

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

Investigating the Use of Papercrete as an Alternative Building Material

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Dedication

This project is dedicated to my parents Daniel Murage Mwangi and Rose Wanjiru Mwangi. I hope to do you proud.

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Abstract

Kenya is a developing country faced by an acute housing problem. Many poor people are not able to afford decent housing. Moreover, rapid cases of environmental pollution and degradation have forced global environmental drivers to point towards a green environment. Papercrete is one material whose popularity in building is growing every day. It is a building material that not only helps to reduce the cost of construction significantly, hence bringing a case of affordability but is also an environmentally friendly material considering it is prepared from waste paper. This project investigates the mechanical properties of papercrete to confirm its suitability as a building material. It also proves that papercrete, when used as a building material helps to reduce costs of building considerably.