

Joseph Lstiburek, Ph.D., P.Eng, ASHRAE Fellow

# Building Science

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Adventures In Building Science

[www.buildingscience.com](http://www.buildingscience.com)

# What is a Building?

# A Building is an Environmental Separator

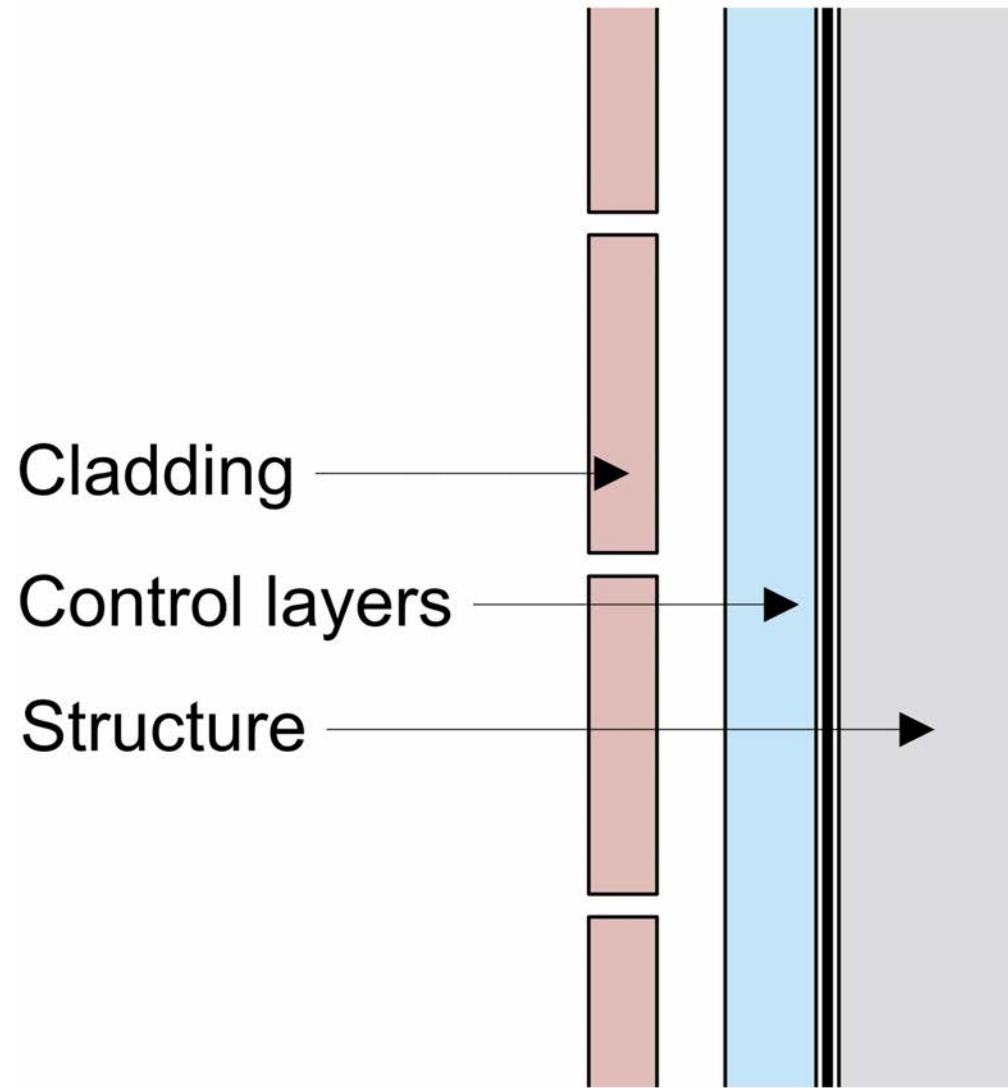
- Control heat flow
- Control airflow
- Control water vapor flow
- Control rain
- Control ground water
- Control light and solar radiation
- Control noise and vibrations
- Control contaminants, environmental hazards and odors
- Control insects, rodents and vermin
- Control fire
- Provide strength and rigidity
- Be durable
- Be aesthetically pleasing
- Be economical

Water Control Layer

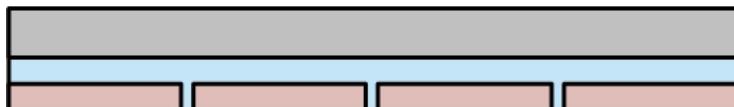
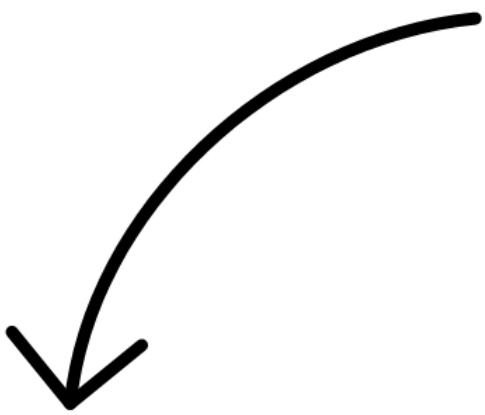
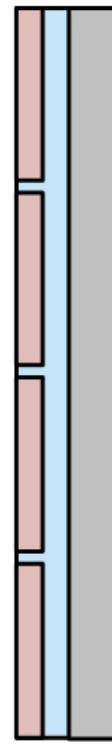
Air Control Layer

Vapor Control Layer

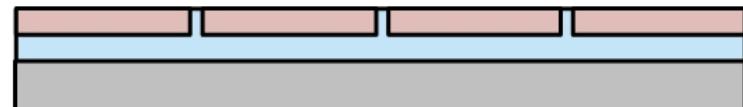
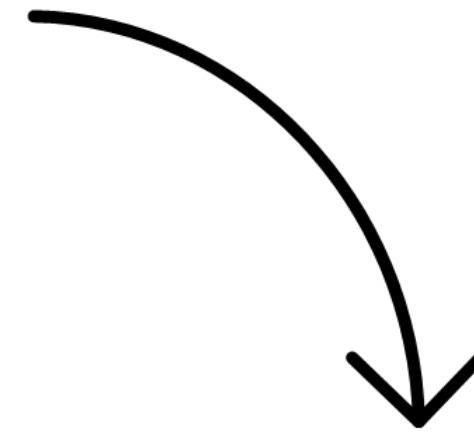
Thermal Control Layer



