



NOTICE TO BUYER: SELLER-PROCURED INSPECTION REPORT

The following notice is given with respect to the Purchase and Sale Agreement dated _____
between _____ (“Buyer”)
and Toni Fritchman (“Seller”)
concerning 7451 123rd Ave NE, Kirkland WA 98033 (“the Property”).

Seller has given or is giving Buyer a copy of an Inspection Report dated 07/24/2017 concerning the Property. The Inspection Report is intended to be a part of any Seller Disclosure Statement (NWMLS Form 17) that is provided in this transaction, whether or not the two documents are attached to each other. The Inspection Report was procured by Seller and is provided for informational and disclosure purposes only. It is not intended to constitute a warranty, either express or implied, about the condition of the Property. Buyer is advised to procure their own inspection from a professional inspector chosen by Buyer or hire the inspector that prepared the Inspection Report. Buyer has the opportunity to inspect the Property to Buyer’s satisfaction.

Seller DATE

Seller DATE

Buyer’s Acknowledgment of Receipt

The undersigned Buyer acknowledges receipt of the foregoing Notice and the above-referenced Inspection Report.

Buyer DATE

Buyer DATE

July 25, 2017

Ms. Toni Fritchman
7541 123rd Ave. NE
Kirkland, WA.

Re: 7541 123rd Ave. NE
Kirkland, WA.

Dear Toni;

At your request, a visual inspection of the above referenced property was conducted on 07/24/2017. We have inspected the major structural components, plumbing, heating and electrical systems for signs of significant non-performance, excessive or unusual wear and general state of repair.

Clark Inspections inspectors, inspect all homes and buildings according to the stringent professional standards and code of ethics set forth by the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI). The ASHI standards are designed to identify and disclose to the client certain conditions of the major systems as these conditions exist at the time of the inspection. These standards are designed for a visual inspection of the readily accessible areas of the included system. A copy of these standards will be provided upon request or can be obtained by calling the ASHI automatic "Information-On-Demand" phone number at 1-800-743-2744

Home or building inspections performed under these standards should not be construed as a compliance inspection of any governmental or non-governmental codes or regulations. Inspections performed under these standards are essentially visual; are based on the experience and opinion of the inspector; and are not intended to be technically exhaustive. Inspections performed under these standards are not meant to be warranties nor guarantees of adequacy of performance of the structures, systems, or their component parts.

This inspection does not include an inspection for construction or other materials which might be hazardous to your health. It is possible that such materials may be present and not noted in this report.

This inspection does not include the testing or inspection of security systems, intercoms, communication systems, video, or sprinkler systems. These items are highly specialized and individualistic. Clark Inspections recommends that you have the seller and/or real estate agent/broker demonstrate the operation and serviceability of these systems to you prior to the closing of the sale.

Mechanical equipment is inspected for operability only and may contain undisclosed defects which may significantly impair it's usefulness.

Defects are examined and a determination is made on how a particular defect will affect interrelated building parts and whether immediate repairs are required.

Since all buildings have defects, it is important to know and understand what they are and how they affect the house and property. Some of the defects mentioned in this report may be quite typical, and found in other homes of comparable age and price. Some however, may not. We make our best attempt to distinguish this for you in both verbal and written reports.

REPORT SUMMARY

The comments in this report are categorized. General information is given on the type of materials and construction methods. Specific information is given pertaining to the condition of a component and applicable repair and maintenance work that may be required.

Statements, representations, or conclusions offered by the inspector are the considered opinion of the inspector, but these statements, representations, or conclusions do not constitute an expressed or implied warranty of any kind. Neither the inspector nor Clark Inspections Inc. shall be liable for any direct, special, incidental, or consequential damages under an circumstances whatsoever, whether arising in tort, negligence, or contract, nor for any loss, claim, expense, or damage caused by or arising out of his or its inspection of a structure, nor will the inspector or Clark Inspections Inc. indemnify or hold others harmless for any loss, claim, expense, or damage arising out of his or its inspection of a structure.

ACTION ITEMS, SIGNIFICANT DEFECTS AND/OR HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES

Non-operational (Action) items, safety or health issues, areas with limited viewing for proper inspection and components that do not serve their intended function (Significant Defects) are listed here. These items will likely require further evaluation and repair by licensed tradespeople.

Please Read entire report

BUILDING SITE

2.1 ROOF WATER DRAIN SYSTEM

The building lacks a roof water drain system. Roof water discharging on the ground adjacent to the foundation wall is one of the most common causes of water or moisture problems in ground floor occupancies, basements and crawlspaces. Overflowing gutters and clogged downspouts and scuppers also frequently cause or exacerbate moisture or water entry problems in crawlspaces and basements. Consideration should be given to installing a below grade drain system to divert roof water away from the foundation system. Consult with a drain systems specialist for additional information and cost estimates.

2.5 PATIO

The patio has settled differentially. This was probably caused by inadequate preparation of the soil prior to the placement of the concrete. This condition can be repaired by pressure grouting the sunken portion of the patio or by removing and replacing it. The patio remains functional despite this condition. However, the raised edges of the concrete can be a trip hazard for some people. Repairs should be made as necessary.



2.6 WALKWAY

The walking surface was not even and trip hazards were present. We recommend all walking surfaces be maintained free of trip hazards.



The gaps separating the driveway and walkway is a trip hazard. Replacement with mortar is recommended.

ROOF

4.4 GAS APPLIANCE VENTS

The storm collar is missing from the gas appliance vent. This will allow leakage to occur. The installation of a storm collar is recommended.



4.6 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

The roof is in need of routine maintenance. The surface should be treated for moss, lichen, and algae growth, then brushed and washed off with a high volume low pressure hose to remove moss and organic debris. Performing this maintenance will improve the appearance and increase the life expectancy of the roof.



GARAGE

ATTACHED GARAGE

6.3 GARAGE DOOR OPENER

The garage door opener was functional, however, the auto stop reverse safety switch is not working. This is a safety concern. The services of a contractor specializing in automatic openers should be retained to perform the necessary repairs.

There was no photo-eye sensor installed for the garage door to offer protection for small children and/or pets. We recommend that a photo-eye sensor be installed for the garage door at a height of within 4-6" of the

floor.

6.4 FIRE SEPARATION

This house was constructed before a fire resistive barrier was required between the garage and living space. The gypsum barrier slows the spread of a fire from the garage to the living space. Consideration should be given to installing such a barrier as a safety upgrade.

6.5 PASSAGE DOOR

The door between the garage and living space is not fire rated and will not slow the spread of a garage fire to the rest of the building. Consideration should be given to replacing the door with a fire rated door as a safety upgrade.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

7.3 SERVICE PANEL LOCATION

Access to the electrical panel is blocked by shelving. Shelves should be removed or modified so that there is a 30" wide by 36" deep by 7' tall clearance in front of the panel.



7.8 SERVICE PANEL

The breaker overheated and tripped when the washer and kitchen, hallway and bedroom circuits were tested simultaneously. This is a hazard. We recommend having an electrical contractor repair the defective circuit.

Overheating circuit breakers are considered a latent hazard and can fail, leading to electrical fires. Replacement of defective breakers are recommended.

The circuits are not labeled. Each circuit breaker should be labeled to allow servicing and repair of electrical circuits and equipment without having to shut off power to all electrical circuits. The services of a qualified electrician should be retained to perform this service.

Screws that secure the panel cover to the panel box are the wrong type. Screws should be replaced with the original style blunt end large head screws.

The main service panel was manufactured by Zinsco. Zinsco panels and circuit breakers have not been manufactured for some time, and some Zinsco circuit breakers have been known to fail to trip at their rated amperage. The panel and circuit breakers are considered a latent hazard and can fail leading to electrical fires. Replacement of this panel is recommended as a safety upgrade.



7.10 WIRING

The cord is not clamped where it enters the disposal. This could damage the wires or cause a ground fault. The cord should be clamped in accordance with industry standards.



Loose electrical cables were observed in the attic. Loose cables are vulnerable to damage. All loose cables should be secured at 4' intervals using approved cable staples.



There is a loose junction box in the attic. This is a fire/shock hazard. All junction boxes should be secured to the framing.



An extension cord is used as a temporary power source for the garage door opener. An extension cord is not suitable as a permanent wiring method. The installation of a receptacle within cords length of the motor is recommended.



7.11 RECEPTACLES

The polarity is reversed in at least one receptacle in the kitchen. Reversed polarity means that the hot and neutral wires are reversed at the back of the receptacle. This defect is a shock hazard and can damage some electronic equipment. All receptacles exhibiting reversed polarity should be rewired.

Testing revealed open grounds (ungrounded receptacles) in the powder room. Open grounds are a potential hazard and could damage some electronic equipment. All receptacles with open grounds should be repaired in accordance with applicable electrical codes.

7.12 GFCI RECEPTACLES

The installation of additional GFCI protection in the kitchen, bathrooms and exterior receptacles is recommended.

7.14 GENERAL COMMENTS

The services of a qualified electrical contractor should be retained to repair the defects outlined above.

WATER HEATER

9.5 EXPANSION TANK

The expansion tank is not adequately secured to the wall. This could result in damage to the water pipe and leakage during an earth quake. A seismic restraint should be installed to secure the expansion tank.



9.13 GENERAL COMMENTS

The water heater is nearing the end of its service life. The need for water heater replacement should be anticipated.

KITCHEN

10.8 AIR GAP

The dishwasher drain lacks an air gap. The dishwasher will function without one, but there is a risk of contamination of the inside of the dishwasher by waste water. The installation of an air gap is recommended.

10.9 OVEN

The upper oven broiler and baking elements are not working. It should be repaired or replaced as necessary.

10.10 COOKTOP

The burner spark igniters will not light the gas. Adjustment or repairs are required.

BATHROOMS

HALLWAY BATHROOM

11.13 FLOORING MATERIAL

The vinyl flooring is damaged under the baseboard heater. The flooring should be replaced as necessary to restore cosmetic appearance. The subfloor underneath the vinyl flooring appears to be solid.



The vinyl flooring is damaged from water intrusion into the substrate. The flooring should be replaced as necessary to restore cosmetic appearance. The subfloor underneath the vinyl flooring appears to be solid.



