

J&B Discovery Inspection Services
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BUILDING ANALYSIS REPORT

Client: *John Doe*

Property Location: *Address*
Washington, DC 20020

Date of Inspection: *7/2/2017*

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MESSAGE TO THE HOME BUYER

The Building Inspection

This building inspection is being conducted in accordance with nationally recognized standards of practice and is for the purpose of identifying major deficiencies which might affect your decision whether to purchase. Although minor problems may be mentioned, this report does not attempt to list them all.

You are urged to attend the inspection and accompany the inspector during the examination of the building. The information you gain from this will be of great value to you. This report is a summary of that information.

It is important for you to understand exactly what your professional building inspector is able to do for you and what the limitations are in the inspection and analysis. The inspection is of readily accessible areas of the building and is limited to visual observations only. The inspector may not move furniture, lift carpeting, remove panels or dismantle any items or equipment.

An inspection is intended to assist in evaluation of the overall condition of a building. The inspection is based on observation of the visible and apparent condition of the building and its components on the date of the inspection.

The results of this home inspection are not intended to make any representation regarding latent or concealed defects that may exist, and no warranty or guaranty is expressed or implied.

Your Inspection Report

Throughout your report where the age of appliances, roofs, etc., is stated, the age shown is approximate. It is not possible to be exact, but an effort is made to be as accurate as possible based on the visible evidence.

When an item in the report is checked "Satisfactory," the meaning is that it should give generally satisfactory service within the limits of its age and any defects or potential problems noted during the inspection.

Problems with the Building

This report is not a guaranty or warranty; we cannot eliminate all your risk in purchasing. There are warranty programs which may be obtained to insure you against failure of some of the major systems of the house.

Home buyers, after settlement and occupying the building, sometimes overlook important information and warnings contained in their reports. This can result in failure of equipment or other damage which could have been prevented if the inspector's advice and recommendations had been followed.

After occupancy, all buildings will have some defects which are not identified in the inspection report. If a serious problem occurs that you feel the report did not give you sufficient warning of, call the inspector. A phone consultation may be helpful to you in deciding what corrective measures to take and the inspector may be able to advise you in assessing proposals offered by contractors for remedying the problem.

Please consult your inspector before you engage a contractor to correct a possible defect. Unless prior consultation occurs, this company cannot assist you further.

The Building Analysis Report (B.A.R.)

This report form was first developed in 1984 at the request of home inspectors who needed to present a concise but complete summary of the results of their inspections free from the sort of technical language which many home buyers would find bewildering. It is used today by hundreds of leading home inspection companies throughout the United States and Canada, including members of such respected professional organizations as the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI), the National Association of Home Inspectors (NAHI), and the California Real Estate Inspection Association (CREIA).

Many improvements and revisions in this report form have been made through the years from suggestions by home inspectors and home buyers. We welcome any suggestions and criticisms which will assist us in improving it in the future.

BUILDING ANALYSIS REPORT

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SUMMARY

List of electrical, mechanical and plumbing items not operating, roof leaks and major deficiencies:

- * No gas supply. Can not evaluate the performance of the gas fired appliances.*
- *Window damage and multiple windows are not operating.*
- *Electric system is not properly grounded. Dead front cover to main breaker panel has only 2 screw holes. Severe deterioration of the main electric service cable. Main electric panel is not bonded.*
- *No 3 way light switch from the basement.*
- *Exhaust connector of the gas fired water heater connects to chimney under the furnace connector. Poor sealing of the air ducts and exhaust connectors.*
- *Large tree in the back yard poses a threat to the house in the future.*
- *Gutters are full of debris and may be the reason for the ceiling water stain in the bathroom that has high moisture meter readings.*
- *Micro wave causes flashing. May be due to aluminum in cabinet.*

Minor repairs during the first year of occupancy are estimated to be between *\$1,000.00* and *\$15,000.00*
This estimated amount does not include costs listed above for correcting major deficiencies, roof leaks and items currently not operating.

List of some important items not at present defective or in need of repair or replacement, but may be within the next 3 years:

Item	Estimated Price Range
<i>Exterior painting</i>	<i>\$2500 - \$3500</i>

Remarks

As mentioned during the inspection it is recommended to provide for a maintenance contract to preserve a premium performance of the heating and cooling equipment. However, it is most important that all major or minor deficiencies indicated in this report should be evaluated and repaired by the tradesperson with the experience specializing in the trade of that concern. Avoid the person claiming they are a jack of all trades. When selecting a contractor, interview a minimum of three. Interview more until you feel confident in your selection. You can always call me for advice. Ask for references and a copy of their certificate of insurance along with th

The following pages cover in greater detail the items which are a part of this inspection.
Additional recommendations may also be found on the following pages.