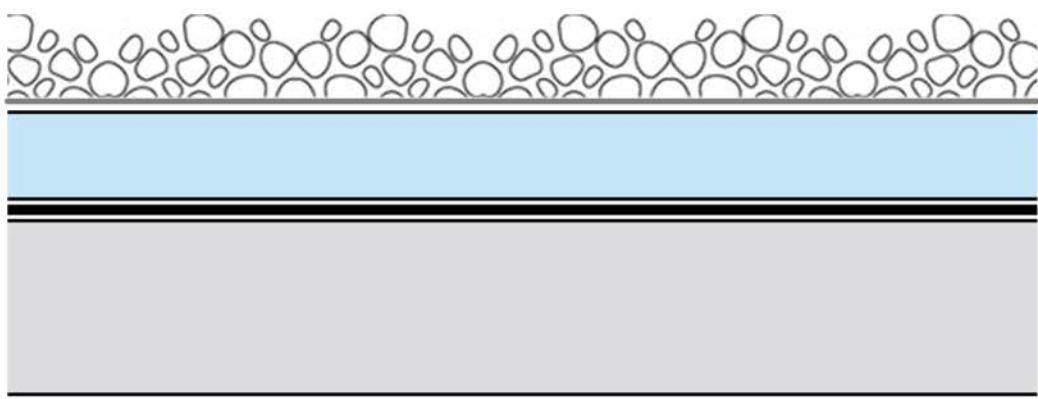
# Wall



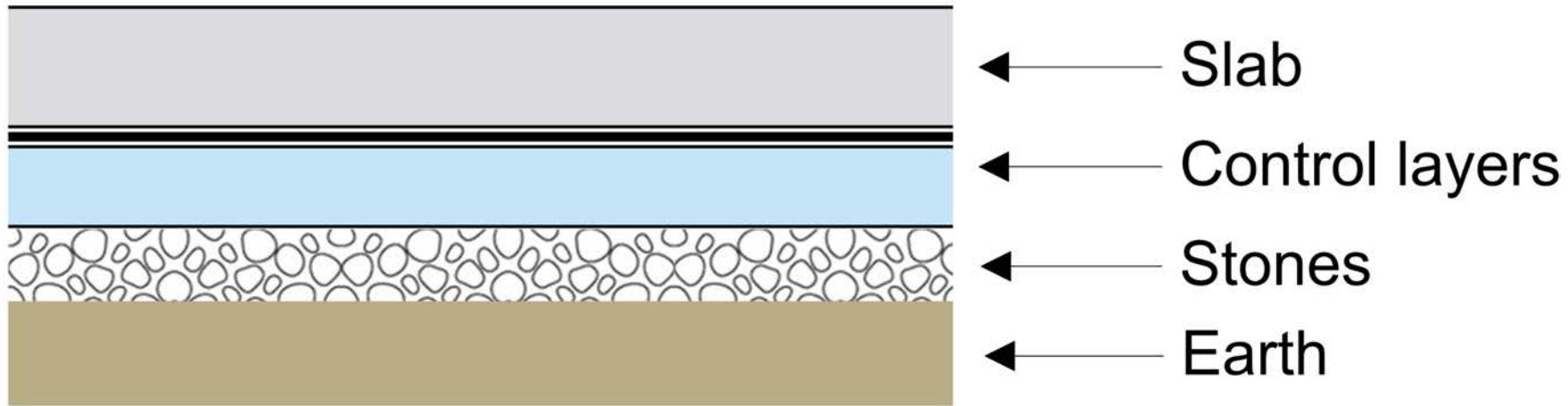
**Slab**

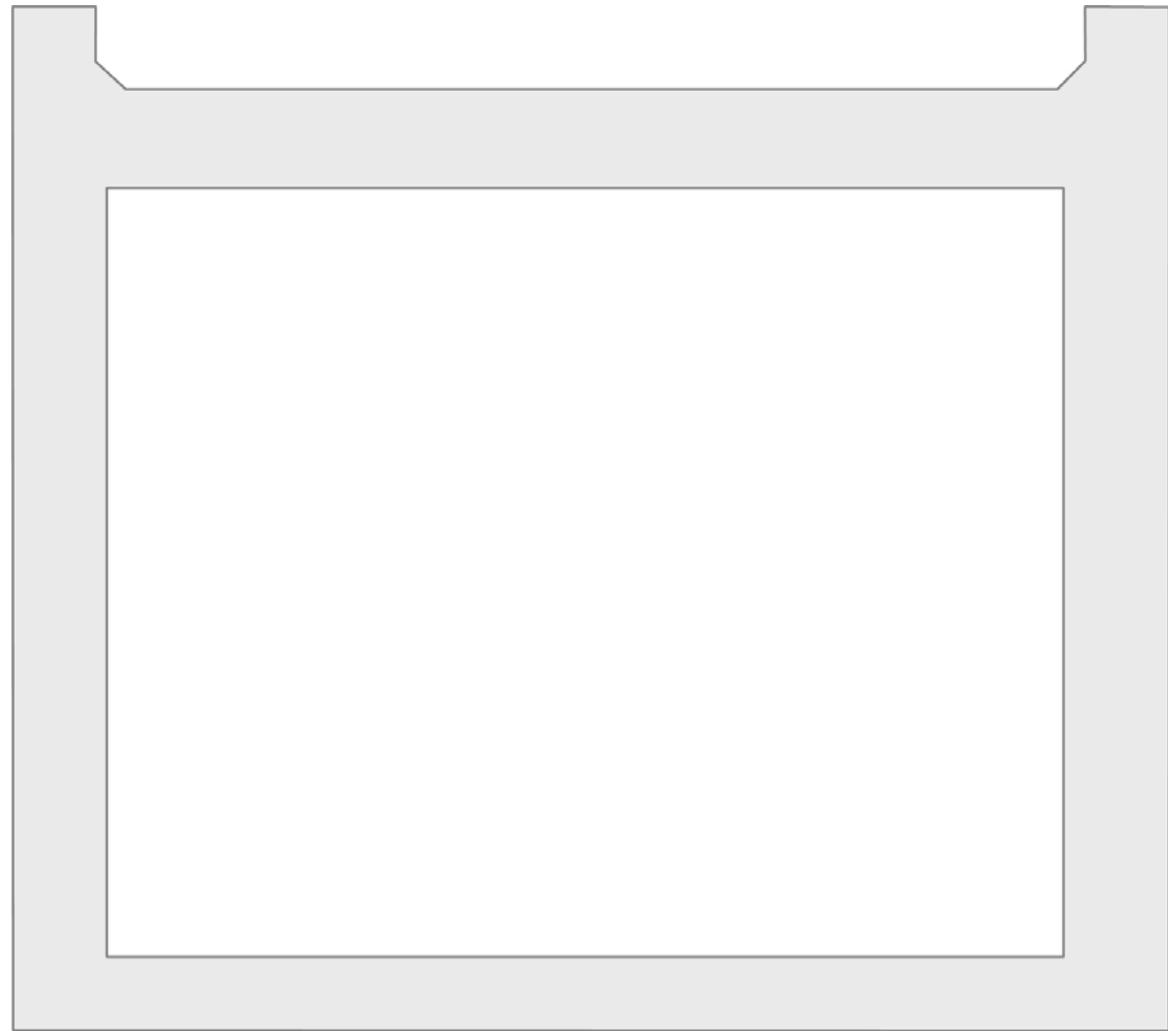


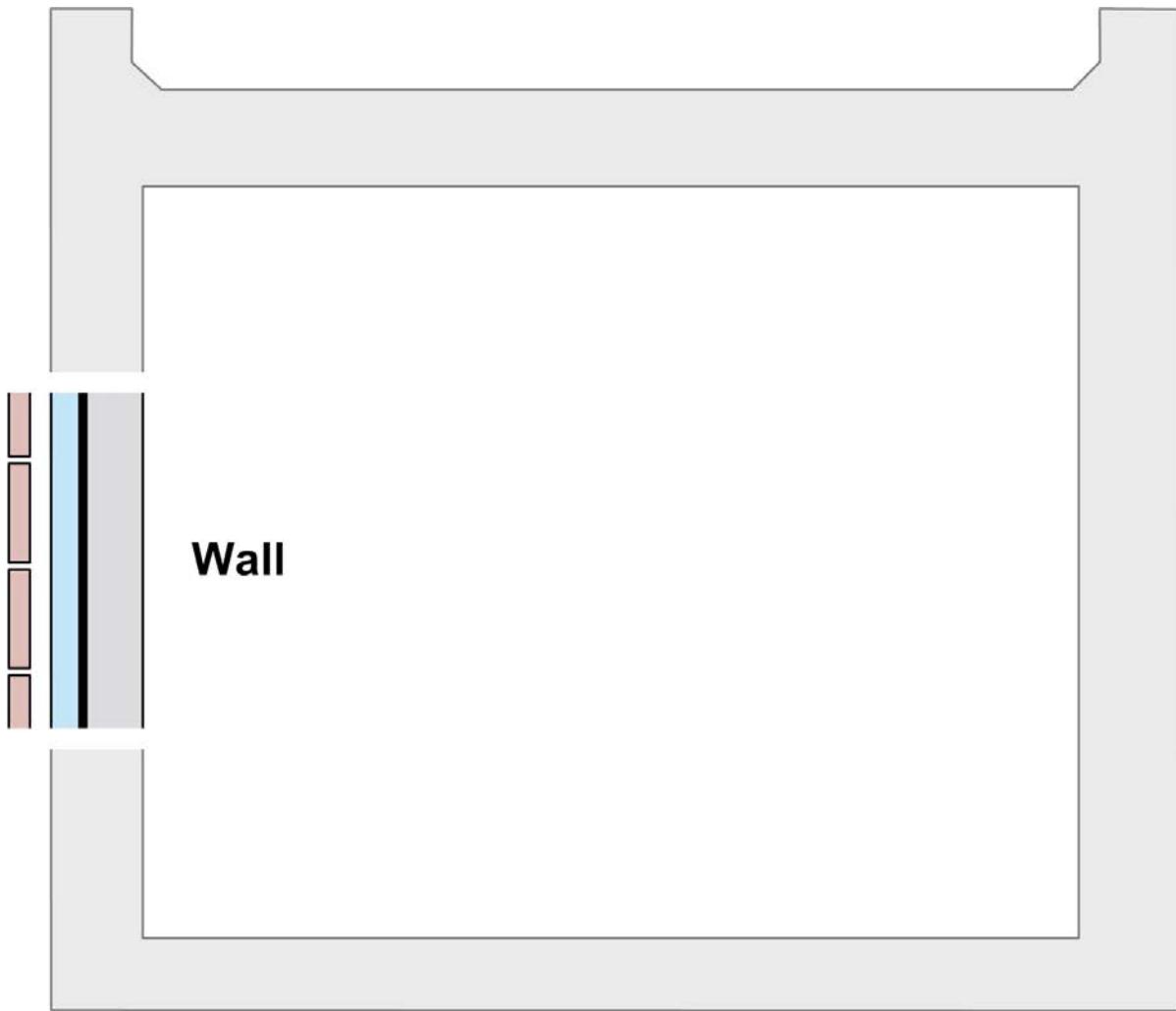
**Roof**

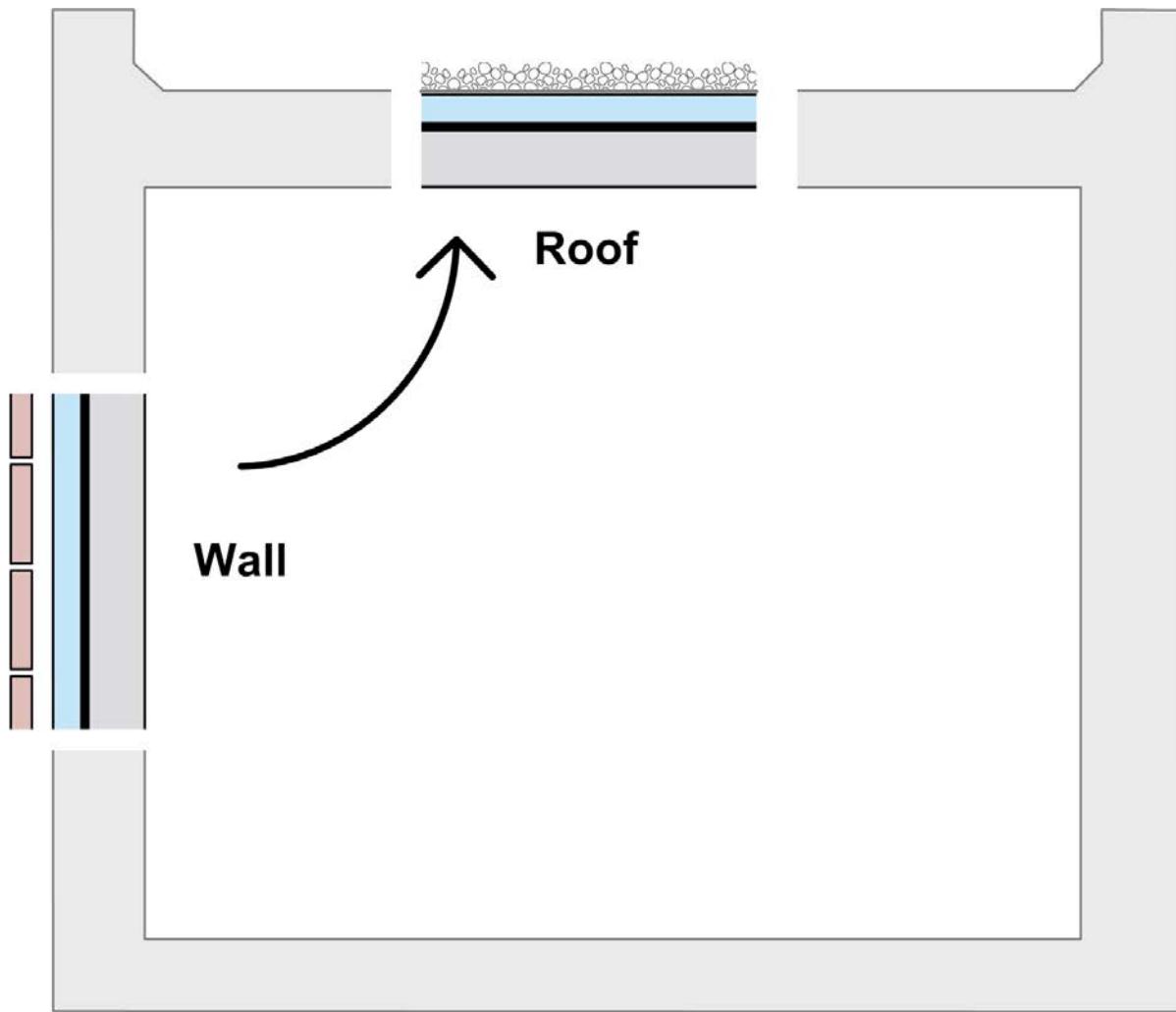


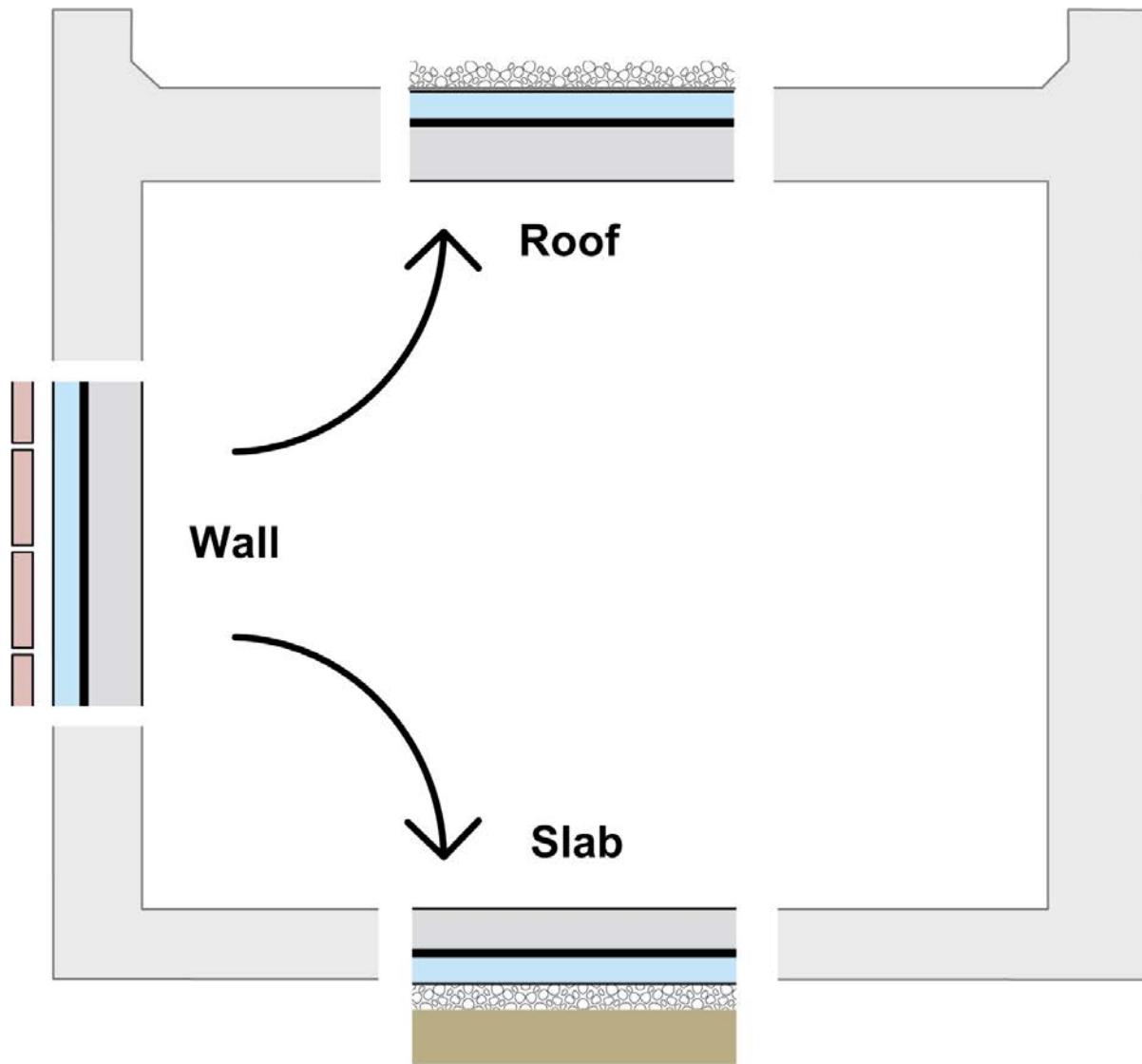
- ← **Ballast**
- ← **Filter fabric**
- ← **Control layers**
- ← **Roof structure**