11.14 TOILET

The toilet is loose where it mounts to the floor. A loose toilet will eventually start to leak and will damage the flooring material, underlayment and subfloor. The most reliable fix for this condition is to remove the toilet and install a new wax seal. The toilet should then be securely mounted to the floor.

PLUMBING SYSTEM

13.11 GAS PIPING

The gas pipes adjacent to the water heater are not protected by a bumper stop. A vertical steel pipe, bolted to the floor, is typically installed in front of the water heater to prevent a car bumper from damaging the gas lines.



INTERIOR

14.6 SMOKE DETECTORS

There is a smoke detector in the hallway outside of the bedrooms. Additional smoke detectors should be installed inside the bedrooms near the door.

Smoke detectors are examined for location only. They are not tested. Smoke detector batteries should be replaced when you move in and every year thereafter. Once batteries have been replaced, the smoke detectors should be tested for proper operation.

FOR MAXIMUM PROTECTION: Use both Ionization and Photoelectric smoke alarms in every bedroom/hallway on every level of your home.

The installation of at least one carbon monoxide monitor for each floor is recommended. The best place to install the monitor is in an open area near the gas appliance.

FIREPLACES, WOOD STOVES AND SPACE HEATERS

15.2 DAMPERS

The fireplace damper is stuck in the open position. This allows heat to escape up the chimney and could result in odors emanating from the fireplace. Repairing the damper is recommended.



15.4 CHIMNEYS

An examination of the inside of the chimney revealed a significant accumulation of creosote. Smoldering fires and the burning of green or wet wood are the primary contributors to creosote build-up. Creosote in a chimney flue is dangerous because it is the fuel for a chimney fire. Chimney fires produce intense heat and sparks. The intense heat can crack the flue tile, brick and mortar of a masonry chimney. After holes or cracks have developed, chimney fires can cause the wood framing or roof of the house to catch on fire. To avoid chimney fires, flues should be cleaned and inspected at least once a year with moderate use. More frequent cleaning may be required depending on amount of use and burning practice.



MAINTENANCE ITEMS AND/OR COMPONENTS NEARING THE END OF THEIR SERVICE LIFE

Any item that in the opinion of the inspector is nearing the end of its normal service life and/or conditions that need repair, maintenance and/or upgrades, but have not affected basic functions are listed herein.

BUILDING SITE

2.3 VEGETATION

Trees are touching the building on the southwest corner.. Low hanging tree branches can damage the roof. Tree branches should be trimmed back where necessary.



2.4 DRIVEWAY

Cracks were observed in the concrete surface of the driveway. Minor cracks can be sealed to minimize moisture entry and further settlement of the concrete. Minor cracks are common and do not affect the serviceability of the concrete.



BUILDING EXTERIOR

3.3 PEST CONTROL

Untreated wood in direct contact with concrete was observed along the patio stoop. Untreated wood should be raised 1-2" above the concrete. Treating the wood with a preservative sometimes will prevent wood destroy organism damage.

Firewood is stored directly on grade in a wet area adjacent to the building. This creates conducive conditions for wood boring insects. Firewood should be installed in a dry area (in a wood shed) and should be elevated at least 6" above the grade.



3.5 GUTTERS AND DOWNSPOUTS

The downspout is detached from the gutter at the northeast corner. The downspout should be reattached and secured.



3.8 EXTERIOR DOORS

The garage door has a thin panel at the bottom which can easily be kicked in. Replacing or reinforcing the door is recommended to enhance your personal security.

ROOF

4.3 CHIMNEYS

The chimney crown is cracked and deteriorated. The mortar chimney crown prevents water from entering and damaging the masonry. Repairing or replacing the chimney crown will extend the service life of the chimney.



The top of the masonry chimney does not have a spark arrestor/rain cap. The installation of a spark arrestor/rain cap is recommended as a safety upgrade and to prevent moisture damage to the inside of the chimney and fireplace. An additional benefit of a rain cap is that it will keep birds and rodents from entering the house when the damper is left open.

KITCHEN

10.1 COUNTERTOPS

The backsplash is not caulked. Cracking of the grout allows water to enter the gap between the back splash and counter and is difficult to clean. Caulking should be installed at this location.

BATHROOMS

POWDER ROOM

11.4 SINK

The drain stop is not operational. It should be repaired or replaced.

HALLWAY BATHROOM

11.15 SINK

The drain stop is not operational. It should be repaired or replaced.

11.19 COUNTERTOP

The backsplash is not caulked. Cracking of the grout allows water to enter the gap between the back splash and counter and is difficult to clean. Caulking should be installed at this location.

11.20 VENTILATION

This bathroom depends upon a window for ventilation and the removal of moisture. A window is not practical for wintertime use. The installation of a ceiling fan, properly vented to the exterior, should be considered as a primary method of venting.

LAUNDRY ROOM

12.4 APPLIANCES

Upgrading the washer connections to high pressure (steel braided) lines is recommended.



PLUMBING SYSTEM

13.2 MAIN WATER SHUTOFF VALVE

There is no shutoff valve inside the house and the water must be shutoff at the water meter. This can be inconvenient in an emergency. Consideration should be given to installing a water shutoff valve in the house.

13.7 SEWER LINE

We recommend the services of a 'sewer line inspection service' to determine the condition of the buried waste lines.

13.10 HOSE BIBBS AND EXTERIOR SUPPLY PIPES

The hose bibb on the front of the house is loose. This could result in damage to the water pipe and leakage. The bibb should be securely fastened to the wall.

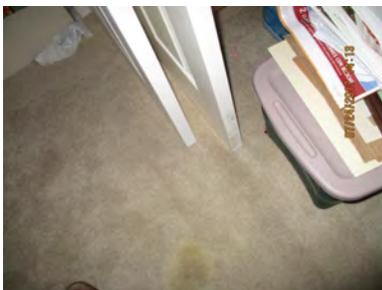
INTERIOR

14.3 DOORS

Some of the doors are missing their door stops. This condition will lead to damage of the wall surfaces. Door stops should be installed where necessary.

14.4 CLOSET DOORS

The floor guides are missing from the bypass closet doors in the bedroom. Missing floor guides could result in damage to the doors. The installation of floor guides is recommended.



INSULATION

17.2 WALL INSULATION

The exterior walls are not insulated. The installation of wall insulation can be accomplished by boring 2" holes in the drywall or plaster and injecting cellulose into the wall cavity.

17.3 FLOOR INSULATION

The floor is not insulated. This allows significant heat loss to occur through the floor. The installation of floor insulation is recommended.

STRUCTURE

18.4 ANCHOR BOLTS

Anchor bolts are bolts that are cast into the top of the concrete foundation and retain the mudsill. Anchor bolts primary function in this area, is to prevent the building from being displaced from its foundation during an earthquake. Anchor bolts have grown in diameter over the years as have the nuts and washers that retain the mudsill . Generally speaking, the newer the house, the better resistance it will have to seismic activity. Due to the age of the house, there are no anchor bolts. The installation of anchor bolts should be considered as an upgrade.

18.5 BEAMS AND POSTS

There are no gusset plates tying the beams and posts together. The installation of gusset plates is recommend to reduce the likelihood of damage during an earthquake.



CRAWLSPACE

19.4 VAPOR RETARDER

Some of the soil under the house is not covered with a polyethylene plastic vapor retarder. This component is typically referred to as a "vapor barrier". While not a true vapor barrier, it does reduce the transmission of water vapor from the soil to the air. Additional 6 mil black polyethylene plastic should be installed so that it covers the entire surface of the soil.



19.5 PEST CONTROL

Evidence of previous moisture ant activity was observed in the crawlspace under the hallway bathroom. Control should include eliminating the moisture source and removing all rot damaged wood. No chemical treatment is necessary.

Scrap-wood and other cellulose debris was observed on the crawl floor. This wood debris creates conducive conditions for wood boring insects. The removal of all cellulose debris is recommended.

Form wood was left in place on the footings. This wood is conducive to the infestation of various wood destroying organisms. The removal of the form wood is recommended.

The crawlspace access door is not rodent proof. The installation of a tight fitting access door is recommended to exclude rodents from the crawlspace.



Several of these items will likely require further evaluation and repair by licensed tradespeople. Other minor items are also noted in the report and could be mentioned but none of them affect the habitability of the house.

Thank you for selecting our firm to do your home inspection. If you have any questions regarding the inspection report or the home, please feel free to call us.

Sincerely,

Terry Clark
206-244-5339
Clark Inspections Inc.

Confidential Inspection Report

**7541 123rd Ave. NE
Kirkland, WA**

July 24, 2017

Prepared for: Toni Fritchman

This report is the exclusive property of the inspection company and the client whose name appears herewith and its use by any unauthorized persons is prohibited.

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7/25/2017

**Ms. Toni Fritchman
7541 123rd Ave. NE
Kirkland,WA**

Dear Toni,

Thank you for inviting to inspect for you. We appreciate having the opportunity to perform this home inspection and are happy to help with all of your inspection needs. Enclosed is our report for the property located at;

7541 123rd Ave. NE

We have inspected the major structural components, plumbing, heating, and electrical systems for signs of significant non-performance, excessive or unusual wear and general state of repair.

This inspection report is designed to be easy to understand. Please take time to review it carefully. If you have any questions regarding this inspection, or receive information from another building inspection professional, contractor, or tradesperson, that is in conflict with this report, or any major defect in your home or building that was not described in your verbal or written reports, please call our office immediately. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

Sincerely,

Terry Clark

GENERAL INFORMATION

CLIENT & SITE INFORMATION:

1.1 DATE OF INSPECTION:

7/24/2017.

1.2 INSPECTOR'S NAME:

Terry Clark.

1.3 CLIENT NAME:

Ms. Toni Fritchman.

1.4 MAILING ADDRESS:

7541 123rd Ave. NE
Kirkland WA.

1.5 CLIENT E-MAIL ADDRESS

[tonifritchman@comcast.net.](mailto:tonifritchman@comcast.net)

1.6 ADDRESS OF PROPERTY INSPECTED

7541 123rd Ave. NE
Kirkland WA.



East elevation



West elevation

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS:

1.7 WEATHER:

Clear.