STRUCTURAL AND BASEMENT

TYPE OF BUILDING	<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duplex <input type="checkbox"/> Rowhouse / Townhouse <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Unit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable Roof <input type="checkbox"/> Shed <input type="checkbox"/> Hip <input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel <input type="checkbox"/> Mansard <input type="checkbox"/> Flat
STRUCTURE	Foundation Wall: <input type="checkbox"/> Poured Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Block <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick and Block Posts/Columns: <input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> Masonry <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not visible Floor structure: <i>Dimensional structural wood members and dimensional wood plank subfloors</i> Wall structure: <i>Solid brick and block masonry walls.</i> Roof structure: <i>Dimensional structural wood members and dimensional wood plank subroof.</i> Water damage: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None observed Signs of abnormal condensation: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None observed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No major structural defects noted -- in normal condition for its age
Remarks	<i>2 story, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, full basement, 2100 s.f., 70 yr.s old.</i>
BASEMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full <input type="checkbox"/> Partial <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Slab on grade Walls: <input type="checkbox"/> Open <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closed Ceiling: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/> Closed <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Limited visibility due to extensive basement storage
FLOOR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Dirt <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Resilient tile <input type="checkbox"/> Sheet goods <input type="checkbox"/> Carpeting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Laminated wood</i> <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
FLOOR DRAIN	<input type="checkbox"/> Tested <input type="checkbox"/> Not tested <input type="checkbox"/> Water observed in trap <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> French drain <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
SUMP PUMP	<input type="checkbox"/> Tested <input type="checkbox"/> Not tested <input type="checkbox"/> Water observed in crock <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory Pipes: <input type="checkbox"/> Copper <input type="checkbox"/> Galvanized <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
BASEMENT DAMPNESS	<input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive <input type="checkbox"/> Past <input type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not known <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None observed
CRAWL SPACE	<input type="checkbox"/> Readily accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Not readily accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Not inspected <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Conditions inspected <input type="checkbox"/> Method: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Floor: <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Dirt <input type="checkbox"/> Wood to earth contact Dampness: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive <input type="checkbox"/> None observed <input type="checkbox"/> Vapor barrier <input type="checkbox"/> Insulation <input type="checkbox"/> Ventilation
Remarks	<i>Areas of the laminated wood floor are soft and unlevel. Only 60% of the floor to ceiling height is 6ft - 10inches. the other floor to ceiling height is only 6ft due to air ducts.</i>

STRUCTURAL AND BASEMENT PHOTOS



IMG_6413.JPG

View of the basement. Notice the floor to ceiling height at the air ducts and the floor. It is only 6 feet. Notice the floor to ceiling btw the duct. It is 6 ft - 10 inches. Ducts cover



IMG_6382.JPG

Front of home, Washington, DC

HEATING AND COOLING

HEATING SYSTEM	Fuel: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Oil <input type="checkbox"/> Electric <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forced Air Furnace (see page 11) <input type="checkbox"/> Gravity hot water <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Forced Hot Water Boiler <input type="checkbox"/> Steam Boiler <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Radiant Heat <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Baseboard <input type="checkbox"/> Heat Pump (see page 11) No. 1 Capacity: _____ Age: _____ Yrs. No. 2 Capacity: _____ Age: _____ Yrs. No. 3 Capacity: _____ Age: _____ Yrs. When turned on by thermostat: <input type="checkbox"/> Fired <input type="checkbox"/> Did not fire												
FUEL SUPPLY	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil tank in basement <input type="checkbox"/> Buried <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public gas supply <input type="checkbox"/> Tank <input type="checkbox"/> Electricity <input type="checkbox"/> Fuel supply shutoff location: Next to the unit.												
HEAT EXCHANGER	<input type="checkbox"/> Partially observed <input type="checkbox"/> Not visible; enclosed combustion <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Have condition checked before settlement (see page 11)												
HEAT DISTRIBUTION	<input type="checkbox"/> Radiators <input type="checkbox"/> Convectors <input type="checkbox"/> Baseboard Convectors <input type="checkbox"/> Radiant Pipes: <input type="checkbox"/> Galvanized pipes <input type="checkbox"/> Copper <input type="checkbox"/> Black iron <input type="checkbox"/> Pipes not visible <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ductwork Heat source in each room: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A												
HUMIDIFIER	<input type="checkbox"/> Atomizer <input type="checkbox"/> Evaporator <input type="checkbox"/> Steam <input type="checkbox"/> Not Functioning <input type="checkbox"/> Not Tested <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A												
FILTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washable <input type="checkbox"/> Disposable <input type="checkbox"/> Electronic <input type="checkbox"/> Electrostatic <input type="checkbox"/> N/A												
SUPPLEMENTARY HEAT	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">Location</td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">Type</td> <td style="width: 10%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"> </td> <td style="border: none;"> </td> <td style="border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"> </td> <td style="border: none;"> </td> <td style="border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border: none;"> </td> <td style="border: none;"> </td> <td style="border: none;"><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory</td> </tr> </table>	Location	Type				<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory			<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory			<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Location	Type												
		<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory											
		<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory											
		<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory											
Remarks	<p><i>RUDD m/n RGPS 07EAMER mfg 6 - 2010</i> <i>No gas supply. Can not evaluate the performance of the gas fired appliances.</i> <i>Exhaust connector appears to connect to chimney over exhaust for water heater.</i> <i>Poor seals of the air ducts and exhaust connectors.</i></p>												
COOLING	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling system integral with heating system <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Central Air <input type="checkbox"/> Room Units <input type="checkbox"/> Heat Pump <input type="checkbox"/> Through Wall <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electric Compressor <input type="checkbox"/> Gas Chiller <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Filter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Handler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thermostat No. 1 Condensing Unit Capacity: <i>1-1/2 tons</i> Age: <i>2Yrs.</i> No. 2 Condensing Unit Capacity: _____ Age: _____ Yrs. No. 3 Condensing Unit Capacity: _____ Age: _____ Yrs. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tested <input type="checkbox"/> Not Tested (see page 11) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ductwork <input type="checkbox"/> Window units not tested												
Remarks	<p><i>Goodman m/n GSX140241KA s/n 1510250953 RLA = 10.9</i></p>												

HEATING AND COOLING PHOTOS



IMG_6428.JPG

The foreground shows the exhaust connector to the water heater. It spans under the exhaust for the gas furnace. The should not touch. The furnace exhaust should connect to the



IMG_6424.JPG

Poor seals for the air duct. Some joints are not sealed.