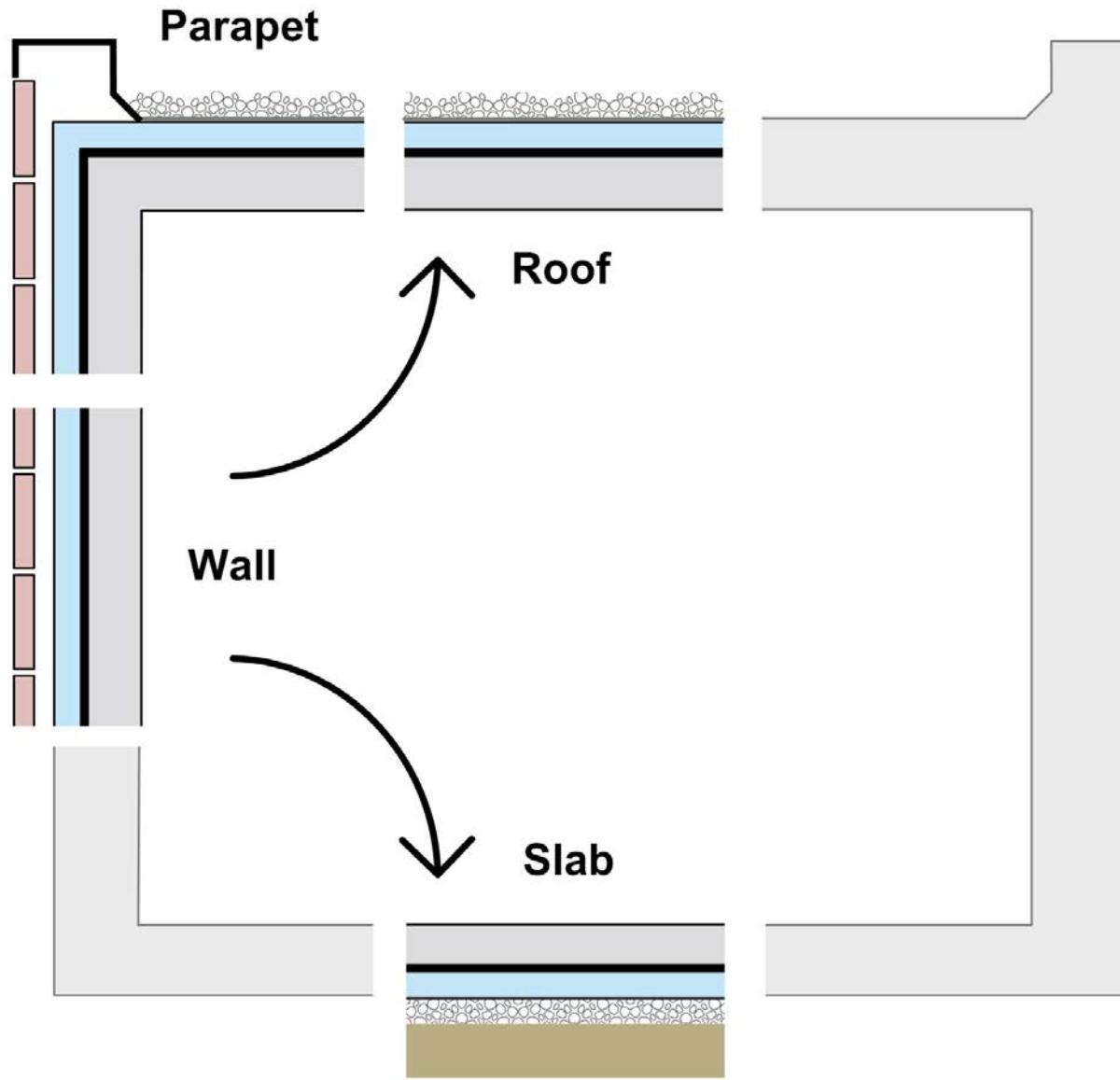


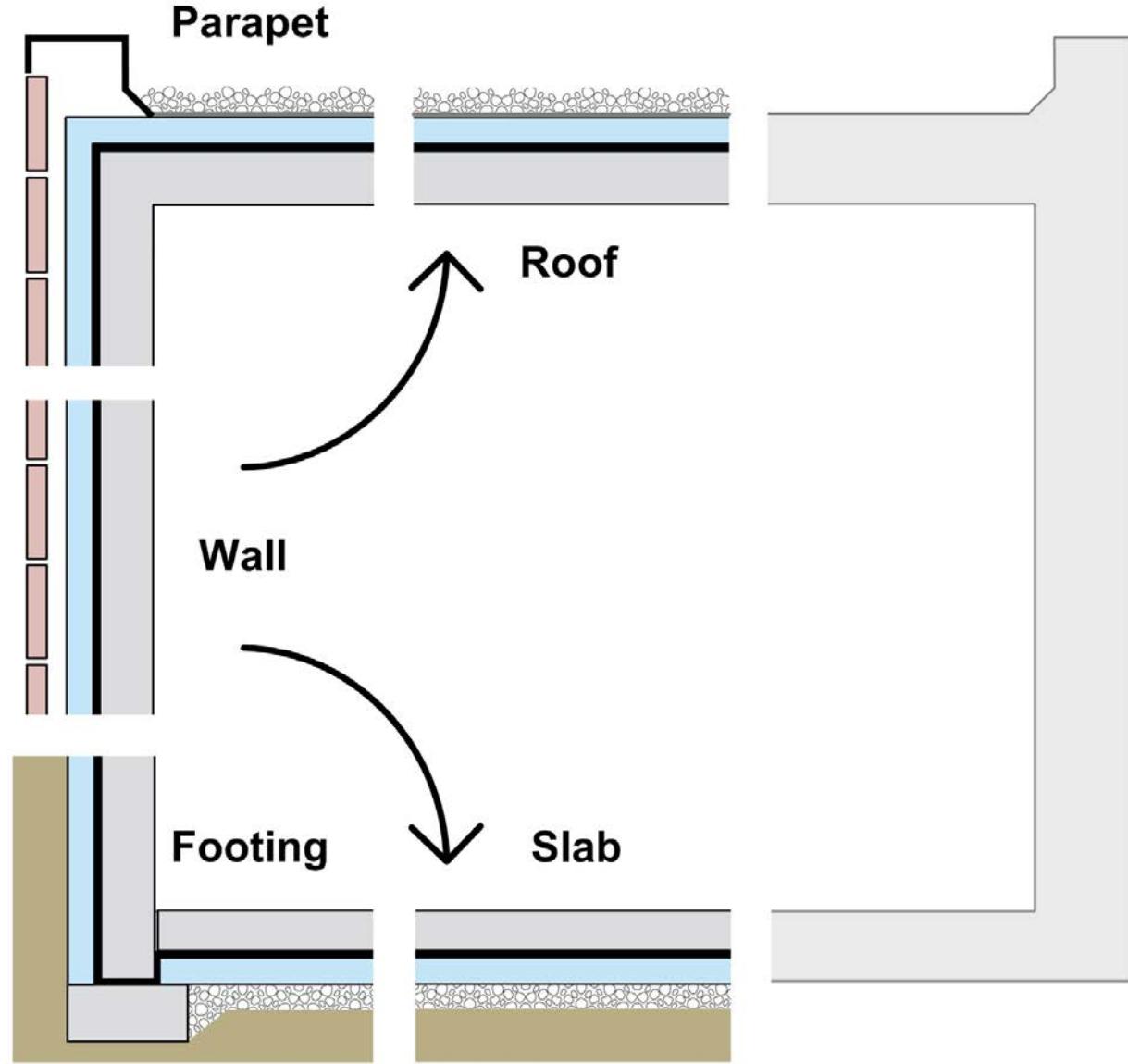


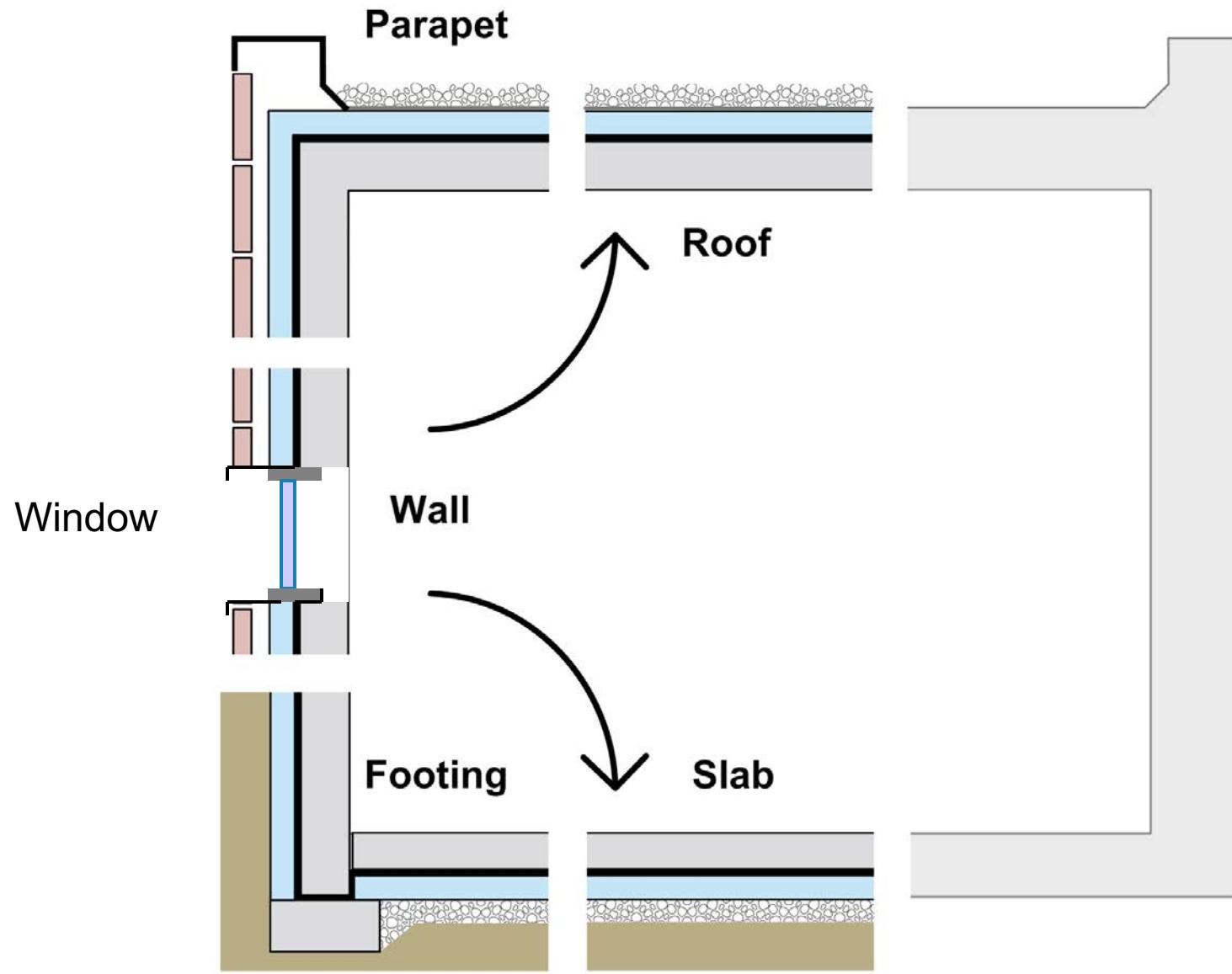