1.8 APPROXIMATE OUTSIDE TEMPERATURE:

80 degrees.

BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS:

1.9 MAIN ENTRY FACES:

East.

1.10 ESTIMATED AGE OF BUILDING:

The building is approximately 59 years old.

1.11 BUILDING TYPE:

Single family residence.

1.12 SPACE BELOW GRADE:

Crawlspace.

SCOPE, PURPOSE AND LIMITATIONS

1.13 RESIDENTIAL

The purpose of this inspection was to discover and evaluate major defects, deficiencies and deferred maintenance found in the main components of the house and in the building site immediately around the building inspected. A major defect or deficiency is a system or component that in the judgment of the inspector, would cost in excess of \$500.00 to repair or replace, is not performing it's intended function, or adversely affects the habitability of the dwelling or building. Defects are examined and a determination is made on how a particular defect will affect interrelated building parts and whether immediate repairs are required.

The major components in this report are categorized. General information is given on the type of materials and construction methods. Specific information is given pertaining to the condition of a component and applicable repair and maintenance work that may be required.

Since all buildings have defects, it is important to know and understand what they are and how they affect the house and property. Some of the defects mentioned in this report may be quite typical, and found in other homes of comparable age and price. Some, however, may not. We make our best attempt to distinguish this for you in both the verbal and written reports.

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Mechanical equipment is inspected for operability only and may contain undisclosed defects which may significantly impair

it's usefulness.

Statements, representations, or conclusions offered by the inspector and/or by Clark Inspections are based solely upon a visual examination of the exposed areas of the structure inspected. Areas of the structure which are not exposed to the naked eye cannot be inspected, and no conclusions, representations, or statements offered by the inspector are intended to relate to areas not exposed to view. Hidden defects could have a significant impact on the visually based conclusions, statements, and representations made by the inspector.

Statements, representations, or conclusions offered by the inspector are the considered opinion of the inspector, but these statements, representations, or conclusions do not constitute an expressed or implied warranty of any kind. Neither the inspector nor Clark Inspections shall be liable for any direct, special, incidental, or consequential damages under any circumstances whatsoever, whether arising in tort, negligence, or contract, nor for any loss, claim, expense, or damage caused by or arising out of his or its inspection of a structure, nor will the inspector or Clark Inspections indemnify or hold others harmless for any loss, claim, expense, or damage arising out of his or its inspection of a structure.

If you receive information from another building inspection professional, contractor or trades person that is in conflict with ours, or if you discover a major defect in your home or building that was not described in your verbal or written reports, please call us immediately.

NOTE: WAC 16-228-2045 requires that a diagram identifying the location of wood destroying organisms be prepared for wood destroying organism inspection reports. A copy of this diagram will be made available to you upon request.

GENERAL COMMENTS

1.14 RECOMMENDATIONS

Certain building designs and/or building site topography may not qualify for earthquake insurance. Each company has its own underwriting policies. You should check with your insurance agent to determine whether or not your insurance company will write an earthquake policy on this property.

There may be information pertinent to this property which is a matter of public record. A search of public records is not within the scope of this inspection. We recommend you review all applicable public records that pertain to this property.

We make no representations as to the extent of presence of code violations, nor do we warrant the legal use of this building. This information can be obtained from the local building and/or zoning department.

1.15 BUILDING CODES

A code is a system of rules and procedures, the purpose of which is to provide minimum standards to safeguard life, health, and property by regulating certain aspects of building design, construction, use and maintenance. Local codes are usually based on model codes. A community may amend or adopt only parts of a model code. These local codes may not always be the latest version of the model code. Code enforcement is nearly always a local government responsibility and is handled in several ways depending on the type of code and community involved. All model codes and most local codes, grant the code compliance inspector or building official the right to interpret the code to suit special situations. This makes the building official the final authority, not the code book.

Answering the question "Does this meet code?" depends on the building's age, when remodels and upgrades were performed and which codes if any are enforced. This information may not be readily available to the home inspector. Private inspectors usually can determine if an item complies with applicable national model codes, if they know when the work was done and what code was applicable at that time. Local municipalities adopt and enforce national model codes at their discretion. Private building inspectors are typically not permitted to perform code compliance inspections. Code compliance inspections are typically performed by the local code enforcement official. Private building inspectors check to determine whether or not an item performs its intended function or is in need of repair.

Code enforcement usually is a local question and subject to the interpretation by the building code enforcement official. Most communities do not require an existing building to meet "code" prior to sale.

Specific code questions can be referred to the local building official. However, you must realize that if city inspectors check a building, they have the authority to require corrections of any violation. Private building inspectors act solely in an advisory capacity. Their objective reports are a tremendous benefit to anyone purchasing or selling real estate.

BUILDING SITE

The evaluation of the building site and grounds includes grading, roof water and surface drainage systems, fencing, gates, walkways, curbs, driveways, patios, and retaining walls connected to or directly adjacent the structure. These items are visually examined for proper function, excessive or unusual wear and general state of repair. Components or portions of components may not be visible because of soil, vegetation, storage of personal effects and/or the nature of construction. In such cases these items are considered inaccessible and are not inspected. Lawn irrigation systems, fountains, and low voltage decorative garden lights are not included in this inspection.

The following components were inspected:

2.1 ROOF WATER DRAIN SYSTEM

The building lacks a roof water drain system. Roof water discharging on the ground adjacent to the foundation wall is one of the most common causes of water or moisture problems in ground floor occupancies, basements and crawlspaces. Overflowing gutters and clogged downspouts and scuppers also frequently cause or exacerbate moisture or water entry problems in crawlspaces and basements. Consideration should be given to installing a below grade drain system to divert roof water away from the foundation system. Consult with a drain systems specialist for additional information and cost estimates.

2.2 GRADING

The building site is well drained. The finish grade slopes away from the house. No evidence of recent building site flooding, drainage or soil stability problems was observed.

2.3 VEGETATION

Dense shrubbery and trees planted too close to the building can damage siding and the roof overhang and interfere with drainage and air movement, thus promoting fungus growth and accelerated deterioration of exterior finishes and wood. Trees and shrubs in contact with the building also provide carpenter ants with a route into walls or attics. Trees and shrubs should be trimmed back, where required. When landscaping, trees and shrubs should be planted back away from the building so that they have room to grow.

Trees are touching the building on the southwest corner.. Low hanging tree branches can damage the roof. Tree branches should be trimmed back where necessary.



2.4 DRIVEWAY

Cracks were observed in the concrete surface of the driveway. Minor cracks can be sealed to minimize moisture entry and further settlement of the concrete. Minor cracks are common and do not affect the serviceability of the concrete.



2.5 PATIO

The patio has settled differentially. This was probably caused by inadequate preparation of the soil prior to the placement of the concrete. This condition can be repaired by pressure grouting the sunken portion of the patio or by removing and replacing it. The patio remains functional despite this condition. However, the raised edges of the concrete can be a trip hazard for some people. Repairs should be made as necessary.



2.6 WALKWAY

The walking surface was not even and trip hazards were present. We recommend all walking surfaces be maintained free of trip hazards.

Many legal and public works departments have defined a trip hazard as an irregularity in a walking surface exceeding one inch (1") in height. All walking surfaces should maintain, free of a vertical surface change of 3/4" or more, in the interest of public and personal safety.

The gaps separating the driveway and walkway is a trip hazard. Replacement with mortar is recommended.



2.7 FENCES AND GATES

The fences are properly installed and are performing their intended function. The gate is properly installed and is performing its intended function.

BUILDING EXTERIOR

The evaluation of the building exterior includes the paint, stain, siding, windows, doors, flashing, trim, fascia, eaves, soffits, decks, porches balconies and railings. These items are visually examined for proper function, excessive or unusual wear and general state of repair. Components or portions of components may not be visible because of soil, vegetation, storage of personal effects and/or the nature of construction. In such cases these items are considered inaccessible and are not inspected.

The following components were inspected:

3.1 PRIMARY EXTERIOR WALL CLADDING

Cedar lap siding is used as an exterior wall cladding. Cedar is a wood that is durable and moderately resistant to decay. Maintaining the finish on the exposed siding will maximize its service life. The siding shows minor wear and deterioration typically caused when the exterior finish is not maintained. The deterioration is cosmetic and does not affect the function of the siding. No action is indicated.

3.2 SECONDARY EXTERIOR WALL CLADDING

The lower front of the building is clad in brick. Brick is one of the oldest and most durable of all wall claddings. It does not burn, rot, or dent. It does not require painting. It will generally last the lifetime of the building. However, brick is susceptible to earthquake damage. The brick is a veneer installed over the wood wall structure. It is not a structural component of the wall. The brick has been properly installed and is functioning as intended.

3.3 PEST CONTROL

Good building practice requires that foundation walls or pier footings supporting wood frame construction, extend at least 8" above the finish grade with at least a 6" clearance between the top of the soil and the bottom of the wood finish materials. Soil in direct contact with wood creates a hospitable environment for wood destroying organisms. These minimum standards should be maintained throughout the building exterior.

Untreated wood in direct contact with concrete was observed along the patio stoop. Untreated wood should be raised 1-2" above the concrete. Treating the wood with a preservative sometimes will prevent wood destroy organism damage.

Firewood is stored directly on grade in a wet area adjacent to the building. This creates conducive conditions for wood boring insects. Firewood should be installed in a dry area (in a wood shed) and should be elevated at least 6" above the grade.



3.4 SOFFITS AND OVERHANGS

The building has adequate overhangs. Overhangs protect the exterior walls, windows, doors, siding and exterior finish from the ravages of direct rain fall. Buildings with adequately sized overhangs will generally require less frequent exterior maintenance and are less likely to suffer from moisture related problems on the exterior walls.

3.5 GUTTERS AND DOWNSPOUTS

Roof runoff is collected and channeled into the downspouts by aluminum gutters fastened to the rafter tails. The gutters and downspouts are properly installed and are performing their intended function. Gutters should be cleaned regularly to prevent clogging and overflow. The downspouts are properly installed and are functioning as intended.

The downspout is detached from the gutter at the northeast corner. The downspout should be reattached and secured.



3.6 PAINT

The exterior paint and caulking is in good condition and is functioning as intended. Paint protects the wood from cupping, checking, warping and rot.

