

# **WOOD:**

## **DETAILING FOR PERFORMANCE**

BY

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## AUTHORS' PREFACE

This manual represents the author's opinions, which have evolved over the years through their experiences with the use of wood products in construction. These opinions often are not the result of research or studies conducted in a scientific sense but rather are formulated from many different sources. They include their interpretations of not only their own investigations and analyses and the technical literature but in addition, they have selected from and incorporated portions of the comments of other experts, industry literature, homeowner reports, and other sources. Thus, the reader should not consider the statements and positions as more than opinions based on a compilation of experiences. They are our best efforts to stimulate open discussion of performance problems in wood structures and provide our best judgement of how the designer may reduce these problems. Our ultimate objective is to extend useful life and at the same time reduce maintenance requirements of wood in structures.

Readers will find that many details presented in this manual disagree with what is considered as standard detailing. This is usually intentional. The authors believe that standard architectural references on this subject are out of date, and that many manufacturers' recommendations as set forth in product literatures are too sales oriented and often not supported by testing and experience. Recommendations by many of these sources are inadequate, and not worth "a pinch of salt," resulting in many unnecessary early failures. The authors will present design concepts they believe will avoid many premature failure problems. If these ideas simply cause the designer to stop and think, this manual is a success. Although their use may not guarantee extended performance, following these concepts should greatly reduce the designer's risk.

**WOOD: Detailing for Performance** has been written without reference to any particular building code or set of requirements. When our recommendations differ from the requirements of the applicable code, the designer should discuss and clarify these differences with the local building official. There has been no intent, in preparation of this manual, to make recommendations regarding structural design. These are more than adequately covered in many other documents.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# CONTENTS

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<i>chapter 1</i>	<b>Introduction</b>	1-1
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 2</i>	<b>Wood as a Building Material</b>	2-1
	2.1 Wood as a construction material	2-1
	2.1.1 Species and commercial groupings	2-1
	2.1.2 Performance properties	2-1
	2.1.3 Wood products and species properties	2-3
	2.1.4 The changing products of the forest	2-3
	2.2 Causes of wood deterioration	2-4
	2.2.1 Exposure to sunlight	2-5
	2.2.2 Exposure to moisture and heat cycles	2-5
	2.2.3 Changes in moisture content	2-6
	2.2.4 Attack by insects and decay fungi	2-6
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 3</i>	<b>General Detailing</b>	3-1
	3.1 Environmental setting	3-1
	3.2 General framing requirements	3-2
	3.2.1 Green lumber	3-2
	3.2.2 Flush face	3-2
	3.2.3 Spacing	3-2
	3.2.4 Framing	3-2
	3.3 Membrane	3-3
	3.3.1 Openings	3-3
	3.3.2 Penetrations	3-4
	3.3.3 General flashing or overlap conditions	3-4
	3.3.4 Wall detail at foundation	3-16
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 4</i>	<b>Plywood Panel Siding</b>	4-1
	4.1 Plywood panels	4-1
	4.1.1 Construction	4-1
	4.1.2 Quality	4-1
	4.1.3 Panel	4-1
	4.1.4 Texture	4-2
	4.2 Weathering properties	4-2
	4.3 Installation guidelines	4-3
	4.3.1 Nailing	4-3
	4.3.2 Framing shrinkage	4-4
	4.3.3 Vertical installation	4-4
	4.3.4 Horizontal siding installation	4-4
	4.3.5 Panel thickness	4-6
	4.3.6 Sealants	4-6
	4.4 Edge conditions	4-8
	4.4.1 Vertical joints	4-8
	4.4.2 Horizontal joints	4-8
	4.4.3 Panel attachment	4-12
	4.4.4 Poor practice - no expansion gap	4-12
	4.4.5 Floor-level joints	4-12
	4.4.6 Alternative floor-level joints	4-12
	4.4.7 Banded floor-level joints	4-22
	4.4.8 Floor-level joint	4-22
	4.4.9 Poor practice - decay hazard	4-22
	4.4.10 Corner joints	4-28
	4.4.11 Joint sealant	4-28
	4.4.12 No membrane	4-28