IMG_6426.JPG

Showing string is used for supporting the water heater exhaust duct.

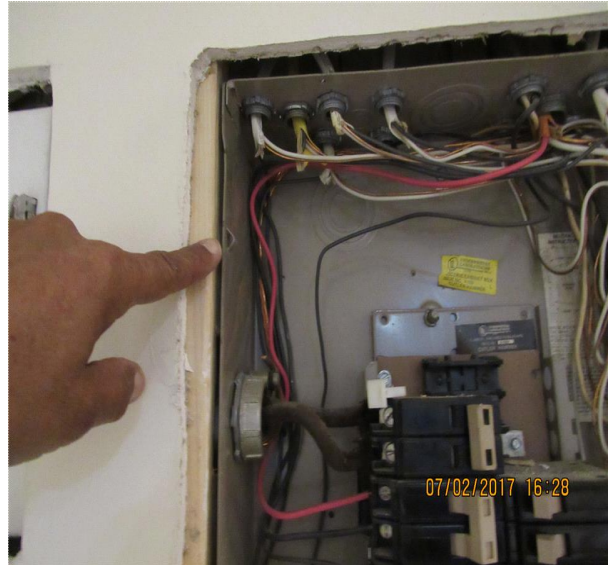
PLUMBING AND BATHROOM

WATER SERVICE ENTRANCE PIPE	Water Supply: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private (see page 12) <input type="checkbox"/> Not known <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory Pipe: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copper <input type="checkbox"/> Galvanized <input type="checkbox"/> Brass <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown Main shutoff location: Front wall basement		
PIPES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copper <input type="checkbox"/> Galvanized <input type="checkbox"/> Brass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plastic <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory Water Flow: <input type="checkbox"/> Tested <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not tested <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Leaks: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None observed Cross connections: None observed. <input type="checkbox"/> None observed Hose bibbs: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Frost free <input type="checkbox"/> Not tested (see page 12)		
DRAIN/WASTE/ VENT	Drain/Waste/Vent Pipes: <input type="checkbox"/> Copper <input type="checkbox"/> Galvanized <input type="checkbox"/> Brass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plastic <input type="checkbox"/> Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Cast Iron <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Slow drain <input type="checkbox"/> Leaks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None observed Waste disposal: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private (see page 12) <input type="checkbox"/> Not known		
WATER HEATER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electric <input type="checkbox"/> Oil <input type="checkbox"/> Tankless <input type="checkbox"/> Integral with heating system <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> In line system: Fuel cutoff location: Next to the unit. <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Capacity: 40Gal. Ample for: 4 - 6 people Age: 2Yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Pressure relief valve <input type="checkbox"/> Extension		
Remarks:	RHEEM S/n A521501329 m/n SCG40703ST34U1 mfg 18 DEC 2015 Exhaust connetor is supported by a string. Poor seals of the exhaust connectors.		
BATHROOM NO. 1	Location: Basement	BATHROOM NO. 2 Location: 2nd floor hall	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Built in tub <input type="checkbox"/> Leg tub <input type="checkbox"/> Stall shower <input type="checkbox"/> Whirlpool <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toilet <input type="checkbox"/> Bidet <input type="checkbox"/> Lavatory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vanity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fan <input type="checkbox"/> Window Shower wall: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass Room floor: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Resilient Leaks: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None observed <div style="text-align: right;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory</div>		<input type="checkbox"/> Built in tub <input type="checkbox"/> Leg tub <input type="checkbox"/> Stall shower <input type="checkbox"/> Whirlpool <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet <input type="checkbox"/> Bidet <input type="checkbox"/> Lavatory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vanity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Window Shower wall: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass Room floor: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Resilient Leaks: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None observed <div style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory</div>	
BATHROOM NO. 3 Location:		BATHROOM NO. 4 Location:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Built in tub <input type="checkbox"/> Leg tub <input type="checkbox"/> Stall shower <input type="checkbox"/> Whirlpool <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet <input type="checkbox"/> Bidet <input type="checkbox"/> Lavatory <input type="checkbox"/> Vanity <input type="checkbox"/> Fan <input type="checkbox"/> Window Shower wall: <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass Room floor: <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Resilient Leaks: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> None observed <div style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory</div>		<input type="checkbox"/> Built in tub <input type="checkbox"/> Leg tub <input type="checkbox"/> Stall shower <input type="checkbox"/> Whirlpool <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet <input type="checkbox"/> Bidet <input type="checkbox"/> Lavatory <input type="checkbox"/> Vanity <input type="checkbox"/> Fan <input type="checkbox"/> Window Shower wall: <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass Room floor: <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Resilient Leaks: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> None observed <div style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory</div>	
BATHROOM NO. 5 Location:		BATHROOM NO. 6 Location:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Built in tub <input type="checkbox"/> Leg tub <input type="checkbox"/> Stall shower <input type="checkbox"/> Whirlpool <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet <input type="checkbox"/> Bidet <input type="checkbox"/> Lavatory <input type="checkbox"/> Vanity <input type="checkbox"/> Fan <input type="checkbox"/> Window Shower wall: <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass Room floor: <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Resilient Leaks: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> None observed <div style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory</div>		<input type="checkbox"/> Built in tub <input type="checkbox"/> Leg tub <input type="checkbox"/> Stall shower <input type="checkbox"/> Whirlpool <input type="checkbox"/> Toilet <input type="checkbox"/> Bidet <input type="checkbox"/> Lavatory <input type="checkbox"/> Vanity <input type="checkbox"/> Fan <input type="checkbox"/> Window Shower wall: <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass Room floor: <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic tile <input type="checkbox"/> Resilient Leaks: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> None observed <div style="text-align: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory</div>	
Remarks:	No shower head for the shower 2nd floor bath. Poor performance of shower in basement.		

