

GROUNDTRUTH FORENSICS

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Summary

Neil Hall served as a commissioned officer in both the Army Corps of Engineers and the Navy Civil Engineer Corps. He holds two degrees in Architecture, graduate degrees in Systems Management and Landscape Architecture and a Ph.D. in Urban Studies. He is a licensed Architect, Interior Designer, Civil Engineer and Landscape Architect; a Certified Floodplain Manager; and a NFPA 1033 Certified Fire Investigator. Since 1995, Neil has specialized in the investigation of building performance, structural health and failure analysis. He has been qualified by Federal and State Courts as an Expert Witness in the fields of Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Civil and Structural Engineering, Mold Remediation, Highway Design, Traffic Safety and Building Codes.

Civilian Education

- Ph.D. in Urban Studies, University of New Orleans (1993)
- Diploma, International Program for Port Planning and Management (1991)
- Diploma, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (1986)
- Master of Landscape Architecture, University of Pennsylvania (1983)
- Master of Science, USC Institute of Systems and Safety Management (1980)
- B.S. and Bachelor of Architecture, City College of New York (1972)
- Diploma, Bronx High School of Science (1966)

Positions Held

- **GROUNDTRUTH FORENSICS**, Slidell, Louisiana
Owner and Senior Consultant, 2003 - present
- **RTC of Louisiana**, Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Senior Consultant, 2002 - 2003
- **Engineering Systems Inc.**, Metairie, Louisiana
Senior Consultant, 1999 – 2002
- **Neil B. Hall, Ph.D.**, Metairie, Louisiana
Senior Consultant, 1998 – 1999
- **CH&A Corporation (EFI)**, Metairie, Louisiana
District Manager and Senior Engineer, 1994 - 1998
- **University of Iowa**, Iowa City, Iowa
Visiting Associate Professor, 1993 - 1994
- **University of New Orleans**, New Orleans, Louisiana
Ph.D. Candidate, 1992 – 1993
- **United States Navy Civil Engineer Corps**
Commissioned Officer, 1976 – 1992
- **United States Army Corps of Engineers**
Commissioned Officer, 1972 – 1976
- **Mario Dini, AIA**, New York, New York
Architectural Draftsman, 1970 – 1972

History of Registrations and Certifications

- Licensed Architect (first licensed 1978): FL, TX, PA, NJ, SD, CT, CO, IL, OK, USVI
- Licensed Civil Engineer (first licensed 1981): MN, TX, MS, NY, NJ, USVI
- Licensed Landscape Architect (first licensed 1986): MN, TX
- Licensed Interior Designer (first licensed 2015): FL
- Certified Fallout Shelter Analyst (1972)
- Certified Floodplain Manager (2011)
- NFPA 1033 Certified Fire Investigator (1997)
- AICP Certified Planner (1991)
- State of California, Safety Assessment Program “Disaster Service Worker” (2015)
- Certified OSHA HAZWOP training in accordance with 29CFR1910.120(e)
- Certified CXL User (English XL VIT slipmeter) (2019)
- Certified Third-party EIFS Inspector (2000)
- Certified Microbial Remediation Supervisor (2001)
- Certified Level 1 Infrared Thermographer (2004)

Experience in Design, Construction and Contract Administration

- Directed construction operations for military engineering units ranging from independent civic action teams to heavy equipment construction battalions.
- Fast-tracked \$100 million to build 5,000 housing units and community support facilities on-time and under-cost at Marine Corps Bases in Okinawa, Japan.
- Successfully negotiated \$120 million in design contracts and contract change orders.
- Developed first Naval Facilities Engineering Command construction bid package integrating construction drawings, material surveys and bilingual specifications.
- President of NAVFAC Design Responsibility Board tasked with arbitrating Pacific Theater contract disputes between U.S. Government, design firms and construction contractors under the provisions of the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR).