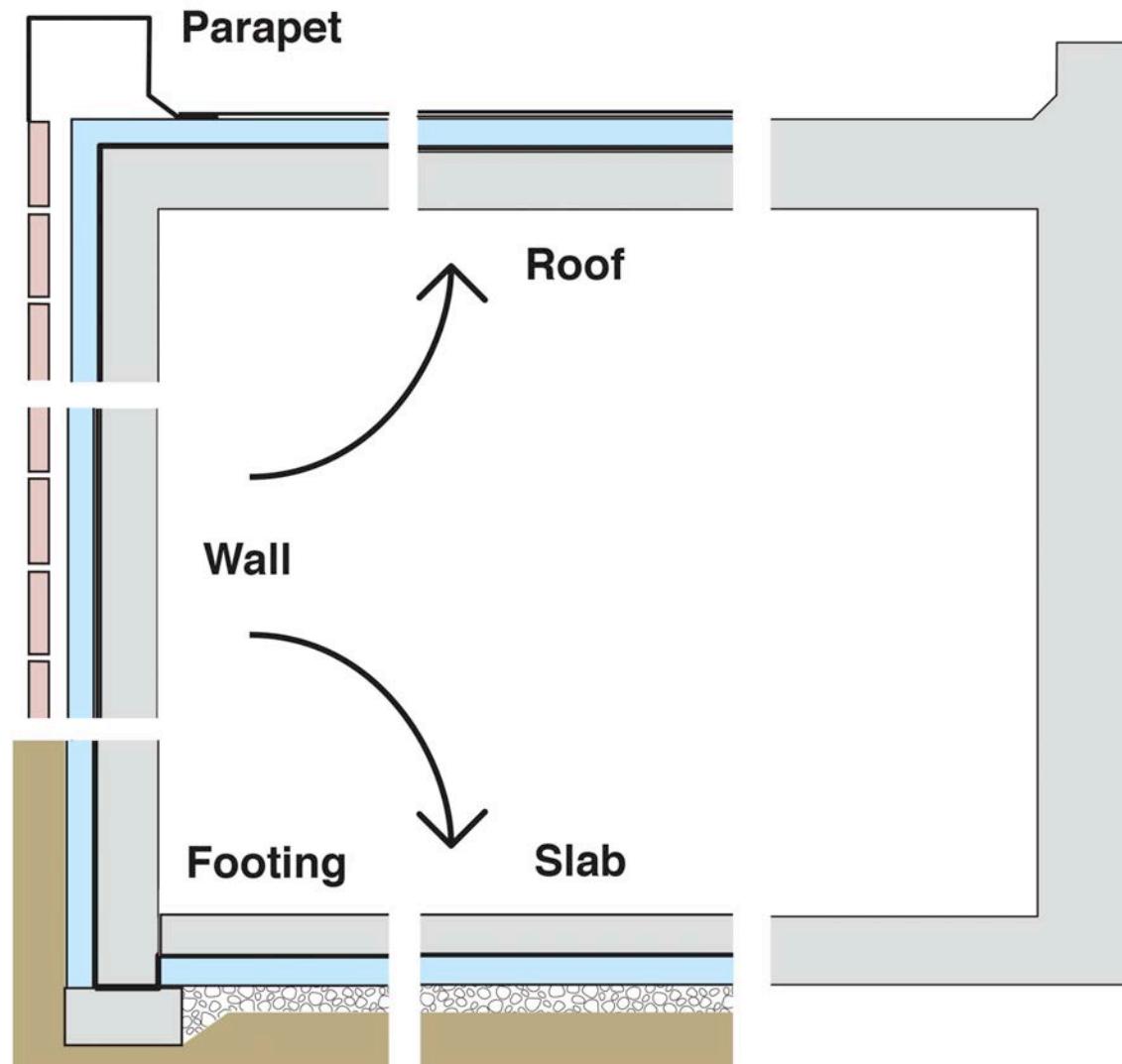


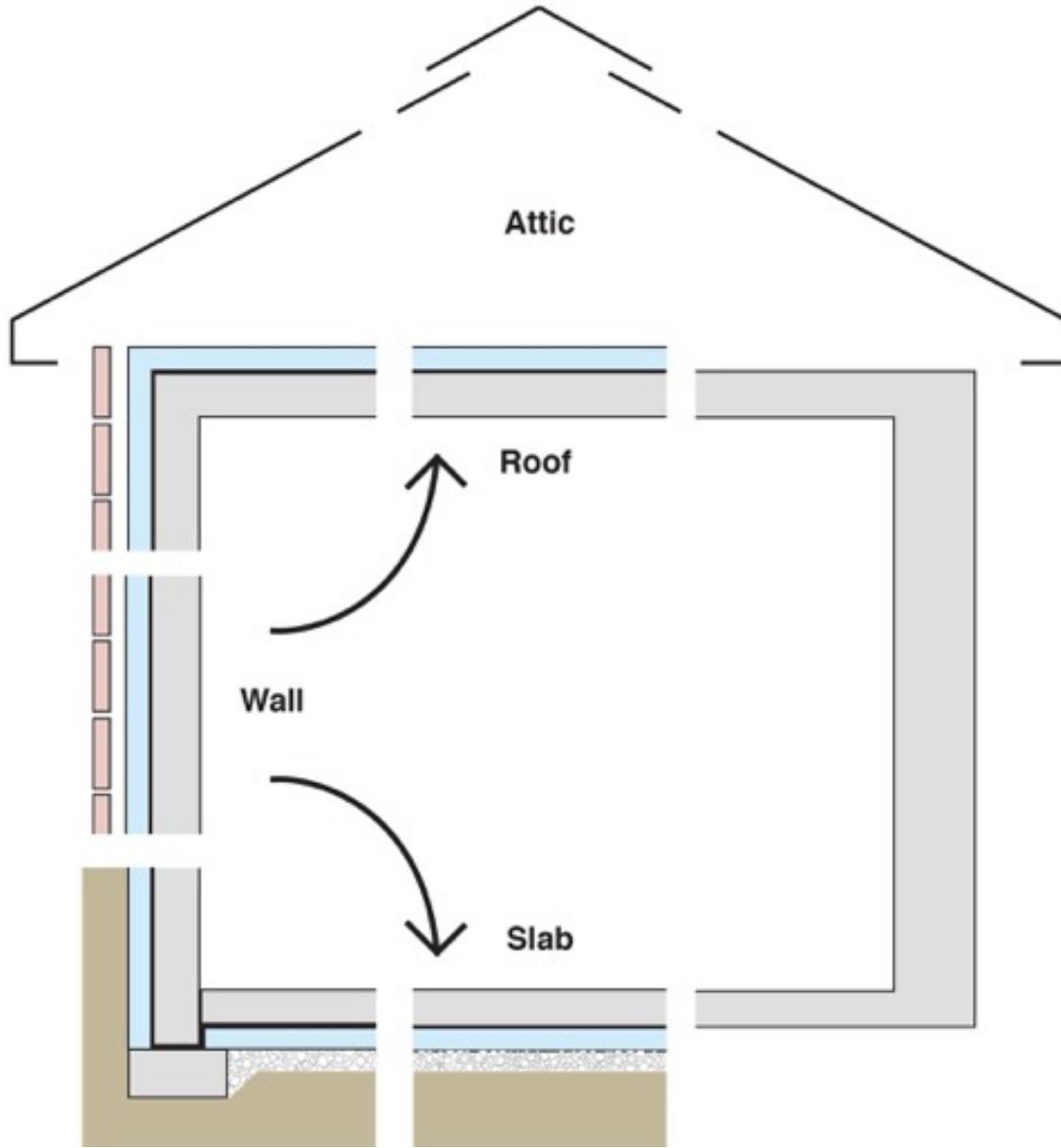


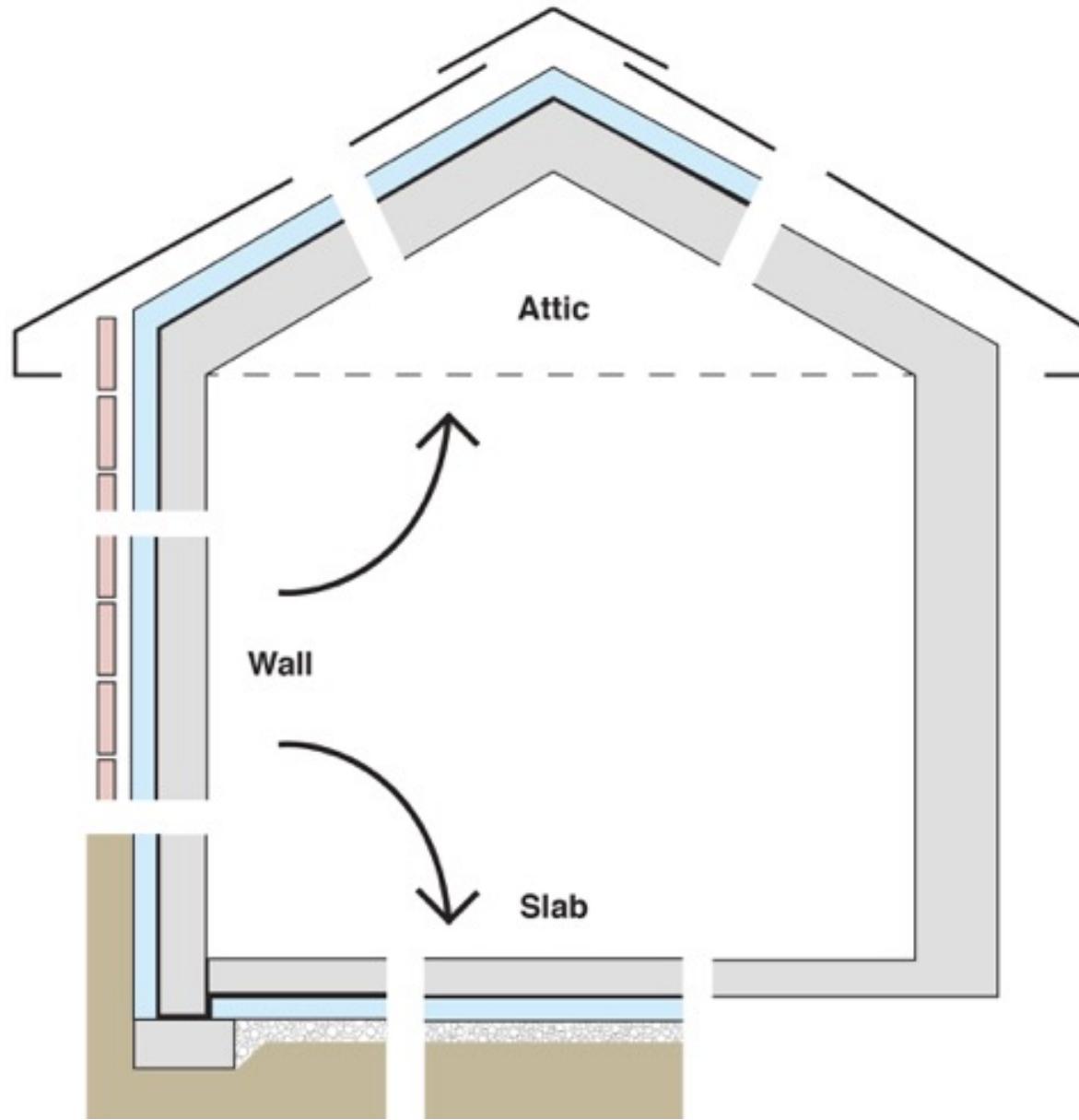