PLUMBING AND BATHROOM PHOTOS



IMG_6420.JPG
Missing shower head.



IMG_6412.JPG
Showing slot for a screw to attach the dead front cover. The dead front does not have holes to correspond with the 2 top slots.

ELECTRICAL AND KITCHEN

SERVICE ENTRANCE CABLE	Capacity: 125Amps, 120/240 Volts <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory Service line entrance: <input type="checkbox"/> Overhead <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Underground <input type="checkbox"/> Raceway Conductor material: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copper <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum
MAIN PANEL BOX	Location: Front basement wall <input type="checkbox"/> Grounded <input type="checkbox"/> Bonded <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory Amps <input type="checkbox"/> Fuses <input type="checkbox"/> Circuit Breakers <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Subpanel Location: Capacity of Main Current Disconnect: Amps
CIRCUITS AND CONDUCTORS	Quantity: <input type="checkbox"/> Ample Branch Wiring: <input type="checkbox"/> Copper <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory Wiring method: <input type="checkbox"/> Romex <input type="checkbox"/> BX <input type="checkbox"/> Knob and Tube <input type="checkbox"/> Raceway <input type="checkbox"/> Conduit <input type="checkbox"/> Overfused circuit <input type="checkbox"/> Double tap breaker GFCI: <input type="checkbox"/> Exterior <input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen Bathroom(s)
OUTLETS, FIXTURES AND SWITCHES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Random testing <input type="checkbox"/> Reversed polarity <input type="checkbox"/> Open ground <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Smoke detectors absent
Remarks	<i>Electric system is not properly grounded. Dead front cover to main breaker panel has only 2 screw holes. Severe deterioration of the main electric service cable. Main electric panel is not bonded or grounded.</i>
CABINETS AND COUNTER TOP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
SINK	Plumbing Leaks: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs: <input type="checkbox"/> None observed <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory Disposal: <input type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Not Operating Age: 0-3 Yrs.
DISHWASHER	<input type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Not Operating Age: Yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Air gap or high loop <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
RANGE/ OVEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Range <input type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Age: Yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Wall oven <input type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Age: Yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Cooktop <input type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Age: Yrs.
REFRIGERATOR	#1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frost free <input type="checkbox"/> Ice maker Age: 0-3 Yrs. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory #2 <input type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Frost free <input type="checkbox"/> Ice maker Age: Yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
OTHER APPLIANCES	<input type="checkbox"/> Operating Age: Yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Operating Age: Yrs. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
FLOOR COVERING	<input type="checkbox"/> Resilient tile <input type="checkbox"/> Sheet goods <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Laminate
VENTILATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhaust fan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ductless <input type="checkbox"/> Vented to outside <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Filter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Light <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
CLOTHES WASHER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating Age: 0-5 Yrs. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Not tested <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
CLOTHES DRYER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electric Age: 0-5 Yrs. <input type="checkbox"/> Not tested <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Vented To: Outside <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Remarks	<i>No gas to evaluate the performance of the stove. Micro wave causes flashing. May be due to aluminum in cabinet. No gas supply to the stove. One wall cabinet is loose.</i>

ELECTRICAL AND KITCHEN PHOTOS



IMG_6378.JPG

Showing severe deterioration of the main electric service cable and poor seal at the wall penetration.



IMG_6410.JPG

Showing the electric service connections from the meter. Recom'd a licensed electrician to evaluate this setup.

INTERIOR AND ATTIC

FLOOR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hardwood <input type="checkbox"/> Softwood <input type="checkbox"/> Plywood <input type="checkbox"/> Wall-to-Wall Carpet <input type="checkbox"/> Resilient <input type="checkbox"/> Laminate <input type="checkbox"/> Not visible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
WALLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plaster <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drywall <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Masonry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
CEILING	<input type="checkbox"/> Plaster <input type="checkbox"/> Drywall <input type="checkbox"/> Wood	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
STAIRS / RAILINGS	<input type="checkbox"/> Balcony <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stairs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Railings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
FIREPLACE	<input type="checkbox"/> Flue liner <input type="checkbox"/> Partially observed <input type="checkbox"/> Damper <input type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Not operating <input type="checkbox"/> Metal pre-fab <input type="checkbox"/> Free-standing <input type="checkbox"/> Wood stove <input type="checkbox"/> Pellet stove <input type="checkbox"/> Gas <input type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Not operating <input type="checkbox"/> Clean chimney before use	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
DOORS (INSIDE)		<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
WINDOWS AND SKYLIGHT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Double hung <input type="checkbox"/> Single hung <input type="checkbox"/> Casement <input type="checkbox"/> Awning <input type="checkbox"/> Sliding <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Vinyl or aluminum clad wood <input type="checkbox"/> Vinyl <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> Insulated Glass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single pane glass <input type="checkbox"/> Roof windows and skylights <input type="checkbox"/> Moisture stains <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Remarks	<i>Some windows are damaged. Half of the windows are painted shut and can not be evauated.</i>	
ACCESS	How Inspected: <i>crawled through</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Not inspected <input type="checkbox"/> Stairs <input type="checkbox"/> Pulldown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scuttlehole <input type="checkbox"/> No access	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
MOISTURE STAINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive <input type="checkbox"/> None observed <input type="checkbox"/> Condensation	
STORAGE	<input type="checkbox"/> Heavy <input type="checkbox"/> Light <input type="checkbox"/> Floored <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not floored <input type="checkbox"/> No storage	
INSULATION	Type: <i>Blown in fiberglass</i> Avg. Inches: <i>12</i> Installed in: <input type="checkbox"/> Rafters <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Floor Approx. R Rating: <i>R 60</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Vapor retarders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
VENTILATION	<input type="checkbox"/> Window(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Attic Fan <input type="checkbox"/> Whole House Fan <input type="checkbox"/> Turbine <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge Vent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soffit Vent <input type="checkbox"/> Roof Vent(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable end louvers	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Remarks	<i>Recom'd adding a roof fan to control the temperature in the attic to help the shingles stay as cool.</i>	