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<i>chapter 5</i>	<b>Hardboard Siding</b>	5-1
<i>chapter 6</i>	<b>Lumber Siding</b>	6-1
	6.1 Typical construction problems and failures	6-1
	6.1.1 Siding, cupping and warping	6-1
	6.1.2 Shrinkage	6-4
	6.1.3 Stapling	6-4
	6.1.4 Insufficient overlap	6-4
	6.2 Appropriate application	6-4
<i>chapter 7</i>	<b>Portland Cement Plaster System</b>	7-1
	7.1 General	7-1
	7.2 Materials	7-1
	7.2.1 Plaster	7-1
	7.2.2 Line-wire installation	7-2
	7.2.3 Membrane	7-2
	7.2.4 Reinforcement mesh	7-2
	7.3 Application	7-3
<i>chapter 8</i>	<b>Door and Window Frames</b>	8-1
	8.1 General	8-1
	8.1.1 Frames	8-1
	8.1.2 Door sills	8-1
	8.1.3 Installation of membrane around door sills	8-1
	8.2 Wood frames	8-1
	8.2.1 General	8-1
	8.2.1.1 Head	8-9
	8.2.1.2 Jamb	8-9
	8.2.1.3 Sill	8-9
	8.2.2 Wood window in plywood panel siding	8-9
	8.2.3 Elements of a good wood door sill detail	8-13
	8.3 Metal frames	8-13
	8.3.1 General	8-13
	8.3.2 Windows	8-16
	8.3.2.1 Metal window in plywood panel siding	8-16
	8.3.2.2 Metal window in lumber siding	8-16
	8.3.3 Elements of a good metal door sill detail	8-16
<i>chapter 9</i>	<b>Roof Edge Details</b>	9-1
	9.1 General	9-1
	9.2 Shingle, shake, and tile roofing	9-1
	9.3 Built-up roofing	9-1
<i>chapter 10</i>	<b>Decks, Stairs, and Other Exposed Wood Assemblies</b>	10-1
	10.1 General	10-1
	10.2 Exposed end grain	10-1
	10.3 Deck contact areas	10-4
	10.3.1 Deck boards	10-4
	10.3.2 Deck board on joist	10-4
	10.3.4 Decking butt joint	10-4
	10.4 Bolted connections	10-4
	10.5 Stairs	10-4
	10.6 Multistory columns	10-4

<i>chapter 11</i>	<b>Exposed Heavy Timber</b>	11-1
	11.1 The problem	11-1
	11.2 Types of protection	11-2
	11.2.1 Design configurations	11-2
	11.2.2 Flashing and covers	11-2
	11.2.3 Finishes, preservative treatment, and coatings	11-3
	11.2.4 Mechanical methods	11-3
	11.3 Detail design	11-7
<i>chapter 12</i>	<b>Insect Attack</b>	12-1
	12.1 General	12-1
	12.2 Termite-resistant design	12-2
	12.2.1 Drywood termites	12-2
	12.2.2 Dampwood termites	12-3
	12.2.3 Subterranean termites	12-3
	12.3 Forest insects	12-5
	12.4 Wood boring beetles (powderpost, including powderpost and deathwatch)	12-5
	12.5 Other wood-destroying insects	12-6
<i>chapter 13</i>	<b>Preservative Treatment</b>	13-1
	13.1 General	13-1
	13.2 Decay and insect treatments	13-1
	13.3 Fire-retardant treatments	13-4
<i>chapter 14</i>	<b>Fastenings</b>	14-1
	14.1 Nails	14-1
	14.2 Staples	14-2
<i>chapter 15</i>	<b>Finishes</b>	15-1
	15.1 Performance considerations	15-1
	15.1.1 General	15-1
	15.1.2 Paint	15-2
	15.1.3 Solid-color stain	15-2
	15.1.4 Semitransparent stain	15-3
	15.1.5 Water repellent	15-3
	15.1.6 Varnish	15-3
	15.2 Design considerations	15-3
	15.2.1 Finish surface	15-3
	15.2.2 Vapor retarders	15-4
<i>chapter 16</i>	<b>References</b>	16-1
	16.1 Trade associations - general product information	16-2
	16.2 Standards (S) and quality control (QC) organizations	16-4
	16.3 Other sources of technical information	16-6
	16.4 Additional reading	16-7
	<b>Glossary</b>	G-1



