (PI) (LL - PL)				Grading		
	-	LL	34	ASTM SIEVE NO	10	40
	-	PL	28	Dim. mm	2.00	0.425
	PI	7		% passing		
Plastic Product				AASHTO Soil Classification		

**3.4.2 Moisture Density Test**

The dry density values on the y-axis and the moisture

contents on the x-axis were schemed. And a smooth curve connect the designed points was drawn

**3.4.3 California Bearing Ratio Test**

The test outcomes from the small deterioration, medium worsening and high deterioration of road sections were listed in Tables. Based on test outcomes, the values designated that the materials used for all the three situations have very good CBR values when compacted at their maximum dry density and peak moisture content excluding sub base materials. The summary of the test result is tabulated below and the laboratory test analysis and plots are given in Table.

**Table 5.** California Bearing Ratio Test

California Bearing Ratio Test			
<b>Test Method :AASHTO T-193</b>			
Source Station	Nekemte Town	Sample Taken From	sub city
Represented Section	Nekemte Sub city	Date Sampled	
Material Description	Granular material	Date And Time Soaked	
Puopse	Sub base	Date And Time Tested	
Depth		Lab No.	

DENSITY DETERMINATION						
SOAKING CONDITION		10 Blows	30 Blows		65 Blows	
		AFTER	BEFORE	AFTER	BEFORE	AFTER
MOLD NUMBER		M-8	Z-5		B-7	
WEIGHT OF SOIL + MOLD(g)	W <sub>1</sub>	13540	12170	12400	13210	13260
WEIGHT OF MOLD (g)	W <sub>2</sub>	8000	6700	6700	7460	7460
VOLUME OF MOLD (cm <sup>3</sup> )	V	2266	2266	2266	2266	2266
WEIGHT OF WET SOIL (g)	W <sub>3</sub> = W <sub>1</sub> - W <sub>2</sub>	5540	5470	5700	5750	5800
WET DENSITY OF SOIL (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	W <sub>d</sub> = (W <sub>3</sub> /V)	2.44	2.41	2.52	2.54	2.56
DRY DENSITY OF SOIL (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	D <sub>d</sub> = W <sub>d</sub> /(100+m)*100	2.11	2.11	2.18	2.21	2.22

<b>MOISTURE DETERMINATION</b>									
SOAKING CONDITION		10 Blows			30 Blows		65 Blows		
		BEFORE	AFTER		AFTER		BEFORE	AFTER	
			TOP 1 in.	AVG	TOP 1 in.	AVG.		TOP 1 in.	AVG.
CONTAINER NUMBER		E	Y		H		A3	A4	
WET SOIL + CONTAINER (g)	a	285.8	237.2		265.7		247.4	241.6	
DRY SOIL + CONTAINER (g)	b	254.0	208.0		234.0		219.0	213.0	
WEIGHT OF CONTAINER ( g )	c	26.0	25.8		26.2		25.8	25.3	
WEIGHT OF WATER ( g )	d = a - b	31.8	29.2		31.7		28.4	28.6	
WEIGHT OF DRY SOIL ( g )	e = b - c	228	182.2		207.8		193.2	187.7	
MOISTURE CONTENT ( % )	m = ( d/e)*100	13.9	16.0		15.3		14.7	15.2	
AVG. MOIST. CONTENT (%)									

<b>PENETRATION TEST DATA</b>											
PENETRATION (mm)	10 Blows				30 Blows			65 Blows			
	DIAL RDG	LOAD (kn)	COR. LOAD (kn)	CBR %	DIAL RDG	LOAD (kn)	CBR %	DIAL RDG	LOAD (kn)	COR LOAD (kn)	CBR %
0	0				0	0		0	0		
0.64	388				396	1.81		1400	6.38		
1.27	600				990	4.51		1800	8.21		
1.96	710				1043	4.76		2000	9.12		
2.54	824		3.76	28.15	2030	9.26	69.3	2240	10.21	10.21	76.5
3.18	900				2180	9.94		2330	10.62		
3.81	994				2230	10.17		2450	11.17		
4.45	1016				2260	10.31		2490	11.35		
5.08	1034		4.72	23.66	2290	10.44	52.4	2660	12.13	12.13	60.6
7.62	1064				2350	10.72		2990	13.63		
10.16	1084.0				2460.0	11.218		3168.0	14.45		
12.7											

SWELL			RING FACTOR			
No. OF BLOWS	30	65	4.56		MDD (gm/cc)	2.17
RDG (BEFORE SOAKING)	0.00	0.00			OMC %	10.8
RDG (AFTER) SOAKING)	0.83	0.49			95 % of MDD	2.06
PERCENT SWELL	0.71	0.42				
AVERAGE PERCENT SWELL : %	0.76					