Experience in Building Science and Forensic Engineering

- Inspected thousands of buildings and structures damaged by hail, windstorms, hurricanes, tornados, cold weather and floods.
- Inspected more than 200 foundation slabs in relation to underslab plumbing leaks, high plasticity clays and sinkhole damage.
- Qualified in federal, state and local courts as an expert witness in the fields of architecture, civil engineering, landscape architecture, building code compliance, roof consultant, traffic engineering and highway safety.
- Member of FEMA’s Building Performance Assessment Team for Hurricane Georges.
- Served as Appraiser and Umpire in Insurance Disputes.

Experience in Urban and Regional Planning

- Supervised international staff of 100 architects and engineers responsible for planning and programming \$300 million in Pacific Theater construction.
- Master planned remote construction camps in the Philippines, Honduras, South Korea, and Diego Garcia (British Indian Ocean Territory).

- Developed \$60 million strategic plan for Naval Air Propulsion Center, New Jersey using participatory planning techniques.
- Directed \$1 billion in comprehensive masterplanning for US military installations in Japan, netting \$200 million in host-nation funds.
- Negotiated and surveyed international boundary to protect an environmentally sensitive old growth rain forest in the Philippines.

Experience in Project Management

- Project managed \$50 million construction program in Guam, Palau, Northern Marianas, Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands.
- Administered \$15 million flood rehabilitation program in four provinces of the Philippines for the US Agency for International Development.
- Project managed \$150 million fire protection and industrial modernization program at Long Beach Naval Shipyard, California.
- Developed and taught graduate level course in Project Management including operations research, network analysis techniques and environmental impacts.
- Directed multinational earthquake relief operation in Taiwan.

Military Experience

- Graduate, Army Airborne School and Army Ranger School (Fort Benning, GA) and Special Forces Officer Course, Civil Affairs Officer Course, Psychological Warfare Course and Internal Defense/Internal Development Course (JFK Institute for Military Assistance, Fort Bragg, NC).
- Honor Graduate, U.S. Army Engineer Officer School (1972).
- KC Team Leader, 539th Engineer Detachment and Executive Office SFOD 24, 1st Battalion, 1st Special Forces Group (Abn), Okinawa, Japan (1972-1974).
- Executive Office, USACDEC Engineer Company, Fort Hunter Liggett, California (1974-1975).
- Assistant Operations Office, 14th Engineer Battalion (C)(C), Fort Ord, California (1975-1976).
- Honor Graduate, U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corps Officer School (1976).
- Project Manager, Public Works Department, Long Beach Naval Shipyard, CA (1976-1978).
- Planning Officer, Public Works Center, Subic Bay, Philippines (1978-1981).
- Graduate Student, University of Pennsylvania (1981-1983).
- Planning Officer, Public Works Department, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan (1983-1987).
- Department Head, Enlisted Personnel Management Center, New Orleans, LA (1987-1992).
- Foreign awards include Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Republic of the Philippines jump wings, Republic of China jump wings and Republic of China rough terrain jump wings.

Academic Credentials

- Visiting Associate Professor, University of Iowa, Geography Department (1993-94).
- Adjunct Professor, Troy State University, Graduate School (1989-1993).
- Visiting Research Associate, University of the Philippines, School of Urban and Regional Planning (1992).
- Research Intern, DoD Equal Opportunity Management Institute (1991).
- Adjunct Professor, Tulane University, School of Architecture (1988-1990).
- Adjunct Professor, Northwood University (1983-1992).
- Adjunct Professor, University of Phoenix (1988-1992).
- Adjunct Professor, Concordia University of Wisconsin (1984-1985).
- Finalist, White House Fellows Program (1984).
- Adjunct Professor, University of Maryland (1981-1983).
- Adjunct Professor, Central Texas College (1977-1978).