# FIGURES

<i>chapter 2</i>	<b>Wood as a Building Material</b>	2-1
	Figure 2-1. Cardinal directions in wood.	2-2
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 3</i>	<b>General Detailing</b>	3-1
	Figure 3-1A. Felt membrane layout (around window).	3-5
	Figure 3-1B. Felt membrane layout (around window).	3-6
	Figure 3-1C. Felt membrane layout (around window).	3-7
	Figure 3-1D. Felt membrane layout (around window).	3-8
	Figure 3-2A. Felt membrane layout (at external corners).	3-9
	Figure 3-2B. Felt membrane layout (at internal corners).	3-10
	Figure 3-3A. Penetration detail (through plywood panel wall).	3-11
	Figure 3-3B. Penetration detail (through plywood panel wall).	3-12
	Figure 3-3C. Penetration detail (through plywood panel wall).	3-13
	Figure 3-3D. Penetration detail (through plywood panel wall).	3-14
	Figure 3-4. Penetration detail (through plywood panel wall).	3-15
	Figure 3-5. Foundation detail.	3-17
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 4</i>	<b>Plywood Panel Siding</b>	4-1
	Figure 4-1. Plywood vertical joint (board and batten).	4-9
	Figure 4-2. Plywood vertical joint (shiplap).	4-10
	Figure 4-3. Plywood vertical joint (poor practices).	4-11
	Figure 4-4. Plywood horizontal joint (butt and flashing joints).	4-13
	Figure 4-5. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at foundation).	4-14
	Figure 4-6. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at foundation).	4-15
	Figure 4-7. Plywood horizontal joint (poor practice).	4-16
	Figure 4-8. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at floor levels).	4-17
	Figure 4-9. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at floor levels).	4-18
	Figure 4-10. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at floor levels).	4-19
	Figure 4-11. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at floor levels).	4-20
	Figure 4-12. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at floor levels).	4-21
	Figure 4-13. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at band board).	4-23
	Figure 4-14. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at floor levels).	4-24
	Figure 4-15. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at floor levels).	4-25
	Figure 4-16. Plywood horizontal joint (detail at floor levels).	4-26
	Figure 4-17. Plywood horizontal joint (poor practice).	4-27
	Figure 4-18. Plywood vertical joint (internal corner detail).	4-29
	Figure 4-19. Plywood vertical joint (external corner joint).	4-30
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 6</i>	<b>Lumber Siding</b>	6-1
	Figure 6-1. Effect of drying shape.	6-2
	Figure 6-2. Plain bevel siding (horizontal only).	6-5
	Figure 6-3. Rabbet bevel siding (horizontal only).	6-6
	Figure 6-4. Tongue and groove siding (horizontal or vertical).	6-7
	Figure 6-5. Shiplap siding (horizontal or vertical).	6-8
	Figure 6-6. Channel shiplap siding (vertical only).	6-9
	Figure 6-7. Board and batten siding (vertical only).	6-10
	Figure 6-8. Lumber vertical joint (external corner detail).	6-13
	Figure 6-9. Lumber vertical joint (internal corner detail).	6-14
	Figure 6-10. Lumber vertical joint (external corner detail).	6-15
	Figure 6-11. Lumber vertical joint (external corner detail).	6-16
	Figure 6-12. Lumber vertical joint (internal corner detail).	6-17
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 7</i>	<b>Portland Cement Plaster System</b>	7-1
	Figure 7-1A. Cement plaster (top edge wall detail).	7-3
	Figure 7-1B. Cement plaster (vertical edge wall detail).	7-4
	Figure 7-1C. Cement plaster (bottom edge wall detail).	7-5