Blows	LOAD (KN)		CBR (%)		SWELL %	DRY DENSITY Vs SOCKED C.B.R.			
	2.54m	5.08m	2.54m	5.08m		No # OF BLOWS	10	30	65
10		4.72	28.1	23.7	1.13	No # OF BLOWS	10	30	65
30		10.44	69.3	52.4	0.71	DRY DENSITY	1.97	2.11	2.21
65		12.13	76.5	60.6	0.42	SOCKED C.B.R.	28.1	69.3	76.5

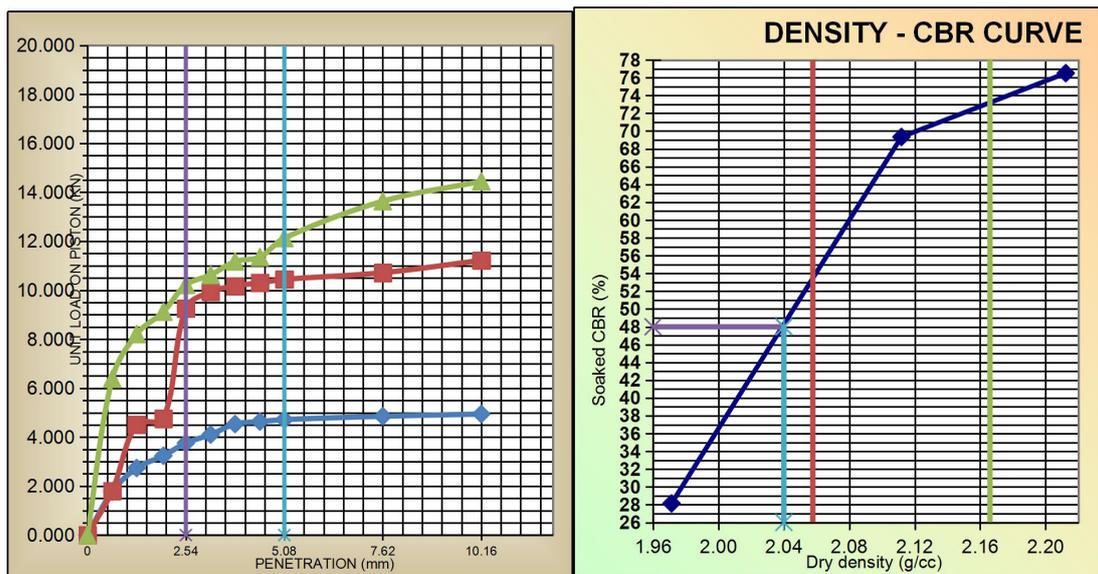


Figure 4. Stress vs. Penetration relationship for base course material

MODIFIED PROCTOR : T 180	
MDD (g/cc) :	2.17
OMC (%) :	10.80
95% of MDD(g/cc)	2.06
CBR@ 95% of MDD	48

### 3.5 Causes of Failure

Traffic, and shoulder material have been worn away by Eroded by water. Settlement and Carriageway have been repaved leaving the shoulder surface at lower level Cause by Grass, weeds and bushes have been allowed to grow. This Result Surface water cannot flow directly from the carriageway to the roadside ditch. Silts accumulate at the edge of the carriageway. Deflection of the road centerline

and shoulder. Deterioration of the road surface and destroyed without service. Distress on the road throughout cross section and road component. Sight distance from road users impaired, reducing road safety and increasing risk of accidents to person and animals.

#### 4. Conclusions

Structural failure is observed on cobblestone roads, and it would be constructed with good quality or low quality of materials. Nekemte Cobblestones Projects have been started in 2014 widely which were failed in most areas today as we observed that needs to be addressed and a corresponding remedial measures must be drawn. A probable remedial actions have been organized for all experiential failure or demolished to gain regular road protest of the study area.

An assessment was made by using statement, meetings, laboratory test and field test to control the appropriateness of the cobblestones, motivated material to assist as a subgrade for road building based on project specifications and Ethiopian Road Authority (ERA) low volume road Specification. From the field tests and laboratory tests carried out, it was observed that the causes of cobblestone road failures of this road section are mainly due to the construction steps/sequence, quality of materials, road construction time, lack of proper design and quality control, absences of drainage structures, lack of highly compaction, lack of accurately fill fine aggregate and suddenly high loads vehicle applied on cobblestone road.

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