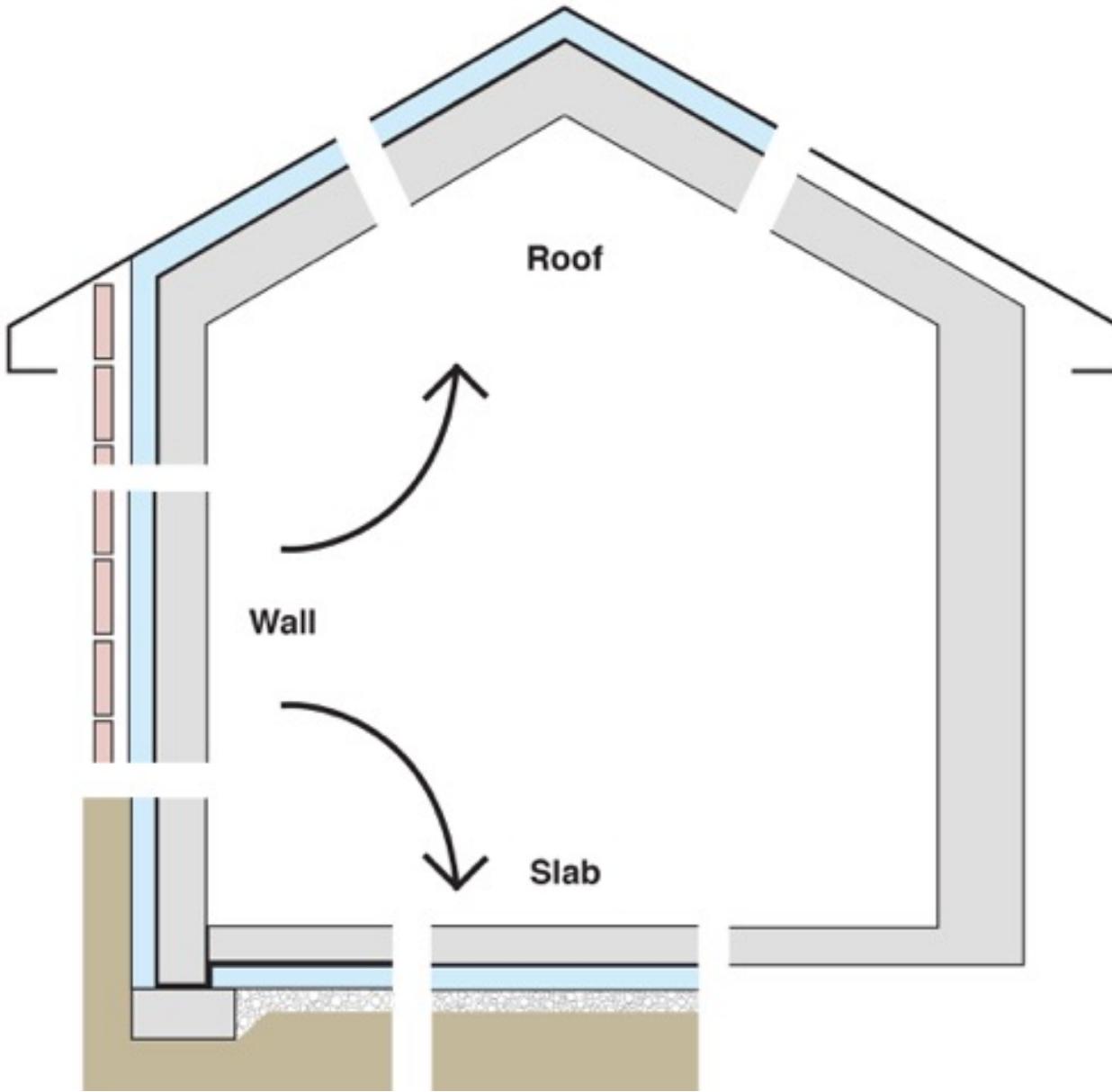


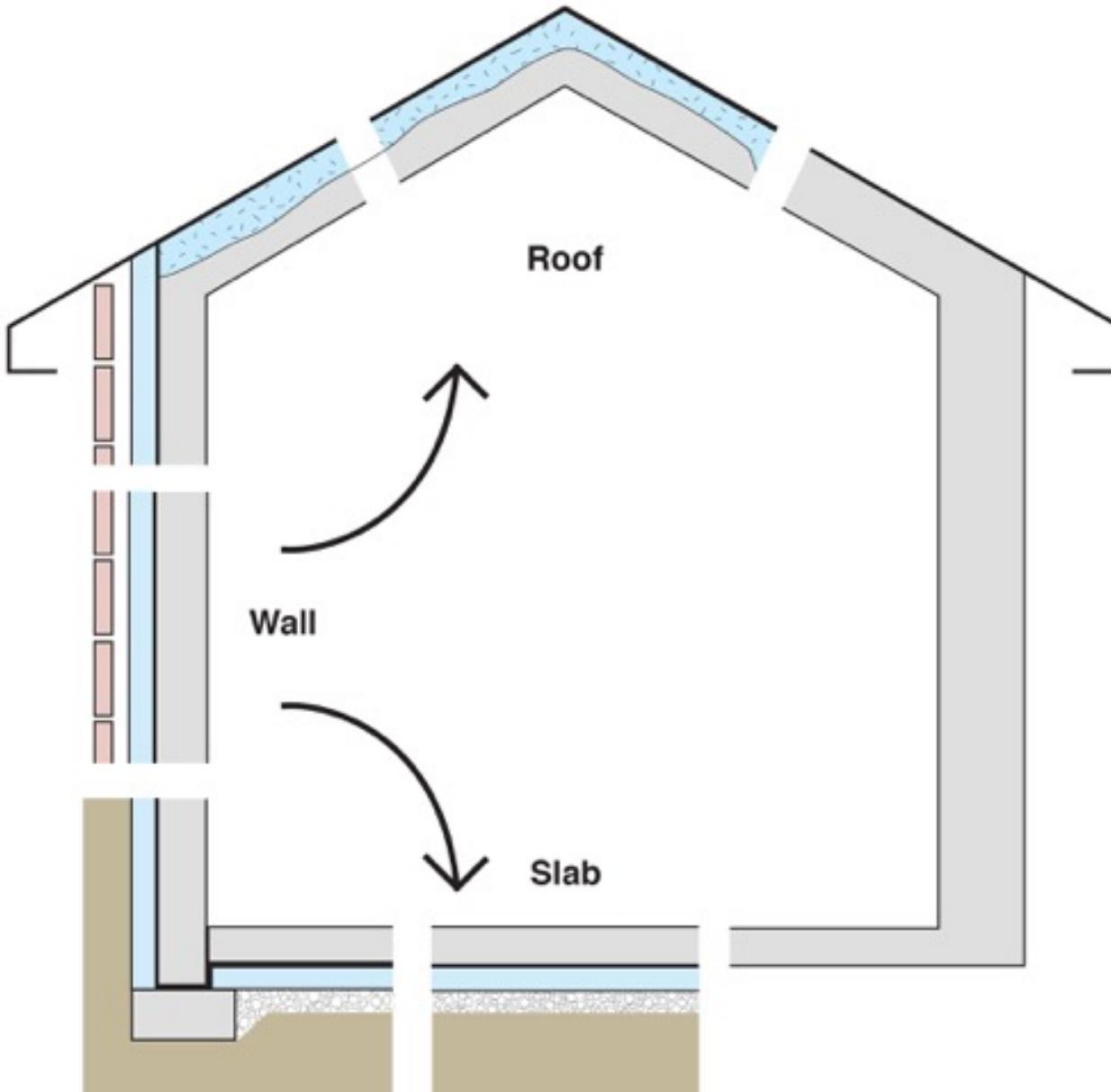
- ← Control layer
- ← Control layer
- ← Roof structure