INTERIOR AND ATTIC PHOTOS



IMG_6438.JPG

Showing a water stain at the ceiling to the 2nd floor bathroom. Suspect water spilling over the gutter that is full of debris,



IMG_6374.JPG

Showing damage of one of the windows where the sill has been chipped away. Water



IMG_6375.JPG

Showing poor repair of the single glazed window. Notice there are no screens or storm windows.

ROOFING SYSTEM AND EXTERIOR

ROOF COVERING	Location Main	Materials Asphalt Shingles	Age 10Yrs. Yrs. Yrs. Yrs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
	How inspected: <i>Walked on roof</i> Roof leaks: <input type="checkbox"/> Some signs <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive <input type="checkbox"/> None observed			
FLASHING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input type="checkbox"/> Galvanized <input type="checkbox"/> Copper <input type="checkbox"/> Rubberized membrane			<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
GUTTERS AND DOWNSPOUTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input type="checkbox"/> Galvanized <input type="checkbox"/> Copper <input type="checkbox"/> Vinyl <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Extensions: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Remarks	<p><i>Roof shows several repairs to the shingles. No edge flashing. Poor poor and damaged flashing at the parapet. Gutters are full of debris and twiggs and may be causing a leak into the 2nd floor ceiling.</i></p>			
EXTERIOR DOORS				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
WINDOWS AND SKYLIGHTS				<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
EXTERIOR WALL COVERING	Location All	Materials Brick		<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
EXTERIOR TRIM	<input type="checkbox"/> Eaves <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fascia <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Soffits <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rake <input type="checkbox"/> Signs of deterioration <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None observed			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
CHIMNEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Block <input type="checkbox"/> Flue liner partially observed <input type="checkbox"/> Clean before use		<input type="checkbox"/> In chase	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
GARAGE/ CARPORT	<input type="checkbox"/> Garage <input type="checkbox"/> Carport <input type="checkbox"/> Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Detached <input type="checkbox"/> Door Operator <input type="checkbox"/> Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Reverse			<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
PORCH	Floor: <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Railing / Guardrail			<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Remarks:	<p><i>Chimney cap has deteriorated. Repair asap. Exterior wall displays a multitude of holes that should be sealed to eliminate spalling and infiltration.</i></p>			

ROOFING SYSTEM AND EXTERIOR PHOTOS



IMG_6338.JPG

Showing the condition of the gutter and the poor performance of the gutter guard.



IMG_6339.JPG

Gutters are full of debris. Water may be spilling over the back side of the gutter and finding its way to the 2nd floor bathroom ceiling.



IMG_6341.JPG

Damaged flashing along the party wall.



IMG_6356.JPG

Showing the eroding condition of the chimney cap that should be providing a seal around the taracota flue. This should be completely restored.

ROOFING SYSTEM AND EXTERIOR PHOTOS



IMG_6342.JPG

The spots on the roof is moss and/or vegetation grow. Notice there has been repairs to the roof.



IMG_6343.JPG

Showing the poor flashing at the party wall.



IMG_6387.JPG

Showing holes in the ground that may belong to threatening insects,



IMG_6395.JPG

Showing a multitude of holes in the exterior masonry that should be cease

GROUNDS

GRADING	General grading, slope and drainage (see pages 10 and 16) Grading and slope at house wall(within 5 feet from building)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
SIDEWALK AND WALKWAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Flagstone	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
DRIVEWAY	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gravel <input type="checkbox"/> Brick	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
WINDOW WELLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
RETAINING WALL	<input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Block <input type="checkbox"/> Stone <input type="checkbox"/> Timber	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
TREES AND SHRUBBERY		<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
FENCING	<input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Remarks	<p><i>Budget to repair the driveway and the concrete sidewalk. The large tree in the back yard may become a threat to damaging the roof and fence in the future. It will become expensive to prune and cut off dead branches.</i></p>	
DECK/ BALCONY	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs of deterioration <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive <input type="checkbox"/> None observed <input type="checkbox"/> On grade <input type="checkbox"/> Raised <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/> Handrail	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
PATIO, TERRACE	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete <input type="checkbox"/> Brick <input type="checkbox"/> Flagstone	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
STEPS TO BUILDING	Landing: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete/Masonry <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Steps: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concrete/Masonry <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Metal Handrails: <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Metal <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
OUTBUILDING	<input type="checkbox"/> Not inspected	
Remarks		

GROUNDS PHOTOS



IMG_6398.JPG
Showing the tree in the back yard.



IMG_6400.JPG
Showing the magnitude of the tree coverage.

FACTS ABOUT THIS HOME INSPECTION

Throughout this report where the age of appliances, roof, etc., is stated, the age shown is approximate. It is not possible to be exact, but an effort is made to be as accurate as possible based on the visible evidence.