3.7 PORCH

The porch/deck is installed close to the ground making it more vulnerable to deterioration. The proximity of the deck to the ground also prevented an inspection of the porch framing. The visible portions of the porch/deck are in good condition.

3.8 EXTERIOR DOORS

The entry door is properly installed and is functioning as intended.

The garage door has a thin panel at the bottom which can easily be kicked in. Replacing or reinforcing the door is recommended to enhance your personal security.

3.9 VENT DAMPERS

Vent dampers were checked and were functioning as intended.

ROOF

We evaluate the condition of the roof system by inspecting the roofing material, skylights, flashings, penetrations and roof water drainage system for damage and deterioration. If we observe conditions such as damage, deterioration, defects in materials or workmanship, these items will be noted in your report. We may also offer opinions concerning repair and replacement. Opinions stated herein concerning the condition of the roof and roof service life are based on the condition of the roof system at the time of the inspection. These opinions do not constitute a warranty that the roof is, or will remain, free of leaks. All roof systems require annual maintenance and occasional repair. Failure to perform routine roof maintenance will usually result in leaks and accelerated deterioration of the roofing material. Our estimate of the life expectancy of the roof is based on the assumption that the roof will be properly repaired and maintained during that period.

The following components were inspected:

4.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The roofing material is asphalt composition shingles. The slope or pitch of the roof is medium. Metal gutters are used to collect the roof water drainage. The roof is approximately 15 years old.

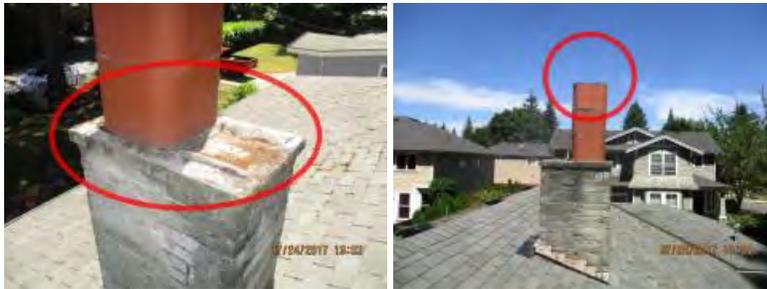
4.2 INSPECTION METHOD

The inspection of this roof was conducted from the roof surface. The inspector walked on the roof and made a visual inspection of the components listed below.

4.3 CHIMNEYS

The chimney crown is cracked and deteriorated. The mortar chimney crown prevents water from entering and damaging the masonry. Repairing or replacing the chimney crown will extend the service life of the chimney.

The top of the masonry chimney does not have a spark arrestor/rain cap. The installation of a spark arrestor/rain cap is recommended as a safety upgrade and to prevent moisture damage to the inside of the chimney and fireplace. An additional benefit of a rain cap is that it will keep birds and rodents from entering the house when the damper is left open.



4.4 GAS APPLIANCE VENTS

The storm collar is missing from the gas appliance vent. This will allow leakage to occur. The installation of a storm collar is recommended.



4.5 FLASHINGS

Metal flashings are used to seal around chimneys, vents and roof to wall intersections. The flashings are properly installed and are performing their intended function.

4.6 MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

The roof is in need of routine maintenance. The surface should be treated for moss, lichen, and algae growth, then brushed and washed off with a high volume low pressure hose to remove moss and organic debris. Performing this maintenance will improve the appearance and increase the life expectancy of the roof.



4.7 GENERAL COMMENTS

The roof is worn but remains in serviceable condition. With proper maintenance, this roof should remain serviceable for up to 5 more years.

ATTIC

The attic contains the roof framing and serves as a raceway for components of the plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems. There are often heating ducts, bathroom vent ducts, electrical wiring, chimneys and gas appliance vents in the attic. We examine the visible portions of the various systems and components for proper function, excessive or unusual wear, general state of repair, roof leakage, attic venting and misguided improvements. When low clearance and/or deep insulation prohibit walking in an unfinished attic, inspection will be performed from the access opening only.

The following components were inspected:

5.1 ACCESS

The attic access is located in the garage. The attic was entered and inspected from within.

5.2 VENTILATION

The attic is adequately vented.

5.3 MECHANICAL VENTILATION SYSTEMS

The visible portions of the air duct for the kitchen fan is properly installed and is performing its intended function.

5.4 PEST CONTROL

The first step in preventing rodents from entering the attic is to seal all possible entry points using wire mesh, caulking, wood, stainless steel wool, or aerosol foam. Careful work sealing cracks, holes and gaps over 1/4" in size will discourage activity.

GARAGE

The garage often contains major components of the plumbing, heating and electrical systems. These components are discussed under their respective headings. Components that were tested and/or inspected in the garage and reported here include the garage floor, overhead door(s), automatic openers and fire resistive barriers.

ATTACHED GARAGE - The following components were inspected:

6.1 GARAGE FLOOR

There are small shrinkage cracks visible in the concrete, however, there is no vertical displacement of any portion of the slab. Shrinkage cracks are common in garage floors and are not considered a structural defect. The garage floor is properly installed and is functioning as intended.

6.2 OVERHEAD GARAGE DOORS

The garage is fitted with a single roll-up door. The garage door is properly installed and is performing its intended function.

6.3 GARAGE DOOR OPENER

The garage door opener was functional, however, the auto stop reverse safety switch is not working. This is a safety concern. The services of a contractor specializing in automatic openers should be retained to perform the necessary repairs.

There was no photo-eye sensor installed for the garage door to offer protection for small children and/or pets. We recommend that a photo-eye sensor be installed for the garage door at a height of within 4-6" of the floor.

6.4 FIRE SEPARATION

This house was constructed before a fire resistive barrier was required between the garage and living space. The gypsum barrier slows the spread of a fire from the garage to the living space. Consideration should be given to installing such a barrier as a safety upgrade.

6.5 PASSAGE DOOR

The door between the garage and living space is not fire rated and will not slow the spread of a garage fire to the rest of the building. Consideration should be given to replacing the door with a fire rated door as a safety upgrade.

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

An electrical system consists of the service, distribution, wiring and convenience outlets (switches, lights and receptacles). Our examination of the electrical system includes the exposed and accessible wiring, service panels, subpanels, overcurrent protection devices, light fixtures and all accessible wall receptacles. We look for adverse conditions such as improper installation of aluminum wiring, lack of grounding, overfusing, exposed wiring, open-air wire splices, reversed polarity and defective GFCIs. The hidden nature of the electrical wiring prevents inspection of every length of wire. Telephone, video, audio, security system and other low voltage wiring is not included in this inspection. We recommend you have the seller demonstrate the serviceability of these systems to you.

The following components were inspected:

7.1 ELECTRICAL SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS

The power to this building is delivered via an overhead service drop. The amperage rating of this service is 200. Copper wire is used throughout the building. Non-metallic sheathed cable (Romex) is the type of wiring used throughout the house. The grounding of the service is provided by two driven rods.

7.2 SERVICE DROP

The service drop appears to be serviceable as viewed from the ground.

7.3 SERVICE PANEL LOCATION

The service panel is located in the garage.

Access to the electrical panel is blocked by shelving. Shelves should be removed or modified so that there is a 30" wide by 36" deep by 7' tall clearance in front of the panel.



7.4 MAIN DISCONNECT LOCATION

There is no main disconnect. This is a split buss panel that has up to six disconnects.

7.5 SERVICE ENTRANCE CONDUCTORS/CABLES/RACEWAYS

The service entrance conductors are 2/0 copper and have an ampacity of 200 amps. The service entrance conductors are properly installed and in serviceable condition.

7.6 SERVICE AMPACITY

The capacity of the electrical service is 200 amps. A 200 amp service is adequate for this house with the existing electrical equipment. There is also room to add additional circuits if necessary.

7.7 SERVICE GROUNDING AND BONDING

The service grounding electrode conductor attachment point was not visible for inspection. The adequacy of the service ground was not determined. The evaluation of this connection may require removal of finish materials and is beyond the scope of this inspection.

7.8 SERVICE PANEL

The electrical service panel is properly installed and in serviceable condition except where noted below.

The breaker overheated and tripped when the washer and kitchen, hallway and bedroom circuits were tested simultaneously. This is a hazard. We recommend having an electrical contractor repair the defective circuit.

Overheating circuit breakers are considered a latent hazard and can fail, leading to electrical fires. Replacement of defective breakers are recommended.

The circuits are not labeled. Each circuit breaker should be labeled to allow servicing and repair of electrical circuits and equipment without having to shut off power to all electrical circuits. The services of a qualified electrician should be retained to perform this service.

Screws that secure the panel cover to the panel box are the wrong type. Screws should be replaced with the original style

blunt end large head screws.

The main service panel was manufactured by Zinsco. Zinsco panels and circuit breakers have not been manufactured for some time, and some Zinsco circuit breakers have been known to fail to trip at their rated amperage. The panel and circuit breakers are considered a latent hazard and can fail leading to electrical fires. Replacement of this panel is recommended as a safety upgrade.



7.9 OVER CURRENT PROTECTION

Circuit breakers are used for over current protection. The circuit breakers are properly installed and the ampacity of the connected wires is compatible with that of the circuit breakers. The circuit breakers were not tested.

7.10 WIRING

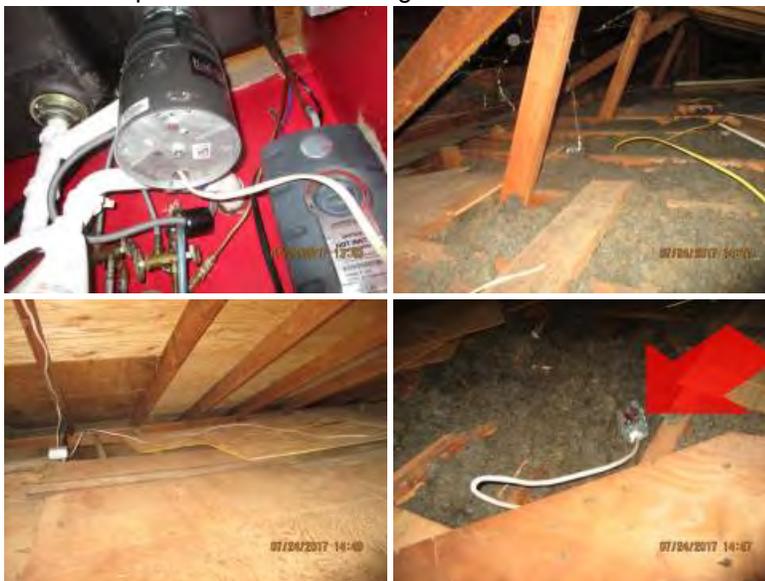
The visible portions of the wiring are properly installed except where noted below.