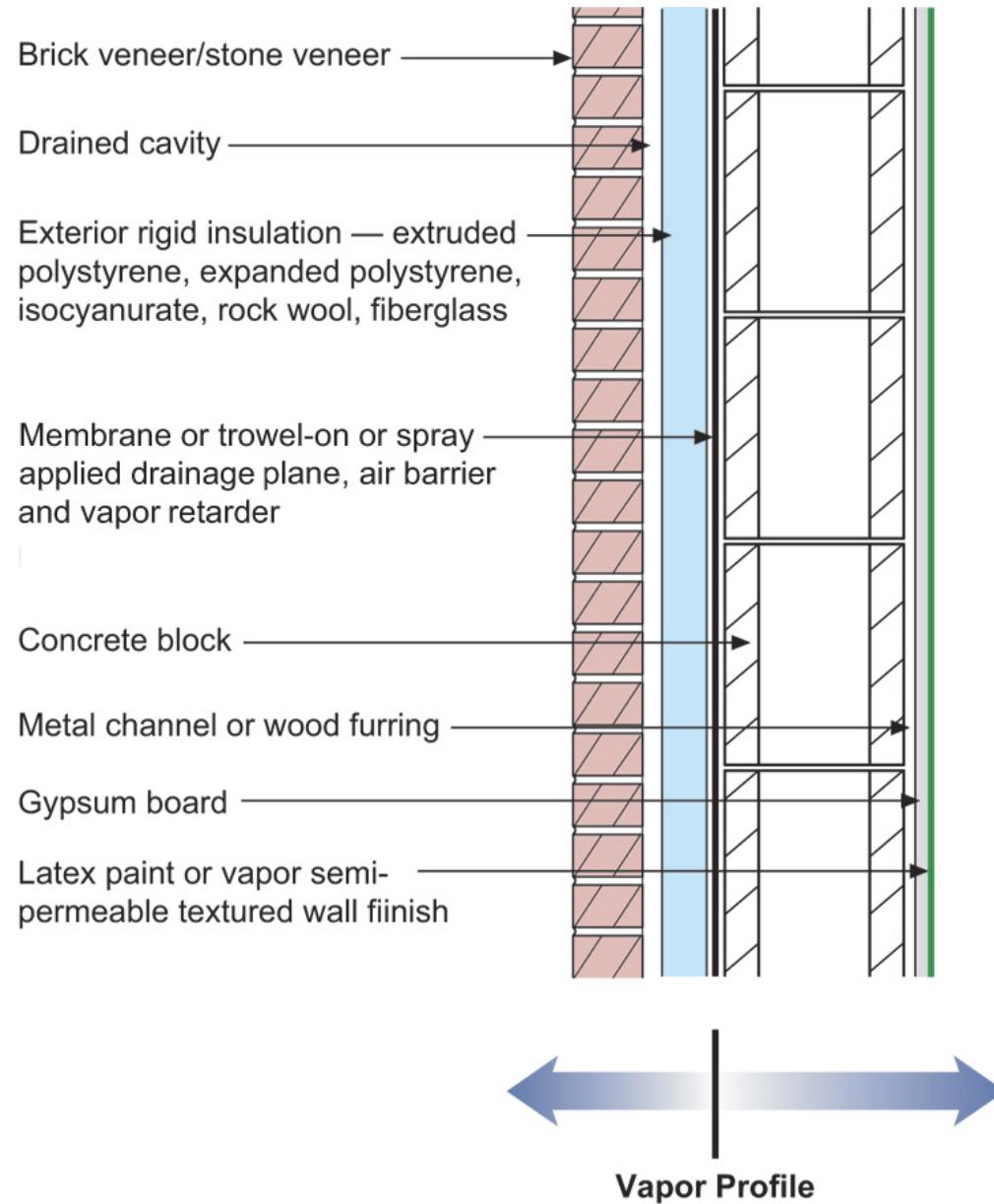


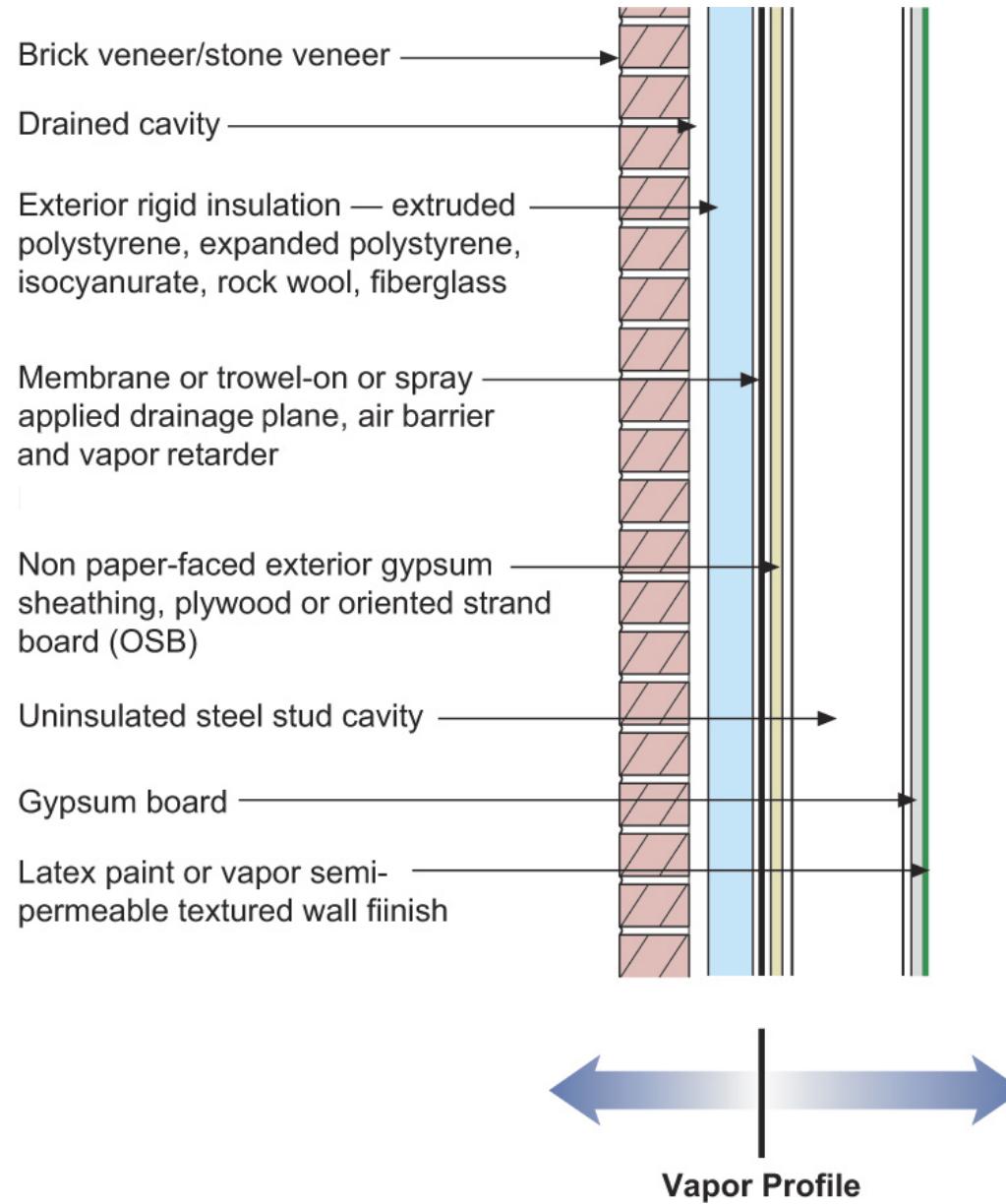


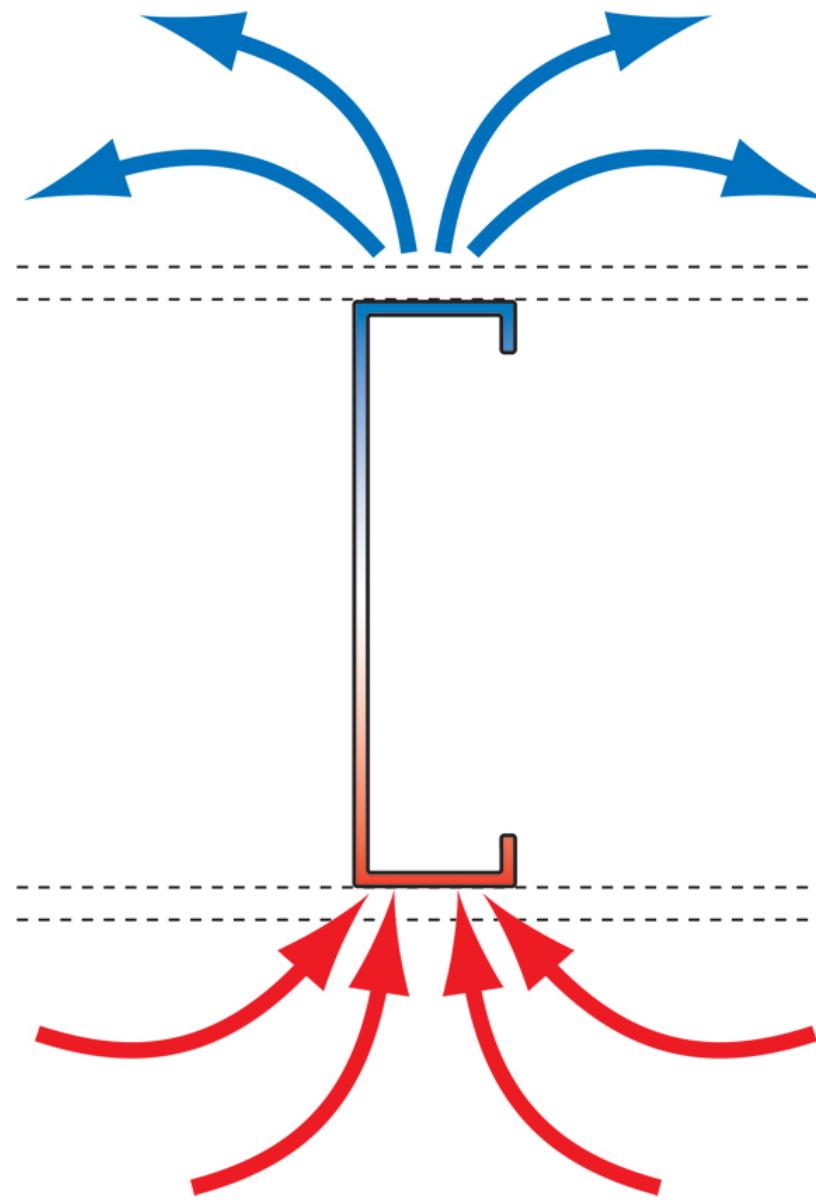




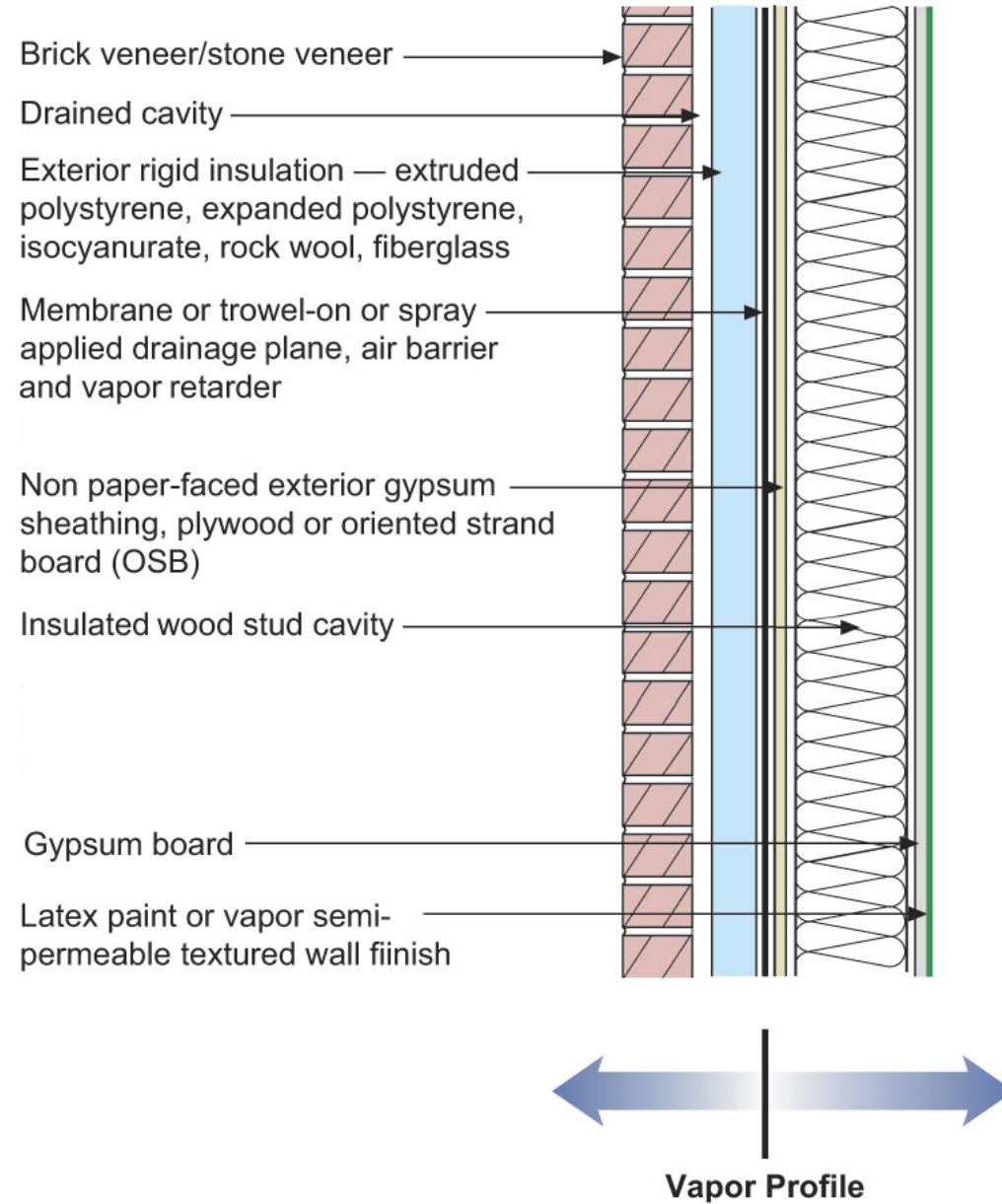
# Configurations of the Perfect Wall



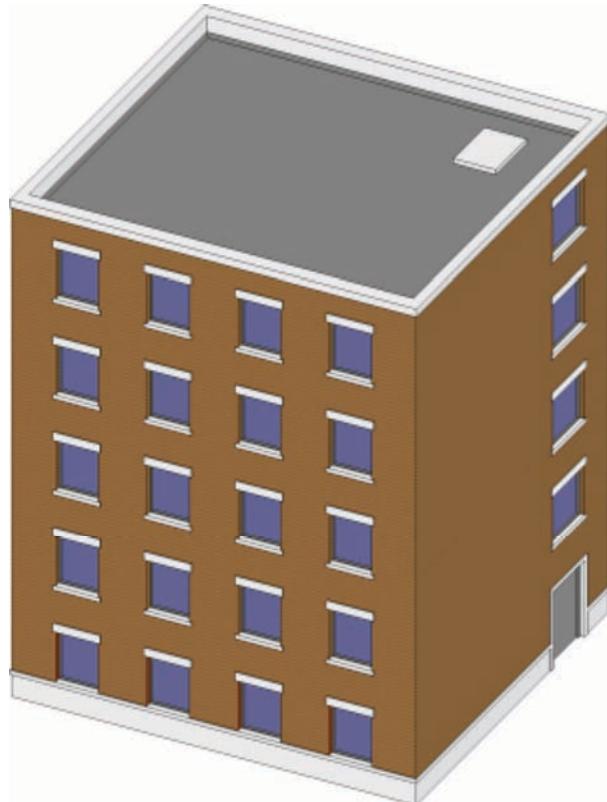