<i>chapter 8</i>	<b>Door and Window Frames</b>	8-1
	Figure 8-1A. Door sill detail (assembly at jamb - sill corner).	8-2
	Figure 8-1B. Door sill detail (assembly at jamb - sill corner).	8-3
	Figure 8-1C. Door sill detail (assembly at jamb - sill corner).	8-4
	Figure 8-1D. Door sill detail (assembly at jamb - sill corner).	8-5
	Figure 8-1E. Door sill detail (assembly at jamb - sill corner).	8-6
	Figure 8-1F. Door sill detail (assembly at jamb - sill corner).	8-7
	Figure 8-1G. Door sill detail (assembly at jamb - sill corner).	8-8
	Figure 8-2. Wood window detail (head detail in plywood siding).	8-10
	Figure 8-3. Wood window detail (jamb detail in plywood siding).	8-11
	Figure 8-4. Wood window detail (sill detail in plywood siding).	8-12
	Figure 8-5. Wood door sill (recommended section).	8-14
	Figure 8-6. Wood door sill (poor practice).	8-15
	Figure 8-7. Metal window detail (desirable properties of a horizontal sliding window)	8-17
	Figure 8-8. Metal window detail (head detail in plywood siding).	8-18
	Figure 8-9. Metal window detail (jamb detail in plywood siding).	8-19
	Figure 8-10. Metal window detail (sill detail in plywood siding).	8-20
	Figure 8-11. Metal window detail (head detail in lumber siding).	8-21
	Figure 8-12. Metal window detail (jamb detail in lumber siding).	8-22
	Figure 8-13. Metal window detail (sill detail in lumber siding).	8-23
	Figure 8-14. Metal door sill detail.	8-24
	Figure 8-15. Metal door sill detail.	8-25
	Figure 8-16. Metal door sill detail (poor practice).	8-26
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 9</i>	<b>Roof Edge Details</b>	9-1
	Figure 9-1. Roof detail (eave overhang).	9-3
	Figure 9-2. Roof detail (clipped eave).	9-4
	Figure 9-3. Roof detail (rake at wall).	9-5
	Figure 9-4. Roof detail (sloped eave).	9-6
	Figure 9-5. Roof detail (ridge).	9-7
	Figure 9-6. Roof detail (valley).	9-8
	Figure 9-7. Built-up roof detail (eave).	9-9
	Figure 9-8. Built-up roof detail (rake at wall).	9-10
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 10</i>	<b>Decks, Stairs, and Other Exposed Wood Assemblies</b>	10-1
	Figure 10-1. Exposed end grain (column top detail).	10-2
	Figure 10-2. Exposed connection (beam column joint).	10-3
	Figure 10-3. Exposed deck (board detail).	10-5
	Figure 10-4. Exposed deck (butt joint detail).	10-6
	Figure 10-5. Exposed joint (post to rail detail).	10-7
	Figure 10-6. Exposed stair (stair tread detail).	10-8
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 11</i>	<b>Exposed Heavy Timber</b>	11-1
	Figure 11-1. Exposed beam end (flashing detail).	11-4
	Figure 11-2. Exposed beam end (plywood cover detail).	11-5
	Figure 11-3. Exposed beam end (protection by cuts and kerfs).	11-6
	Figure 11-4. Exposed connection (beam column joint).	11-8
	Figure 11-5A. Exposed connection (column base joint).	11-9
	Figure 11-5B. Exposed connection (column base joint).	11-10
<hr/>		
<i>chapter 12</i>	<b>Insect Attack</b>	12-1
	Figure 12-1. Termite protection detail (slab foundation).	12-6
	Figure 12-2. Termite protection detail (perimeter foundation).	12-7

# TABLES

<i>chapter 2</i>	<b>Wood as a Building Material</b>	2-1
	Table 2-1. Approximate values for strength loss in softwoods at early stages of decay by brown-rot fungi	2-7
<i>chapter 3</i>	<b>General Detailing</b>	3-1
	Table 3-1. "A" dimension - vertical lap dimension for water-shedding action	3-4
<i>chapter 4</i>	<b>Plywood Panel Siding</b>	4-1
	Table 4-1. "B" dimension for clearance in horizontal joints (inches)	4-5
	Table 4-2 Recommended plywood thickness	4-7
	Table 4-3 "C" dimension - siding free cantilever distance (for vertical siding only)	4-8
<i>chapter 6</i>	<b>Lumber Siding</b>	6-1
	Table 6-1 Shrinkage and density of lumber siding species green to oven dry moisture content	6-3
	Table 6-2 Wood species and grain recommendations by pattern width, thickness and framing spacing	6-11
<i>chapter 9</i>	<b>Roof Edge Details</b>	9-1
	Table 9-1 Felt underlayment recommendations	9-2
<i>chapter 13</i>	<b>Preservative Treatment</b>	13-1
	Table 13-1 Suggested treatments for different commodities and use conditions	13-3
<i>chapter 15</i>	<b>Finishes</b>	15-1
	Table 15-1 Summary of alternative systems used for exterior wood finishing	15-5
	Table 15-2 Suitability of different finishing methods for exterior wood surfaces	15-6
	Table 15-3 Moisture-excluding effectiveness of three coats fo various finish surfaces	15-7
	Table 15-4 Characteristics of woods for painting and weathering	15-8