The cord is not clamped where it enters the disposal. This could damage the wires or cause a ground fault. The cord should be clamped in accordance with industry standards.

Loose electrical cables were observed in the attic. Loose cables are vulnerable to damage. All loose cables should be secured at 4' intervals using approved cable staples.

There is a loose junction box in the attic. This is a fire/shock hazard. All junction boxes should be secured to the framing.

An extension cord is used as a temporary power source for the garage door opener. An extension cord is not suitable as a permanent wiring method. The installation of a receptacle within cords length of the motor is recommended.





7.11 RECEPTACLES

All of the readily accessible receptacles were tested. Testing revealed defects requiring repair. These defects are outlined below.

The polarity is reversed in at least one receptacle in the kitchen. Reversed polarity means that the hot and neutral wires are reversed at the back of the receptacle. This defect is a shock hazard and can damage some electronic equipment. All receptacles exhibiting reversed polarity should be rewired.

Testing revealed open grounds (ungrounded receptacles) in the powder room. Open grounds are a potential hazard and could damage some electronic equipment. All receptacles with open grounds should be repaired in accordance with applicable electrical codes.

7.12 GFCI RECEPTACLES

A ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) is a device that detects ground faults (current leakage to ground). It protects you from electrocution. GFCI protection is required for receptacles in bathrooms, kitchens, garages, unfinished basements, crawlspaces and at exterior receptacles.

The installation of additional GFCI protection in the kitchen, bathrooms and exterior receptacles is recommended.

7.13 AFCI RECEPTACLES

AFCI protection is required for all 15 and 20 amp branch circuits to have protection from the entire branch circuit when that circuit has outlets in dwelling family homes, dining rooms, living rooms, parlors, libraries, dens, bedrooms, sunrooms, recreation rooms, closets, hallways, or similar rooms or areas.

Replacement receptacles are now required to be arc-fault circuit interrupter (AFCI) protected. This means that if you are replacing an old outlet in an old home in a location that needs AFCI protection in a new home, the replacement outlet needs to be AFCI protected.

7.14 GENERAL COMMENTS

The services of a qualified electrical contractor should be retained to repair the defects outlined above.

ELECTRIC HEATING

Heat is provided by electric resistance heaters. Electric heat is 100% efficient as there is no waste heat of combustion gases as in fossil fuel burning furnaces. However, electric heaters are more expensive to operate than gas or oil fired heaters because electrical energy is more expensive per therm (i.e., unit of energy equal to 100,000 Btu). Each heating unit and/or heating zone is tested using existing operator controls. Information on heating units is outlined below.

ELECTRIC HEATING - The following components were inspected:

8.1 ELECTRIC BASE BOARD HEATING

Electric baseboard heaters are used throughout the house for space heating. Each heater was inspected and tested. The heaters are properly installed and are functioning as intended.

8.2 ELECTRIC FAN ASSISTED WALL HEATERS

Electric wall heaters are used for space heating. The heaters have small fans in them to circulate the air over an electric

heating element. Each heater was inspected and tested. The heaters are properly installed and are functional.

These heaters must be cleaned annually. An accumulation of dust inside this type of heater is a fire hazard. To clean the heaters, turn off the power at the circuit breaker panel then remove the cover from the front of the heater. Use a paint brush to loosen the dirt and then vacuum it up. Model #CT302 was in use

NEWS from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs Washington, DC 20207

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **CONTACT: Cadet Recall Line: (800) 567-2613**

February 17, 2000 CONTACT: Jane Francis or Frank Nava
(301) 504-0580 or (510) 637-4053

Release # 00-070

CPSC, Cadet Recall In-Wall Heaters; Settle Lawsuit

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and Cadet Manufacturing Co., of Vancouver, Wash., announced today the recall of more than 1.9 million Cadet and Encore brand in-wall electric heaters, distributed mainly in California, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. This recall announcement follows the [resolution of the lawsuit](#) filed by CPSC staff against the company on January 14, 1999.

CPSC alleges that the following Cadet and Encore brand in-wall electric heaters are defective and can overheat and catch fire: models [FW](#), [FX](#), [LX](#), [TK](#), [ZA](#), [Z](#), [RA](#), [RK](#), [RLX](#), [RX](#) and [ZC](#). Flames, sparks or molten particles can spew through the front grill cover of the heater into the living area of a residence, putting consumers at risk from fires, including burn injuries, smoke inhalation and property damage. The heaters also can become energized creating a risk of electric shock.

CPSC is aware of more than 320 reports of heaters that smoked, sparked, caught fire, emitted flames, or ejected burning particles or molten materials. These incidents have allegedly resulted in three deaths, two serious burn injuries and property damage claims exceeding \$1.2 million, which include five partial or total house fires.

The heaters that are part of today's recall announcement are the following models of Cadet and Encore brands: [FW](#), [FX](#), [LX](#), [TK](#), [ZA](#), [Z](#), [RA](#), [RK](#), [RLX](#), [RX](#) and [ZC](#). The brand and model are located on a label on the front of the heat box, behind the grill. Before removing the grill to check the identification label, consumers must disconnect the power supply to the heater at the circuit breaker. If power is not disconnected, consumers risk electrocution and shock.

Cadet is offering consumers replacement heaters at a significantly reduced cost. Each heater will cost between \$25 and \$57, depending on the model. Consumers who already have replaced the recalled units from October 23, 1997, until today can file a claim for partial reimbursement for \$25 per heater. Consumers must register to participate in this recall by February 17, 2002. To register, contact Cadet anytime at (800) 567-2613 or at www.cadetco.com/recallprogram.html.

CPSC routinely requires companies to pay the full costs associated with recalls. In this case, Cadet has recently emerged from bankruptcy and is unable to provide free replacements or full reimbursements.

In October 1997, Cadet recalled its model FW, FX, LX and ZA heaters to replace defective over-temperature black plastic limit switches. By December 1997, Cadet informed CPSC that it could no longer pay the full costs of the recall, and that the number of heaters involved were far greater than it had originally known. While attempting to resolve the problems with the limit switch recall, the CPSC staff discovered additional problems with the heaters involved in the 1997 recall, as well as problems with some other Cadet and Encore models. In addition to the switch defect, the heating elements and internal wiring connections are defective and can fail. Even if consumers have had the heaters' switches repaired, the heaters have additional problems and need to be replaced.

CPSC strongly urges consumers to participate in this recall. Since the recalled heaters pose a fire hazard until they are replaced, consumers should have at least one fully operational smoke detector on every floor of their home, especially near bedrooms. To ensure that the detector's batteries are working, test the detector every month. Consumers also should have a well-defined and rehearsed escape plan and an alternate escape plan in the event of a fire. You can get information about

this from "Your Home Fire Safety Checklist" ([pdf version](#)) or ([text version](#)). To obtain a free hard copy of this publication, write to CPSC, Washington, D.C. 20207.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission protects the public from the unreasonable risk of injury or death from 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury and for information on CPSC's fax-on-demand service, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270. To order a press release through fax-on-demand, call (301) 504-0051 from the handset of your fax machine and enter the release number. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information or report product hazards to info@cpsc.gov.

WATER HEATER

Our review of water heaters includes the tank, gas and/or water connections, electrical connections, venting and safety valves. These items are examined for proper function, excessive or unusual wear, leakage and general state of repair. The hidden nature of piping and venting prevents inspection of every pipe, joint, vent and connection.

The following components were inspected:

9.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The water heater fuel is natural gas. The capacity of the water heater is 40 gallons. The input rating of the burner is approximately 34,000 BTU. The water heater is approximately 15 years old. Water heaters of this type typically last about 10-15 years.

9.2 PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE

The pressure relief valve is properly installed. The valve was not tested, as this could cause the valve to leak.

9.3 SHUTOFF VALVE

The shutoff valve for the water supply to the water heater is properly installed and is functioning as intended.

9.4 WATER CONNECTIONS AT TANK

The water connections at the tank are properly installed and are performing their intended function.

9.5 EXPANSION TANK

The expansion tank has an air pocket inside that compresses as the water is heated. It prevents the pressure relief valve from leaking as the water is heated.

The expansion tank is not adequately secured to the wall. This could result in damage to the water pipe and leakage during an earth quake. A seismic restraint should be installed to secure the expansion tank.



9.6 AUTOMATIC GAS VALVE

The automatic gas valve or safety valve is designed to prevent the emission of fuel into the appliance if it does not detect heat for ignition. These valves are generally very reliable. The automatic gas valve was functioning as intended.

9.7 BURNER

The gas burner is properly installed and is functioning as intended.

9.8 GAS PIPING

The flex connector is properly installed and is performing its intended function.

9.9 VENT

The water heater uses a type B vent from the top of the draft hood to the exterior. The visible portion of the B vent is properly installed and is functioning as intended.

9.10 COMBUSTION AIR

The combustion air provides the oxygen for the fuel burning appliances. Combustion air also aids in the movement of combustion gases up the flue. Adequate ventilation around all fuel burning appliances is vital for their safe operation. The air can come from inside the house or from outside providing that the amount of air reaching the appliance is sufficient to maintain efficient combustion and draft. The combustion air supply is adequate.

9.11 SEISMIC RESTRAINT

The water heater is secured to the wall. This prevents it from falling over during an earthquake and rupturing gas and water lines.

9.12 ELEVATION ABOVE GARAGE FLOOR

The burner of the water heater is elevated at least 18" above the garage floor in accordance with industry standards. This elevation prevents ignition of gasoline fumes that might leak from cars, lawn mowers, gas cans, etc.