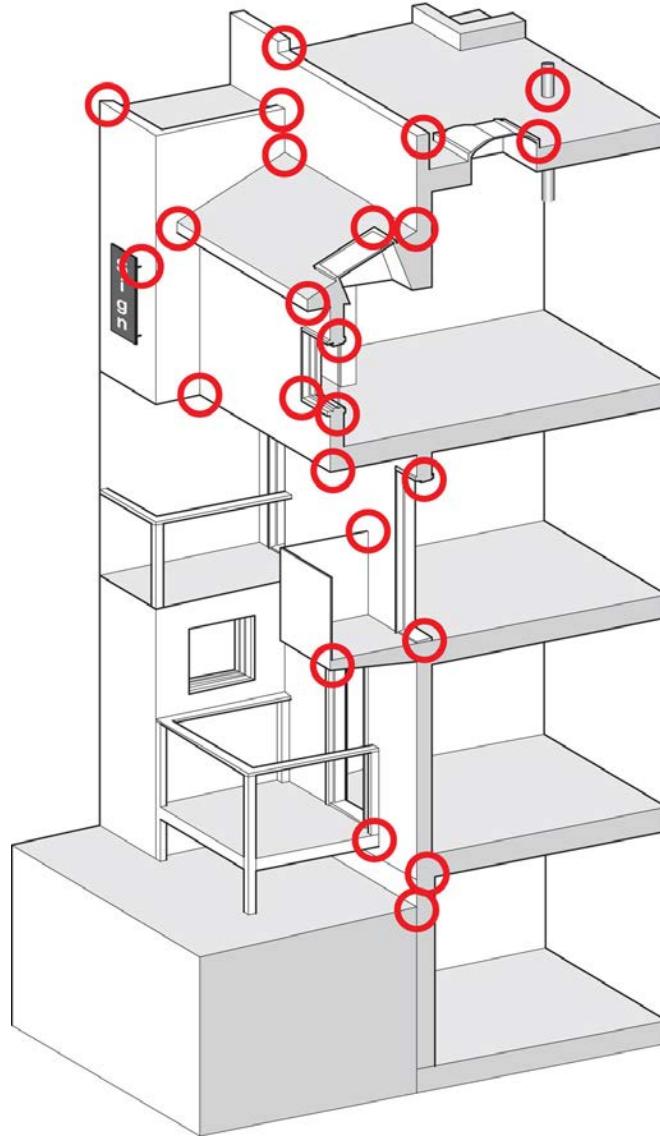




# Commercial Enclosure: Simple Layers



- Structure
- Rain/Air/Vapor
- Insulation
- Finish







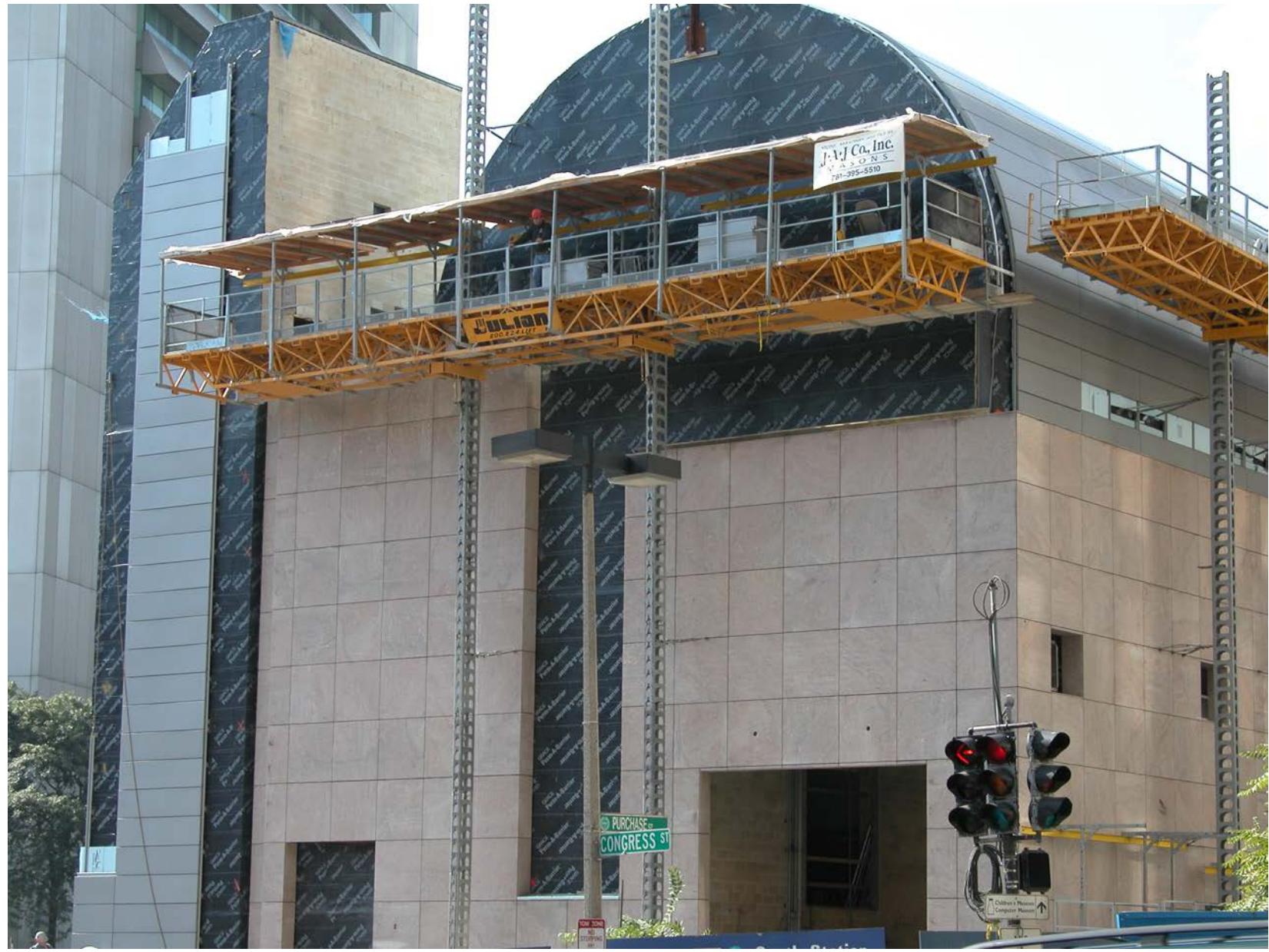