Publications

- Hall (2001). *A Mold Primer for Architects*. AIArchitect. Washington, D.C, 8 pages.
- Hall (1994, April). *Conflicts and Contradictions in Development Planning: The Birth of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority*. Colloqui: Cornell's Journal of Planning and Urban Studies, 24 pages.
- Hall (1992). *The Problem of Idiographic and Nomothetic Space: Towards a Metatheory of Urbanism*. Division of Urban Research and Policy Studies Working Paper No. 10, University of New Orleans, 104 pages.
- Hall (1986). *Quality Circles: Their Use as Motivators in Design Management*. Navy Civil Engineer, 25 (2), pp. 26-28.
- Hall and Rendorio, F. (1981). *Local Tropical Plants*. U.S. Navy Public Works Center, Subic Bay, Philippines, 48 pages.

Unpublished Papers read at Conferences

- *The Birth of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority* (October 15, 1995) Annual Convention of the Association of American Geographers, Chicago, Illinois.
- *Design and Planning of Post-Modern Landscapes* (November 4, 1994) Annual Convention of Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, University of Arizona.
- *Deconstructing Strategic Management in Development Practice* (April 5, 1994) Conference on "Deconstructing and Reconstructing International Development" sponsored by the Program for International Development, Centre for International Comparative Studies, University of Iowa.
- *The "New Hong Kong": A Short History of Olongapo City in the Philippines* (February 6, 1994). Guest Lecture Series, School of Business and Management at Sierra University, Loma Linda, California.
- *Mold in a Building is not Mold in a Petri Dish or Why Tomorrow's Mold Claims Won't Be Your Daddy's Mold Claims* (2006). Reprinted in "Fear and Loathing in the World of Insurance Claims: Essays and Articles on Indoor Mold, Building Dampness and other things that go bump in the night" (2007).

- *Did you get peanut butter on my chocolate? or Did I Get Chocolate on Your Peanut Butter?* (*Emerging Issues in Water Damage Restoration and Mold Remediation* (2006). Reprinted in “Fear and Loathing in the World of Insurance Claims: Essays and Articles on Indoor Mold, Building Dampness and other things that go bump in the night” (2007).
- *The Architects Role in Disaster Assistance* (May 2, 2007). Annual Conference, American Institute of Architects, San Antonio, Texas.
- *Differentiating Between Wind and Flood Damage in Hurricane Katrina* (February 5-6, 2008). 9th Annual Windstorm Insurance Conference, Jacksonville, Florida.
- *Tornados, Gust Fronts and Building Damage* (February 1-2, 2012). 13th Annual Windstorm Insurance Conference, Jacksonville, Florida.
- *Cosmetic and Functional Damage (Part One)* (October 18, 2016). First Party Claims Conference, Warwick, Rhode Island.
- Additional speaking engagements include American Institute of Architects, CLE International; Louisiana Claims Association; Water Loss Institute; Florida Windstorm Association; Windstorm Network Association; International Code Conference; University of Texas (Arlington) Building Professional Institute; LSU Building Contractors Institute; Metropolitan Safety Council of New Orleans, Risk & Insurance Magazine; Society of American Military Engineers; American Trial Lawyers Association (Mississippi, New Orleans and National; National Association of Public Insurance Adjusters; Florida Association of Public Insurance Adjusters.

Professional Affiliations

- American Institute of Architects
 - Prior member, AIA Knowledge Center for Building Performance
- American Society of Civil Engineers
 - Associate Member, ASCE Standards Committee on Estimating Wind Speeds in Tornados and Other Windstorms.
- Structural Engineering Institute
 - Member, ASCE/SEI Standards Committee for the Structural Condition Assessment and Rehabilitation of Existing Buildings responsible for the publication of *Guideline for Structural Condition Assessment of Existing Buildings* (SEI/ASCE 11) and *Guideline for Condition Assessment of the Building Envelope* (SEI/ASCE 30).
- Association of State Floodplain Managers
- American Association of Wind Engineers
- International Institute of Building Enclosure Consultants
- Construction Specifications Institute
- United Architects of the Philippines (first foreign corresponding member)
- National Fire Protection Association
- National Roofing Contractors Association
- Windstorm Network
- International Code Council