9.13 GENERAL COMMENTS

The water heater is nearing the end of its service life. The need for water heater replacement should be anticipated.

KITCHEN

The kitchen was inspected for proper function of components, active leakage, excessive or unusual wear and general state of repair. We inspect built-in appliances using normal operating controls. This includes running the dishwasher, operating the garbage disposal and microwave and checking the burners or heating elements in the stove and oven. Accuracy and/or function of clocks, timers, temperature controls and self cleaning functions on ovens is beyond the scope of our testing procedure. Refrigerators are not tested or inspected unless specifically noted.

The following components were inspected:

10.1 COUNTERTOPS

The countertops are covered with ceramic tile. The counter tops are properly installed and are in good condition.

The backsplash is not caulked. Cracking of the grout allows water to enter the gap between the back splash and counter and is difficult to clean. Caulking should be installed at this location.

10.2 CABINETS

The finish on the kitchen cabinets is slightly worn. The cabinets are otherwise in good condition.

10.3 FLOORING MATERIAL

The floor is covered with vinyl tile. The floor is properly installed and is in good condition.

10.4 VENTILATION

Ventilation in the kitchen is provided by a ceiling fan that is ducted to the exterior. The vent fan is properly installed and is performing its intended function.

10.5 SINK FAUCET

The sink faucet is properly installed and is in good condition.

10.6 SINK

The kitchen sink is properly installed and is in good condition.

10.7 DRAINS, TRAPS AND TRAP ARMS

The sink drain is properly installed and is performing its intended function.

10.8 AIR GAP

The dishwasher drain lacks an air gap. The dishwasher will function without one, but there is a risk of contamination of the inside of the dishwasher by waste water. The installation of an air gap is recommended.

10.9 OVEN

The upper oven broiler and baking elements are not working. It should be repaired or replaced as necessary.

The lower oven was tested and was functioning as intended.

10.10 COOKTOP

The burner spark igniters will not light the gas. Adjustment or repairs are required.

10.11 DISHWASHER

The dishwasher was tested and was functioning as intended.

10.12 GARBAGE DISPOSAL

The garbage disposal was tested and was functioning as intended.

The cord is not clamped where it enters the disposal. This could damage the wires or cause a ground fault. The cord should be clamped in accordance with industry standards.

10.13 REFRIGERATOR

The refrigerator is functioning as intended.

10.14 RECEPTACLES

The polarity is reversed in at least one receptacle in the kitchen. Reversed polarity means that the hot and neutral wires are reversed at the back of the receptacle. This defect is a shock hazard and can damage some electronic equipment. All receptacles exhibiting reversed polarity should be rewired.

BATHROOMS

Our inspection of the bathrooms consists of testing of the plumbing fixtures for condition and function. Defects such as leaks, cracked or damaged sinks, tubs and toilets will be listed under the heading of the bathroom in which they were found. The bathroom floor, tub and shower walls are examined for water damage. Ventilation fans are tested for proper operation. Cabinets and countertops are examined for excessive wear and deterioration. Hydromassage tubs are tested and the pump and related equipment are examined when accessible.

BATHROOM

11.1 LOCATION

Powder Room.

11.2 FLOORING MATERIAL

The floor is covered with vinyl tiles. The floor is properly installed and is in good condition.

It is important to maintain the caulking around bathtubs and showers, especially at the intersection between the tub or shower and the floor. Failure to maintain this seal will often result in damage to flooring materials, subflooring and framing.

11.3 TOILET

The toilet was flushed and was functioning as intended.

11.4 SINK

The bathroom sink is properly installed and is in good condition.

The drain stop is not operational. It should be repaired or replaced.

11.5 DRAINS, TRAPS AND TRAP ARMS

The sink drain is properly installed and is performing its intended function.

11.6 FAUCET FIXTURES

The faucet fixture was tested and was functioning as intended.

11.7 CABINETS

The finish on the bathroom cabinet is slightly worn. The cabinet is otherwise in good condition.

11.8 COUNTERTOP

The countertop is covered with ceramic tile. The countertop is properly installed and in good condition.

11.9 GFCI RECEPTACLES

There are no GFCI protected receptacles in this bathroom. The installation of GFCI protection is recommended.

BATHROOM

11.10 LOCATION

Hallway.

11.11 BATHTUB

The bathtub is properly installed and is in good condition.

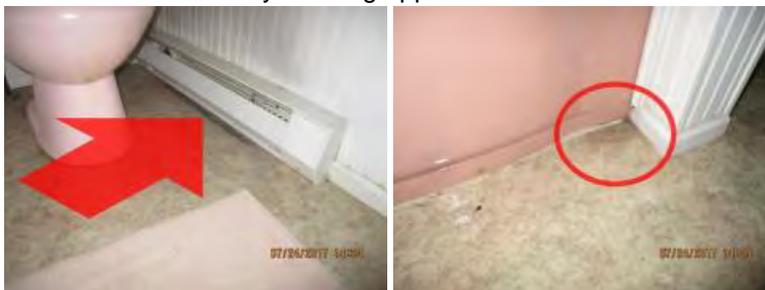
11.12 TUB WALLS

The tub walls are properly installed and are in good condition.

11.13 FLOORING MATERIAL

The vinyl flooring is damaged under the baseboard heater. The flooring should be replaced as necessary to restore cosmetic appearance. The subfloor underneath the vinyl flooring appears to be solid.

The vinyl flooring is damaged from water intrusion into the substrate. The flooring should be replaced as necessary to restore cosmetic appearance. The subfloor underneath the vinyl flooring appears to be solid.



11.14 TOILET

The toilet is loose where it mounts to the floor. A loose toilet will eventually start to leak and will damage the flooring material, underlayment and subfloor. The most reliable fix for this condition is to remove the toilet and install a new wax seal. The toilet should then be securely mounted to the floor.

11.15 SINK

The bathroom sink is properly installed and is in good condition.

The drain stop is not operational. It should be repaired or replaced.

11.16 DRAINS, TRAPS AND TRAP ARMS

The sink drain is properly installed and is performing its intended function.

11.17 FAUCET FIXTURES

The faucet fixture was tested and was functioning as intended.

11.18 CABINETS

The finish on the bathroom cabinet is slightly worn. The cabinet is otherwise in good condition.

11.19 COUNTERTOP

The countertop is covered with ceramic tile. The countertop is properly installed and in good condition.

The backsplash is not caulked. Cracking of the grout allows water to enter the gap between the back splash and counter and is difficult to clean. Caulking should be installed at this location.

11.20 VENTILATION

This bathroom depends upon a window for ventilation and the removal of moisture. A window is not practical for wintertime use. The installation of a ceiling fan, properly vented to the exterior, should be considered as a primary method of venting.

11.21 SUPPLEMENTAL HEAT

The electric baseboard heater was tested and was functioning as intended.

11.22 GFCI RECEPTACLES

There are no GFCI protected receptacles in this bathroom. The installation of GFCI protection is recommended.

LAUNDRY ROOM

Appliances are tested when present and when circumstances allow.

The following components were inspected:

12.1 CABINETS

The finish on the laundry room cabinets is slightly worn. The cabinets are otherwise in good condition.

12.2 COUNTERTOP

The counter top is covered with ceramic tile. The counter top is properly installed and in good condition.

12.3 FLOORING MATERIAL

The floor is covered with vinyl tiles. The floor is properly installed and is in good condition.

It is important to maintain the caulking around bathtubs and showers, especially at the intersection between the tub or shower and the floor. Failure to maintain this seal will often result in damage to flooring materials, subflooring and framing.

12.4 APPLIANCES

The hookups for the washer are properly installed and in serviceable condition. The washer itself was operated through a partial cycle, however we did not confirm the complete operation of the cycle timer.

Upgrading the washer connections to high pressure (steel braided) lines is recommended.

The hookups for the dryer are properly installed and in serviceable condition. The dryer itself was operated through a partial cycle, however we did not confirm the complete operation of the cycle timer.



12.5 DRYER VENT

The visible portions of the dryer vent are properly installed and in serviceable condition. Dryer ducts should be cleaned annually as part of routine home maintenance. A dryer duct that is clogged with lint is a fire hazard.

PLUMBING SYSTEM

A plumbing system consists of the water heater, domestic water supply lines, drain, waste and vent lines and gas lines. Inspection of the plumbing system is limited to the water heater, visible faucets, fixtures, valves, drains, traps, exposed pipes and fittings. These items are examined for proper function, excessive or unusual wear, leakage, and general state of repair. Valves are not tested except where specifically noted. The hidden nature of piping prevents inspection of every pipe and joint. A sewer lateral test, necessary to determine the condition of the underground sewer lines, is beyond the scope of this inspection. If desired, a qualified individual could be retained for such a test. Our review of the plumbing system does not include landscape irrigation systems, off site community water supply systems or private (septic) waste disposal systems. Review of these systems should be performed by qualified and licensed specialists prior to the close of escrow.

The following components were inspected:

13.1 PLUMBING SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS

The building is on a public water supply system. The building is connected to the municipal sewer system. Copper tubing is used for the water supply piping. A combination of cast iron, galvanized steel, and ABS plastic is used for the drain, waste and vent pipes.

13.2 MAIN WATER SHUTOFF VALVE

There is no shutoff valve inside the house and the water must be shutoff at the water meter. This can be inconvenient in an emergency. Consideration should be given to installing a water shutoff valve in the house.

13.3 MAIN WATER LINE

The main water line is buried underground and was not visible for inspection. The flow indicator on the water meter was checked with all the water shut off in the house. There was no movement of the flow indicator. This suggests that there are no leaks in the main water line. You should check the meter periodically (2-4 times a year) with all the water in the house shut off. Movement of the flow indicator on the meter means that there is a leak either inside the house or in the main line underground.

13.4 INTERIOR WATER SUPPLY PIPES

The visible portions of the copper water supply pipes are properly installed and functional. Copper is considered one of the most desirable materials for interior supply pipes and is expected to last the lifetime of the building.

13.5 WATER PRESSURE

The water pressure is 55 PSI. This is in the normal range of 40-80 PSI.

13.6 DRAIN AND WASTE PIPES

ABS plastic is used for portions of the drain, waste and vent pipes. All of the visible drain pipes were properly installed and functional. ABS is a durable, reliable material and should last the lifetime of the building.