When any item in the report is stated to be "Satisfactory," the meaning is that it should give generally satisfactory service within the limits of its age and any defects or potential problems noted during the inspection.

STRUCTURAL AND BASEMENT

Basement or Crawl Space Dampness

Basement dampness is frequently noted in houses and the conditions that cause it are usually capable of determination by an experienced home inspector. Often, however, in houses that are being offered for sale, the visible signs on the interior of a basement which would indicate a past or present water problem are concealed. For example an area may be painted over, or basement storage may be piled against a wall where a problem has occurred. If there has been a dry period before the time of the inspection, signs of past water penetration may not be visible. In such cases, the inspector may not be able to detect the signs of basement dampness or water penetration.

Elimination of basement dampness, whether slight or extensive, can usually be accomplished by one or both of the following actions: realigning gutters and extending downspouts to discharge some distance from the house; and regrading in the vicinity of the house so that the slope goes away from the house rather than toward it.

In most soils, a minimum recommended slope away from the house is a 5 inch drop over a 5 foot distance (one inch per foot).

Expensive solutions to basement dampness problems are frequently offered, and it is possible to spend many thousands of dollars for such unsatisfactory solutions as a system for pumping out water that has already entered the basement or the area around or under it. Another solution sometimes offered is the pumping of chemical preparations into the ground around the house. This has been found not to be of value.

Independent experts recommend solutions that prevent water from entering the basement around or under the building, and their solutions can be as simple as purchasing a splash block for \$10 and placing it under a downspout outlet, or the purchasing of a load of fill dirt for building up the grade around the house.

Crawl spaces require the same care and water control as basements. Cross ventilation is necessary and installation of a plastic vapor barrier over a dirt floor is strongly recommended.

If you have a basement dampness problem that persists in spite of efforts you have made in solving it, call the inspector for further consultation and advice.

Insect Boring Activity and Rot

If there is an inaccessible basement or crawl space, there is a possibility that past or present termite activity and/or rot exists in this area. Since no visual inspection can be made, it is not possible to make a determination of this damage if it exists.

Insect Boring Inspection

No inspection is made by this company to detect past or present insect boring activity or rot. We recommend you contact a qualified exterminator should you desire more information or a possible examination of the building and/or a warranty.

HEATING AND COOLING

Testing the Air Conditioning System

If the outside temperature has not been at least 65 degrees F. for the past 24 hours, an air conditioning system cannot be checked without possibly damaging the compressor. In this situation, it is suggested that the present owner of the property warrant the operational status of the unit on an one-time start-up and cool-down basis when warmer weather allows.

Compressor/Condensing Unit

The major components of an air conditioning condensing unit are the compressor and the condensing coil. A compressor has a normal life of 8 to 15 years; a condensing coil may last longer. The estimated age of a condensing unit is taken from the specification plate. Sometimes the compressor, which is not visible, may have been replaced since the original installation.

Electric Furnace

Electric furnaces have a normal life of 15 to 20 years, although at times the heating elements have to be replaced

Oil and Gas Fired Furnaces

Oil and gas fired forced air furnaces have a normal life of 15 to 20 years.

Heat Exchanger

The heat exchanger in a gas or oil furnace is partially hidden from view; it cannot be fully examined and its condition determined without being disassembled. Since this is not possible during a visual inspection, it is recommended that a service contract be placed on the unit and a service call made prior to settlement to check the condition of the heat exchanger

Air Filter

Air filters should be changed or cleaned every 30 to 60 days to provide proper air circulation throughout the house and help protect the heating and cooling system.

Humidifier

Since it is not possible during a visual inspection to determine whether the humidifier is operating properly, it is recommended that it be serviced at the same time as the furnace, and be cleaned regularly.

Cast Iron Boiler

Cast iron hot water boilers have a normal life of 30 to 50 years.

Steel Boiler

Steel hot water boilers have a normal life of 15 to 30 years.

Circulating Pump

Circulating pumps have a normal life of 10 to 15 years.

Heat Pump

Outside units have a normal life of 6 to 10 years. Heat pumps operate best when serviced at least once a year. Adequate air flow is more critical than with other forced air systems; it is important that the filter be kept clean. It is not advisable to shut off supply grilles to rooms except as required to balance heat and cooling.

Heat pumps cannot be checked on the heat cycle if the outside temperature has been over 65 degrees F. within the past 24 hours. The total heating capacity of a heat pump system varies with outside temperature conditions.

Electric Baseboard Heater

Electric baseboard heaters have a normal life of 10 to 15 years.

PLUMBING AND BATHROOM

Wells

Examination of wells is not included in this visual inspection. It is recommended that you have well water checked for purity by the local health authorities and, if possible, a check on the flow of the well in periods of drought

Septic Systems

The check of septic systems is not included in our visual inspection. You should have the local health authorities or other qualified experts check the condition of a septic system.

In order for the septic system to be checked, the house must have been occupied within the last 30 days

Water Pipes

Galvanized water pipes rust from the inside out and may have to be replaced within 20 to 30 years. This is usually done in two stages: horizontal piping in the basement first, and vertical pipes throughout the house later as needed.

Copper pipes usually have more life expectancy and may last as long as 60 years before needing to be replaced.

Hose Bibbs

During the winter months it is necessary to make sure the outside faucets are turned off. This can be done by means of a valve located in the basement. Leave the outside faucets open to allow any water standing in the pipes to drain, preventing them from freezing. Hose bibbs cannot be tested when turned off.

Water Heater

The life expectancy of a water heater is 8 to 12 years. Water heaters generally are not replaced unless they leak.