Galvanized steel and cast iron pipe is also used for drain, waste and vent pipes. All of the visible drain pipes were properly

installed and functional. Galvanized steel and cast iron are durable, reliable materials, however, galvanized steel pipes corrode inside and reduce the inside diameter of the pipe. This inevitably results in chronic clogging particularly of the kitchen sink and laundry drains. You should anticipate having to replace the horizontal sections of the galvanized steel pipes.

All drain, waste and vent pipes were stress tested by filling bathtubs and fixtures to the overflow and then draining them while simultaneously flushing the toilet and running the sinks and showers. No leaks were observed and all fixtures emptied in a reasonable amount of time with no fluctuation in the rate of flow down the drain. This is commonly referred to as "functional drainage".

13.7 SEWER LINE

We recommend the services of a 'sewer line inspection service' to determine the condition of the buried waste lines.

13.8 VENT PIPES

The visible portions of the vent pipes are properly installed and are performing their intended function.

13.9 FAUCET FIXTURES

All faucet fixtures were tested and were functioning as intended.

13.10 HOSE BIBBS AND EXTERIOR SUPPLY PIPES

The hose bibbs on this building are the frost free type. These hose bibbs typically will not freeze as long as the hoses are removed. Failure to remove hoses during freezing weather could result in a cracked pipe and leakage. The bibbs were tested and were functioning as intended.

The hose bibb on the front of the house is loose. This could result in damage to the water pipe and leakage. The bibb should be securely fastened to the wall.

13.11 GAS PIPING

The gas pipes adjacent to the water heater are not protected by a bumper stop. A vertical steel pipe, bolted to the floor, is typically installed in front of the water heater to prevent a car bumper from damaging the gas lines.



13.12 GAS METER

The gas meter is located on the north side of the building. The main gas shut off valve is installed on the high pressure line emanating out of the ground. This valve requires a wrench to open and close. Keeping a gas valve wrench or adjustable wrench accessible near the gas meter is recommended.

INTERIOR

Our review of the interior includes inspection of walls, ceilings, floors, doors, windows, cabinetry, countertops, steps, stairways, balconies and railings. These features are examined for proper function, excessive wear and general state of repair. In some cases, all or portions of these components may not be visible because of furnishings and personal effects. In such cases these items are not inspected.

The following items were inspected:

14.1 GENERAL COMMENTS

The interior wall, floor, and ceiling surfaces were properly installed and generally in serviceable condition, taking into

consideration normal wear and tear.

14.2 WALLS AND CEILINGS

There are minor cracks in the walls and/or ceilings. This is a common condition with this type of construction and does not indicate a structural deficiency. The cracks can be repaired or painted over during routine maintenance. Cracks in drywall that have been repaired will often reoccur several months after the repairs have been completed. This is due to seasonal movement of the structure caused by changes in humidity.

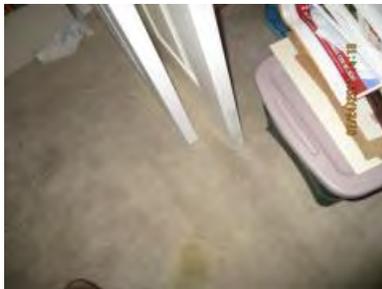
14.3 DOORS

The doors are properly installed and are in generally good condition with exceptions outlined below.

Some of the doors are missing their door stops. This condition will lead to damage of the wall surfaces. Door stops should be installed where necessary.

14.4 CLOSET DOORS

The floor guides are missing from the bypass closet doors in the bedroom. Missing floor guides could result in damage to the doors. The installation of floor guides is recommended.



14.5 WINDOWS

The older window frames are constructed from aluminum and are single pane. The newer window frames are constructed from PVC and have insulated glass in them. All of the windows tested and/or inspected were found to be functioning as intended.

14.6 SMOKE DETECTORS

There is a smoke detector in the hallway outside of the bedrooms. Additional smoke detectors should be installed inside the bedrooms near the door.

Smoke detectors are examined for location only. They are not tested. Smoke detector batteries should be replaced when you move in and every year thereafter. Once batteries have been replaced, the smoke detectors should be tested for proper operation.

Ionization technology is generally more sensitive than photoelectric technology at detecting small particles, which tend to be produced in greater amounts by flaming fires, which consume combustible materials rapidly and spread quickly. Sources of these fires may include paper burning in a wastebasket or a grease fire in the kitchen.

Photoelectric technology is generally more sensitive than ionization technology at detecting large particles, which tend to be produced in greater amounts by smoldering fires, which may smolder for hours before bursting into flame. Sources of these fires may include cigarettes burning on couches or bedding.

FOR MAXIMUM PROTECTION: Use both Ionization and Photoelectric smoke alarms in every bedroom/hallway on every level of your home.

The installation of at least one carbon monoxide monitor for each floor is recommended. The best place to install the monitor is in an open area near the gas appliance.

14.7 DOOR BELL

The doorbell was functioning as intended.

FIREPLACES, WOOD STOVES AND SPACE HEATERS

The following components were inspected:

15.1 MASONRY FIREPLACES

Minor deterioration of the fire brick was observed inside the firebox. Cracks and voids should be filled with refractory cement.

15.2 DAMPERS

The fireplace damper is stuck in the open position. This allows heat to escape up the chimney and could result in odors emanating from the fireplace. Repairing the damper is recommended.



15.3 GLASS DOORS

The glass doors were tested and were functioning as intended.

15.4 CHIMNEYS

An examination of the inside of the chimney revealed a significant accumulation of creosote. Smoldering fires and the burning of green or wet wood are the primary contributors to creosote build-up. Creosote in a chimney flue is dangerous because it is the fuel for a chimney fire. Chimney fires produce intense heat and sparks. The intense heat can crack the flue tile, brick and mortar of a masonry chimney. After holes or cracks have developed, chimney fires can cause the wood framing or roof of the house to catch on fire. To avoid chimney fires, flues should be cleaned and inspected at least once a year with moderate use. More frequent cleaning may be required depending on amount of use and burning practice.



ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Environmental issues include but are not limited to carbon monoxide, radon, asbestos, lead paint, lead contamination, toxic waste, formaldehyde, electromagnetic radiation, buried fuel oil tanks, ground water contamination and soil contamination. The absence of a statement on any of the environmental issues listed above does not necessarily mean that they are not present. We make reference to these substances only when we recognize them during the normal inspection process. Most of the toxic substances listed above cannot be identified without laboratory testing. If further study or analysis seems prudent, the advice and services of the appropriate specialists are advised.

The following items may exist in this building:

16.1 CARBON MONOXIDE

Many of us encounter CO regularly and never know it because it's invisible and odorless. That's why victims of CO

poisoning often have no warning that they are in danger... until it's too late. Symptoms include headache, nausea, chronic fatigue, confusion and dizziness. Extreme exposure can even cause a coma or death.

Carbon monoxide is a product of incomplete (poor) combustion. It's a direct and cumulative poison. When combined with blood hemoglobin, CO replaces oxygen in the blood until it completely overcomes the body. Death from CO occurs suddenly. The victim inhaling the toxic concentration of the gas becomes helpless before realizing that danger exists.

According to the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) (Ventilation Standard 62- 89), a concentration of no more than 9 parts per million (ppm) (0.0009%), of CO is permissible in residential living spaces. In addition, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has set an eight-hour work place maximum of 35 ppm. And in flue gas, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the American Gas Association (AGA) have established the maximum allowable concentration of CO at 400 ppm (See charts).

To ensure safe and efficient combustion, it is imperative that all gas burning appliances be inspected and serviced regularly (once a year) if used in normal service conditions).

16.2 FORMALDEHYDE

Formaldehyde, a colorless gas with a pungent odor, is so commonly used today that virtually everyone is likely to be exposed to at least small amounts of it, and a significant number of people are developing symptoms due to exposure to large amounts of formaldehyde in their homes or workplaces. It was an integral component of the urea formaldehyde foam insulation (UFFI) that was installed in more than five hundred thousand homes in the 1970's. (The use of formaldehyde in insulation was banned by the Consumer Product Safety Commission in 1982, but this ruling was overturned by a federal court in 1983.) In addition, it is present in a large variety of consumer products. It is a major part of the resins used as glue in particle board, plywood, and other pressed wood products used extensively in the construction of homes and furniture. Some cosmetics, paper towels, upholstery, permanent press fabrics, carpets, milk, toilet seats, pesticides, and explosives contain it too. Formaldehyde is also present in the exhaust from combustion appliances and in tobacco smoke.

The most common symptoms of excessive formaldehyde exposure are burning eyes, itching, shortness of breath, tightness in the chest, coughing, headaches, nausea, and asthma attacks. Large amounts of the gas have produced cancer in laboratory animals, and government policy assumes that any substance that can cause cancer in animals may also cause it in humans.

People who live in homes that have been "tightened" for maximum energy conservation are most likely to suffer from the effects of formaldehyde gas. The formaldehyde gas seeps from the walls, furniture, carpet, etc. into the air, building up to high levels in the "tightened" home, which can be irritating, particularly to sensitive people.

To minimize your exposure to formaldehyde, ventilate your home - in good weather, open the windows to provide a constant supply of fresh air. Some methods of heat recovery, such as heat recovery ventilators (also known as air-to-air heat exchangers), are available that can ventilate the home while also conserving energy.

You can seal exposed, raw surfaces of particle board and plywood with oil enamel, varnish, wallpaper, or vinyl floor coverings. If you have UFFI insulation, make certain it is completely sealed in the walls or, as a last resort, have it removed.

16.3 LEAD PAINT

Lead paint may be present in or around this house. Lead was used extensively in paint until 1978. Most homes built before 1978 contain some lead paint. Lead paint is a poison. However, the mere presence of lead paint is not necessarily dangerous. Worn, cracked or peeling paint poses the greatest risk. Dust from lead paint is the main cause of lead poisoning in homes. Lead dust is created any time a surface coated with lead paint is exposed to friction - for example when a painted window is repeatedly open and closed or when the surface is sanded prior to repainting or remodeling. The paint dust can be inhaled or swallowed. Paint chips are sometimes ingested by small children. Information on lead paint abatement can be obtained from contractors specializing in lead paint detection and removal.

16.4 ASBESTOS

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral fiber that has been used in more than 3,000 different construction materials and manufactured products. It is commonly found in heating system insulation, decorative spray-on ceiling treatments, vinyl

flooring, cement shake siding and a variety of additional materials. Some asbestos-containing materials were still being installed into the late 1980s.

The asbestos content of different materials varies according to the product and how it is used. Among those materials with higher concentrations of asbestos are insulating products on heating systems and the backing on sheet vinyl flooring. However, an uncontrolled disturbance of any asbestos-containing material in any concentration may be dangerous to your health!

Why is it a problem? Breathing asbestos fibers could kill you. When disturbed, asbestos breaks down into fibers up to 1,200 times thinner than a human hair. When inhaled, they become trapped in lung tissues. Medical research tells us that up to 30 years after inhalation, asbestos fibers can cause lung cancer or mesothelioma, a related terminal cancer of the tissue lining the chest cavity.

Because asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral and has been so widely used in manufactured products, including automobile brake linings, it can be found almost everywhere. Trace amounts are in the air we breathe every day. Most of us have asbestos fibers in our lungs.

On the other hand, there's no known safe level of asbestos exposure. That's why medical, environmental health and regulatory organizations stress the need to protect health by minimizing exposure to airborne asbestos fibers. This is particularly true when asbestos fibers accumulate at elevated levels. Elevated levels result from uncontrolled disturbances and removal of asbestos-containing materials.

How do I know if it's asbestos? Don't guess! Look for asbestos markings on the product or track the product back to its manufacturer or supplier. If these approaches don't work, submit a small sample for laboratory analysis. Cost is minimal. Laboratories are listed in the yellow pages under "Asbestos - Consulting and Testing." Ask a laboratory technician to instruct you how to safely take a sample. If you decide not to check for asbestos in a suspected material, you should assume it contains asbestos and treat it accordingly.

INSULATION

Insulation, weatherstripping, dampers, storm windows, insulated glass and set-back thermostats are features that help reduce heat loss and increase the comfort and thermal efficiency of your home. We examine these items and identify approximate R values for insulation. When appropriate, we offer suggestions for upgrading. Our review of insulation is based upon a random sampling of accessible areas and does not constitute a warranty that all such areas are uniformly insulated or are insulated to current standards.

The following items were inspected:

17.1 ATTIC INSULATION

The attic is insulated with blown in rockwool insulation. The approximate R value of this insulation is 19. This provides moderate resistance to heat transfer. Adding additional insulation to achieve an R value of 30 is recommended to reduce heat loss through the ceilings.

17.2 WALL INSULATION

The exterior walls are not insulated. The installation of wall insulation can be accomplished by boring 2" holes in the drywall or plaster and injecting cellulose into the wall cavity.

17.3 FLOOR INSULATION

The floor is not insulated. This allows significant heat loss to occur through the floor. The installation of floor insulation is recommended.

STRUCTURE

The structural elements of most residential buildings include a foundation, footings, floor, wall, ceiling and roof framing. The visible portions of these items are examined for proper function, wear, deterioration or signs of non-performance. Some structural components or portions of them are inaccessible because they are buried below grade or hidden behind finished surfaces. Therefore, much of the structural inspection is performed by identifying resultant symptoms of movement, damage and deterioration. Where there are no visible symptoms, components or conditions requiring repair may go undetected and identification will not be possible. We make no representations as to the internal conditions or stabilities of soils, concrete footings and foundations, except as exhibited by their performance.

The following components were inspected:

18.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The foundation is constructed from poured in place concrete. A perimeter foundation wall supports the exterior walls of the building. Interior load bearing components are supported by pier footings and/or continuous spread footings. The floor structure is constructed out of heavy timber joists spaced 4-5' apart. The subfloor is 2 X 6 tongue and groove boards. The stud walls are constructed from 2 X 4 dimensional lumber. The exterior wall sheathing is plywood. The roof structure is conventionally framed out of dimensional lumber. The roof sheathing is plywood.

18.2 FOUNDATION

The foundation is constructed in a manner typical of buildings of this type and age. There are minor shrinkage cracks in the foundation. Shrinkage cracks are common in poured concrete foundation walls. They do not affect the performance of the foundation. No action is indicated.

18.3 MUDSILL

The mudsill is typically a 2x4 or 2x6 member that is laid flat directly on the top of or cast into the top of the foundation wall. The mudsill is usually bolted to the foundation wall and serves as a base for the rest of the floor framing. In this building, the mudsill is inaccessible and cannot be evaluated. There was no evidence present that would suggest that there are defects in this component.

18.4 ANCHOR BOLTS

Anchor bolts are bolts that are cast into the top of the concrete foundation and retain the mudsill. Anchor bolts primary function in this area, is to prevent the building from being displaced from its foundation during an earthquake. Anchor bolts have grown in diameter over the years as have the nuts and washers that retain the mudsill . Generally speaking, the newer the house, the better resistance it will have to seismic activity. Due to the age of the house, there are no anchor bolts. The installation of anchor bolts should be considered as an upgrade.

18.5 BEAMS AND POSTS

There are no gusset plates tying the beams and posts together. The installation of gusset plates is recommend to reduce the likelihood of damage during an earthquake.



18.6 SUBFLOORING

The visible portions of the subfloor are properly installed and are functioning as intended.

18.7 WALLS

The walls are covered with finished surfaces and therefore were not visible for inspection. No evidence of defects or deficiencies was observed.

18.8 ROOF STRUCTURE

The roof structure is constructed from site cut and assembled dimensional lumber. The roof structure is constructed in a manner consistent with buildings of this type and is performing its intended function. No defects or deficiencies were observed.

18.9 ROOF SHEATHING

The roof sheathing is installed in a manner consistent with buildings of this type and is performing its intended function. No defects or deficiencies were observed.

CRAWLSPACE

The crawl space is where some of the building's structural elements and portions of its mechanical systems are located. These include foundation, structural framing, electrical, plumbing and heating. The visible portions of accessible systems and components are examined for proper function, excessive or unusual wear and general state of repair. Some items observed in the crawlspace will be discussed under the individual systems to which they belong. It is not unusual to find occasional moisture and dampness in crawl spaces. However, significant and/or frequent water accumulation can adversely affect the building foundation and support system and creates conditions conducive to various types of wood destroying organisms. We check for signs of excessive moisture and water entry. Unfortunately, water entry is often seasonal and therefore evidence may not be present at the time of the inspection.

The following components were inspected:

19.1 CRAWLSPACE ACCESS

The crawlspace access is located outside at the rear of the building. The crawlspace was entered and all accessible areas were inspected.

19.2 MOISTURE

The soil was damp under the vapor barrier, however, no evidence of water intrusion or standing water problems was observed.

19.3 VENTILATION

The crawlspace is adequately ventilated. Vents should be kept unobstructed and clear of leaves and other organic debris. Screens should be maintained to prevent rodent entry.

19.4 VAPOR RETARDER

Some of the soil under the house is not covered with a polyethylene plastic vapor retarder. This component is typically referred to as a "vapor barrier". While not a true vapor barrier, it does reduce the transmission of water vapor from the soil to the air. Additional 6 mil black polyethylene plastic should be installed so that it covers the entire surface of the soil.



19.5 PEST CONTROL

Evidence of previous moisture ant activity was observed in the crawlspace under the hallway bathroom. "Moisture Ant" is a collective name that includes a number of ant species in two major genera which are superficially similar in appearance and size. Both are wood invaders. The ants are small approximately 1/8" (3-5 mm) long and vary in color from yellow to dark brown. These ants are frequently found with wet, rotting wood in bathrooms, crawlspaces, near leaking pipes and in wood

that is in contact with soil. The colony is typically started in wood that is in an advanced stage of decay. They are not considered a structural pest as the damaged material existed before the colony was started. Control should include eliminating the moisture source and removing all rot damaged wood. No chemical treatment is necessary.

Scrap-wood and other cellulose debris was observed on the crawl floor. This wood debris creates conducive conditions for wood boring insects. The removal of all cellulose debris is recommended.

Wood boring insect activity in the Puget Sound area usually does not occur unless there is a ventilation problem inside or underneath the structure, a water leakage/rotting condition in the house or significant quantities of soil to untreated wood contact in a crawlspace or outside around the building exterior. Carpenter ant, termite and wood boring beetle activity is most often a direct result of rot damaged wood and/or excessively moist, humid or damp conditions inside, around or underneath the building. Structural damage from termites and ants in most cases does not extend much past the moisture source and/or rot damaged wood. Eliminating high moisture conditions, improving ventilation, correcting the conditions that are conducive to rotting wood and replacing rot damaged wood will usually eliminate the wood boring insect activity, providing that the building is properly maintained thereafter.

The best way to avoid wood boring insect problems is by preventative maintenance. This includes:

- x Good construction practices which exclude water and prevent high moisture conditions.
- x Removal of wood debris and form wood from the crawlspace and around the building exterior.
- x Maintaining the roof water drain system.
- x Maintaining good yard drainage away from the foundation wall.
- x Avoiding wood-soil contact in the crawlspace or around the house exterior.
- x Storing fire wood 6" above grade and in a dry area.

There should be no soil to wood contact in any part of the building exterior or crawlspace, unless that wood is pressure treated. For the greatest safety to permanent structures there should be no soil to wood contact of any kind. Untreated wood in direct contact with exterior flatwork should also be avoided.

Good building practice requires that foundation walls or pier footings supporting wood frame construction, should extend at least 8" above the finish grade with at least a 6" clearance between the top of the soil and the bottom of the wood finish materials. Untreated wood should be raised 1-2" above surrounding flatwork and should have a moisture barrier such as 30 lb. asphalt impregnated felt installed between the concrete and wood. For additional information and treatment options, you should retain the services of a qualified pest control operator.

Form wood was left in place on the footings. This wood is conducive to the infestation of various wood destroying organisms. The removal of the form wood is recommended.

The crawlspace access door is not rodent proof. The installation of a tight fitting access door is recommended to exclude rodents from the crawlspace.