The heating element in an electric water heater may require replacing prior to the end of life expectancy of the heater itself.

Leg Tub

If the bathroom has a leg tub, it is probable that the waste lines are made of lead. In many jurisdictions, the lead waste pipes must be changed to copper or PVC pipes when remodeling work is performed in the bathroom.

Ceramic Tile

Bathroom tile installed in a mortar bed is excellent. It is still necessary to keep the joint between the tile and the tub/shower caulked or sealed to prevent water spillage from leaking through and damaging the ceilings below.

Ceramic tile is often installed in mastic. It is important to keep the tile caulked or water will seep behind the tile and cause deterioration in the wall board. Special attention should be paid to the area around faucets, other tile penetrations and seams in corners and along the floor.

Stall Shower

The metal shower pan in a stall shower has a probable life of 8 to 10 years. Although a visual inspection is made to determine whether a shower pan is currently leaking, it cannot be stated with certainty that no defect is present or that one may not soon develop. Shower pan leaks often do not show except when the shower is in actual use with a person standing in it.

ELECTRICAL AND KITCHEN

Aluminum Wiring

Houses built after 1960 may have aluminum lower branch wiring. Initially, this wiring was pure aluminum which proved unstable and subject to surface corrosion when placed in direct contact with dissimilar metals at fixture and outlet connections.

Later, aluminum alloy was used and although its performance was much better, special care and special connections must be used to prevent corrosion, overheating, arcing and fire. The practice of using aluminum alloy wiring was generally stopped around 1973; however, its use has continued on a limited basis.

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) are recommended on all outdoor outlets and on interior outlets in wet areas such as bath-rooms and kitchen counter areas. GFCIs should be tested monthly to insure they are functioning.

Smoke Detectors

If no smoke detectors are presently installed in the building, it is recommended that smoke detectors be installed at least in the ceiling of the basement near the mechanical equipment as well as in the hallway ceiling outside sleeping rooms

Carbon monoxide detectors are now required by some jurisdictions when the house contains any gas-burning appliances or has an attached garage. These devices should be placed and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's directions.

Smoke detectors installed in the house should be checked every 2 to 3 weeks to ensure that they are functioning.

Power Usage of Appliances and Mechanical Equipment

Electric Range	30 - 50 Amps
Electric Dryer	25 - 40 Amps
Electric Hot Water Heater	25 - 30 Amps
Electric Central A/C	30 Amps
Room A/C	7 - 20 Amps
Electric Heat	50 - 75 Amps
Electric Heat Pump	50 - 75 Amps

Dishwashers and Disposals

Dishwashers and disposals have a normal life of 5 to 12 years

Ranges, Ovens and Refrigerators

Ranges, ovens, cook tops and refrigerators have a normal life of 15 to 20 years.

Clothes Washers and Dryers

Clothes washers and dryers cannot be inspected properly without a load of laundry, so these appliances are not tested other than to determine whether they are operating.

A washer or dryer has an average life of 6 to 12 years.

When hooking up a dryer, it must be kept vented to the exterior to prevent excessive moisture from building up in the house.

Washers and dryers often are not included in "as is" condition.

INTERIOR AND ATTIC

Fireplace

It is important that a fireplace be cleaned on a routine basis to prevent the buildup of creosote in the flue, which can cause a chimney fire.

Masonry fireplace chimneys are normally required to have a terra cotta flue liner or 8 inches of masonry surrounding each flue in order to be considered safe and to conform with most building codes.

During a visual inspection it is common to be unable to detect the absence of a flue liner either because of stoppage at the firebox, a defective damper, or lack of access from the roof.

Asbestos and Other Environmental Hazards

Asbestos fiber in some form is present in many homes, but it is often not visible or cannot be identified without testing.

If there is reason to suspect that asbestos fiber may be present and it is of particular concern, a sample of the material in question may be removed and examined in a testing laboratory. However, detecting or inspecting for the presence or absence of asbestos is not a part of our inspection.

Also excluded from this inspection and report are the possible presence of or danger from lead in water, radon gas, mold, mildew, lead paint, urea formaldehyde, EMF (electromagnetic fields), toxic or flammable chemicals and all other similar or other potentially harmful substances and environmental hazards.

Plaster on Gypsum Lath (Rock Lath)

Plaster on gypsum lath will sometimes show the seams of the 16" wide gypsum lath, but this does not indicate a structural fault. The scalloping appearance can be leveled with drywall joint compound, or drywall can be laminated over the existing plaster.

Nail Pops

Drywall nail pops are due in part to normal expansion and contraction of the wood member to which the gypsum lath is nailed, and are usually only of cosmetic significance.

Wood Flooring

Always attempt to clean wood floors first before making the decision to refinish the floor. Wax removers and other mild stripping agents plus a good waxing and buffing will usually produce satisfactory results. Mild bleaching agents help remove the deep stains.

Sanding removes some of the wood in the floor and can usually be done safely only once or twice in the life of the floor.

Animal odors and stains are common in older homes. These problems cannot be positively identified in a general or visual inspection.

Carpeting

Where carpeting has been installed, the materials and condition of the floor underneath cannot be determined.

Access to Attic

If there are no attic stairs or pulldown, the attic may be inaccessible and therefore uninspected. Lacking access, the inspector will not be able to inspect the attic insulation, framing, ventilation or search for evidence of current or past roof leaks

ROOFING

Inspection of Roof

Many roofs are hazardous to walk on and in most cases can be satisfactorily inspected from the ground with or without binoculars or from a window with a good view of the roof. Some roofs, such as asbestos cement, slate, clay or concrete tile, shingles or shakes, may be seriously damaged by persons walking on them. Accordingly, the building analyst will base the inspection report on visible evidence which can be seen without walking on the roof.

The condition of a built-up or flat metal roof often cannot be determined unless it is possible for the building analyst to closely inspect its surface. Access to the roof from within the building is sometimes possible, but in many cases an additional inspection may be scheduled with special ladders to reach the roof from the outside.

“Satisfactory” Roof Covering

When the report indicates that a roof is “satisfactory,” that means it is satisfactory for its age and general usefulness. A roof which is stated to be satisfactory may show evidence of past or present leaks or may soon develop leaks. However, such a roof can be repaired and give generally satisfactory service within the limits of its age.

Asphalt and Fiberglass Shingles

In cold and temperate climates, asphalt and fiberglass shingle roofs have a normal life of 15 to 20 years. In the South and Southwest, they have a normal life of 12 to 15 years. If a new roof is required, it may be installed over the original roof unless prohibited by local building codes. If two layers of roofing have already been installed, most building codes require both layers to be removed before installing a new roof covering.

Built-up Roof

Four-ply built-up roofs have a normal life of 15 to 20 years if they drain properly. If there is standing water on the roof, the rate of deterioration is doubled. One-ply flexible sheet membrane roofs have a normal life of 15 to 20 years.

Roll Roofing

Selvage or asphalt roll roofing is an inexpensive type of roof with a life of 5 to 10 years.

Wood Shingles and Shakes

Wood shingles and shakes have more insulating value than other roofs. Wood shingles have a normal life of 12 to 15 years, and shakes have a normal life of 15 to 20

Slate Roof

Slate roofs have a normal life of 30 to 75 years depending upon the grade of slate. Slate roofs do need annual maintenance, and it is necessary to replace defective slates and tar ridges as required from time to time.

If improperly installed, the nails fastening slates may rust through; individual slates can be lifted and re-laid with copper slating nails. When one set of nails rusts through, it is likely it will happen soon to other slates, so lifting and relaying of all the slates may be required in the near future.

Clay Tile Roof

A clay tile roof has a normal life of 30 to 50 years, but individual pieces can become cracked or broken or the nails rust out. Tiles may have to be replaced periodically.

Asbestos Cement Shingles

Asbestos cement shingles have a normal life of 30 to 50 years, but they are brittle and individual shingles should be replaced as needed. In many states, removal of asbestos cement shingles must be according to EPA standards.

Metal Roof

Metal roofs have a very long life if the exposed metal is kept coated with paint. When a metal roof has been tarred, it is impossible to determine the condition of the metal under the tar. While there may be no evidence detected of any ongoing leaks, it is possible the roof has rusted through and will need replacement in the near future.

EXTERIOR AND GROUNDS

Wood Siding

Western red cedar and redwood are excellent siding materials and should be kept painted or stained to preserve them from deterioration.

Cedar shingles or shakes may be painted, stained or left to weather.

Aluminum and Vinyl Siding

Aluminum siding has a factory finish and vinyl siding has solid color throughout each piece.

Upkeep on aluminum and vinyl sidings is minimal and they only need to be cleaned periodically with a sponge and water solution.

Stucco

It is important to prevent cracks from forming in exterior stucco since water can seep into cracks, freeze, expand and cause deterioration of the framing as well as further cracking of the stucco.

Masonry

Solid brick, block or stone exterior walls require little maintenance, but it is necessary to inspect the walls regularly to detect signs of mortar deterioration.

At some point, masonry walls will always require tuckpointing of the mortar joints to prevent water penetration and wall damage.

Vines growing into the mortar joints of a masonry wall can also cause water penetration.

The brick walls of a brick veneer house are attached to the wall structure of the house and are not themselves structural. They should be cared for the same as a solid masonry wall, but cracks in the brick veneer wall do not necessarily indicate structural damage to the wall.

Exterior Wood Surfaces

All surfaces of untreated wood need regular applications of oil based paint or special chemicals to resist rot. Porch or deck columns and fence posts which are buried in the ground and made of untreated wood will rot within a year or two.

All posts and wood members with ground contact should be of treated wood or constructed of wood which has natural resistance to rot, such as redwood.

Decks should always be nailed with galvanized or aluminum nails.

Sidewalks and Driveway

Spalling concrete cannot be patched with concrete because the new wall will not bond with the old. Water will freeze between the two layers, or the concrete will break up from movement or wear. Replacement of the damaged section is recommended.

Window Wells

The amount of water that enters a window well from falling rain is generally slight, but water will accumulate in window wells if the yard is improperly graded. See page 16 for proper corrective action.

Plastic window well covers are useful in keeping out leaves and debris, but they do block ventilation and light.

Retaining Walls

Retaining walls deteriorate because of excessive pressure build-up behind them, generally due to water accumulation. Often conditions can be improved by excavating a trench behind the retaining wall and filling it with coarse gravel. Drain holes through the wall will then be able to relieve the water pressure.

Retaining walls sometimes suffer from tree root pressure or from general movement of top soil down the slope. Normally these conditions require rebuilding the retaining wall.

Roof and Surface Water Control

Roof and surface water must be controlled to maintain a dry basement. This means keeping gutters cleaned out and aligned, extending downspouts, installing splash blocks, and building up the grade so that roof and surface water are diverted away from the building.

A positive grade of approximately 1 inch per foot slope for at least 5 feet from the foundation walls is recommended. Where trees, air conditioning units and other obstructions do not permit the recommended slope, surface drains can be used instead. Failure to control surface water will usually result in a wet basement.