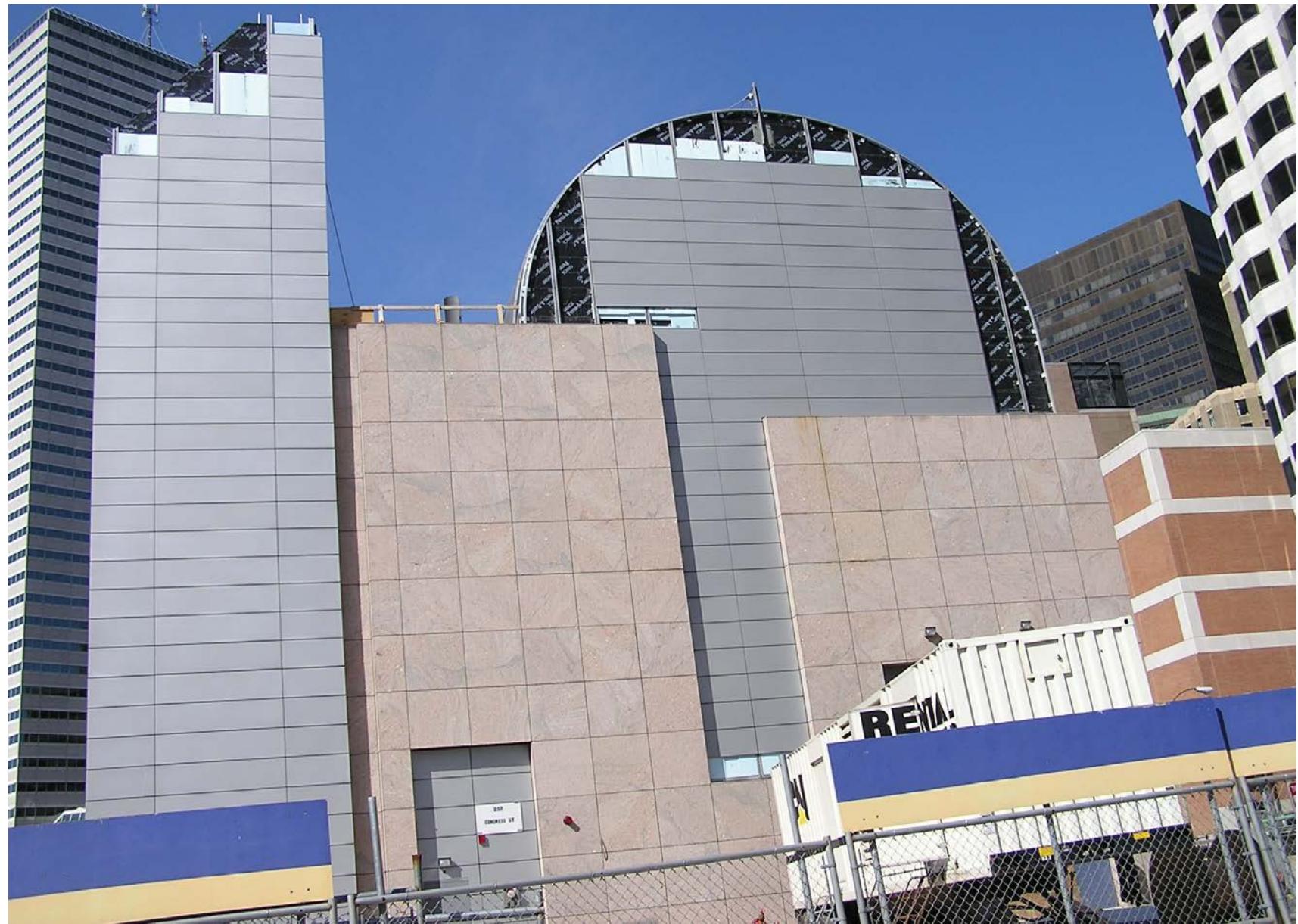




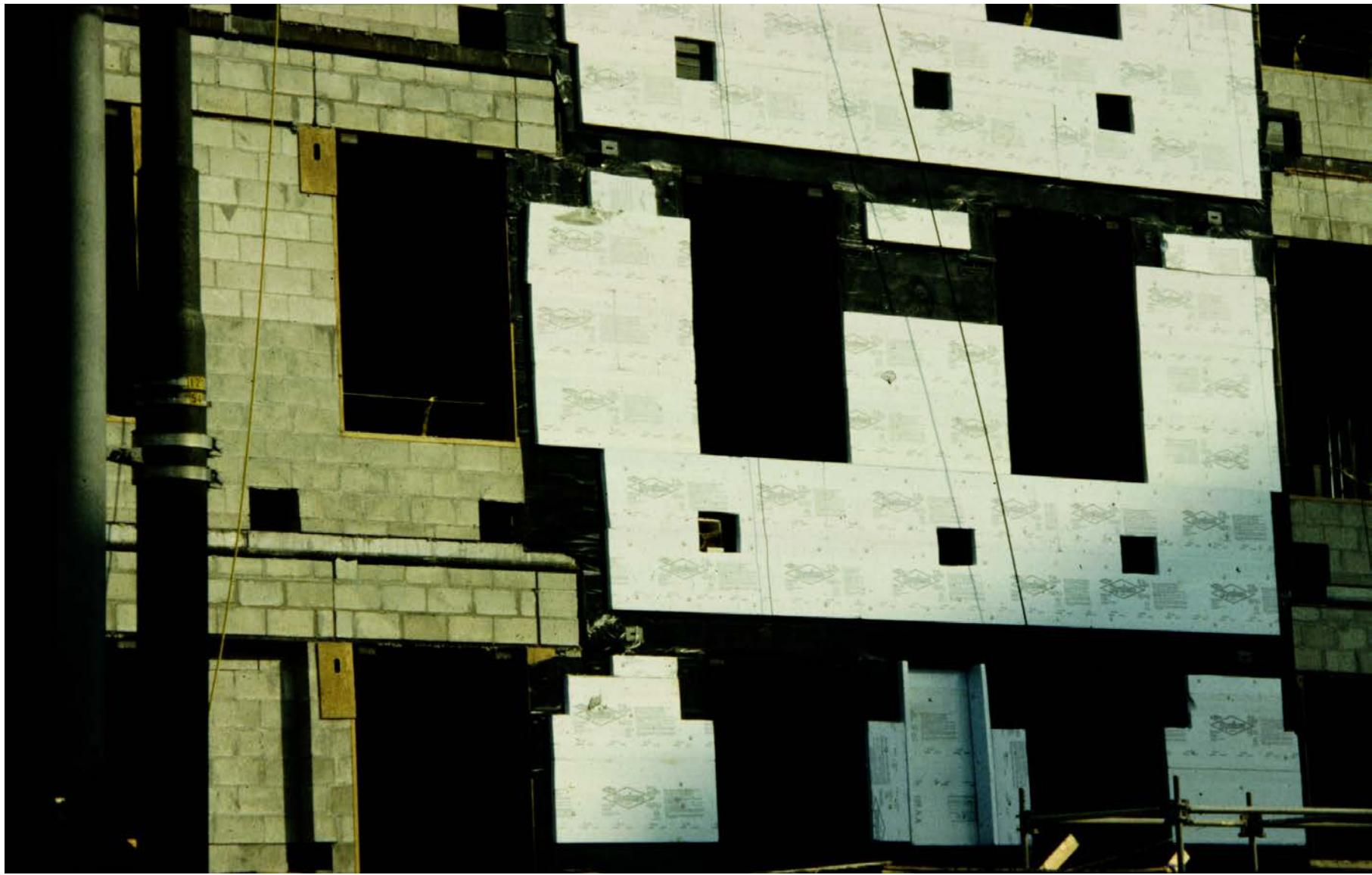














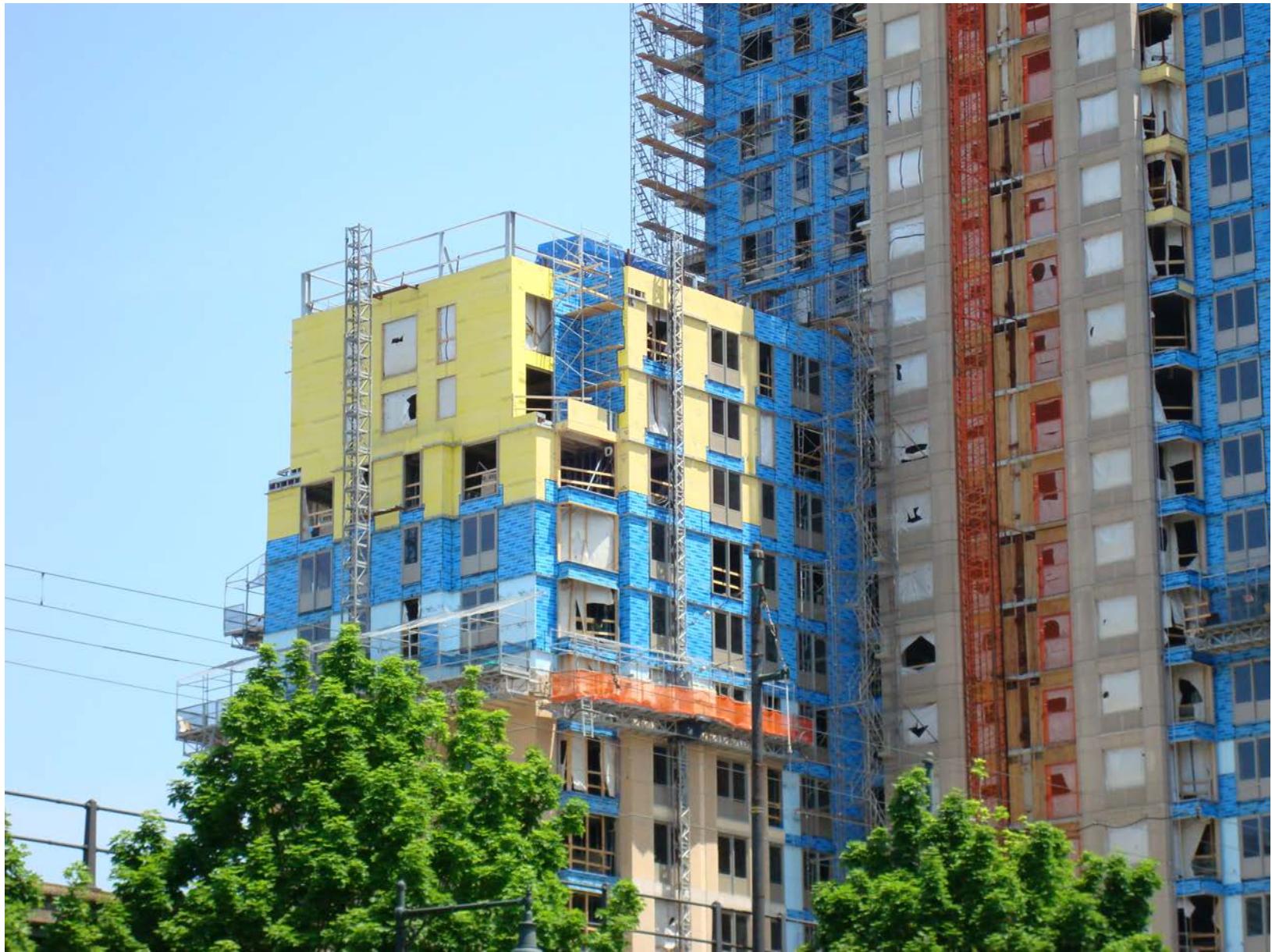
























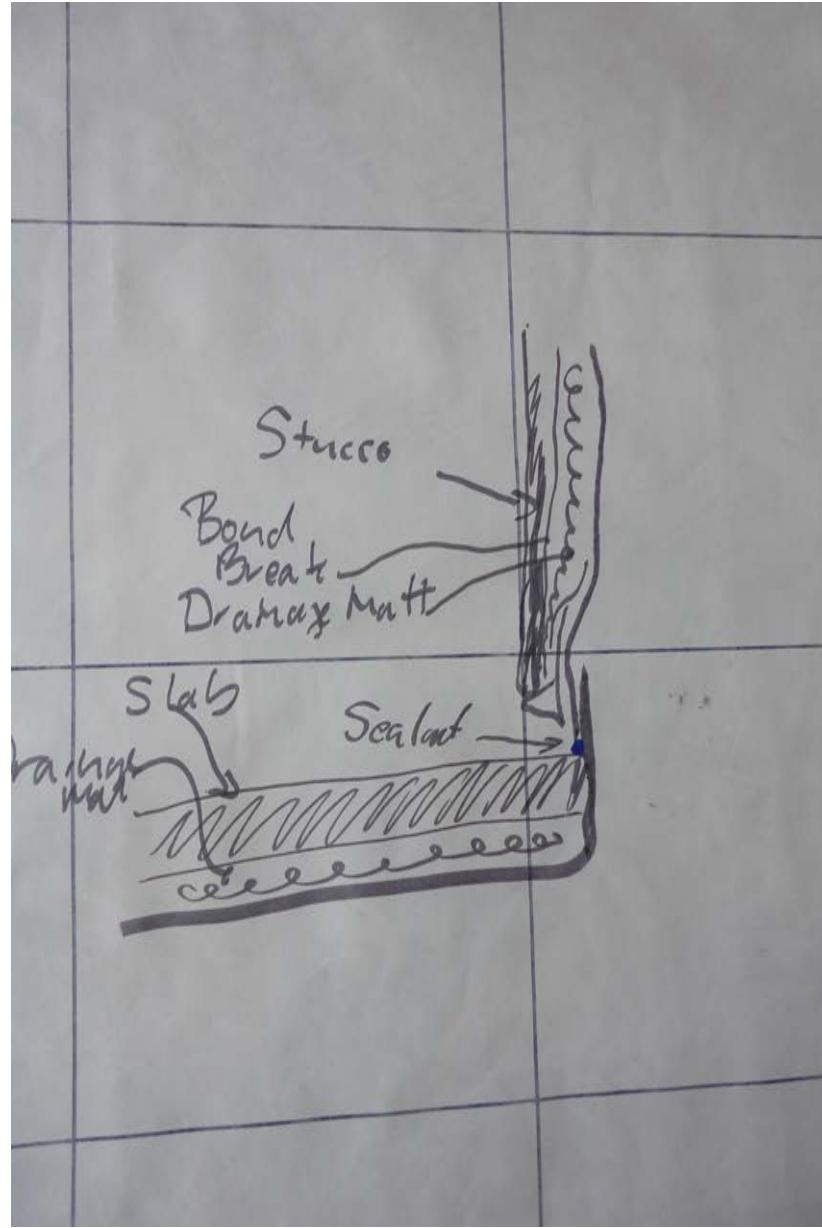






















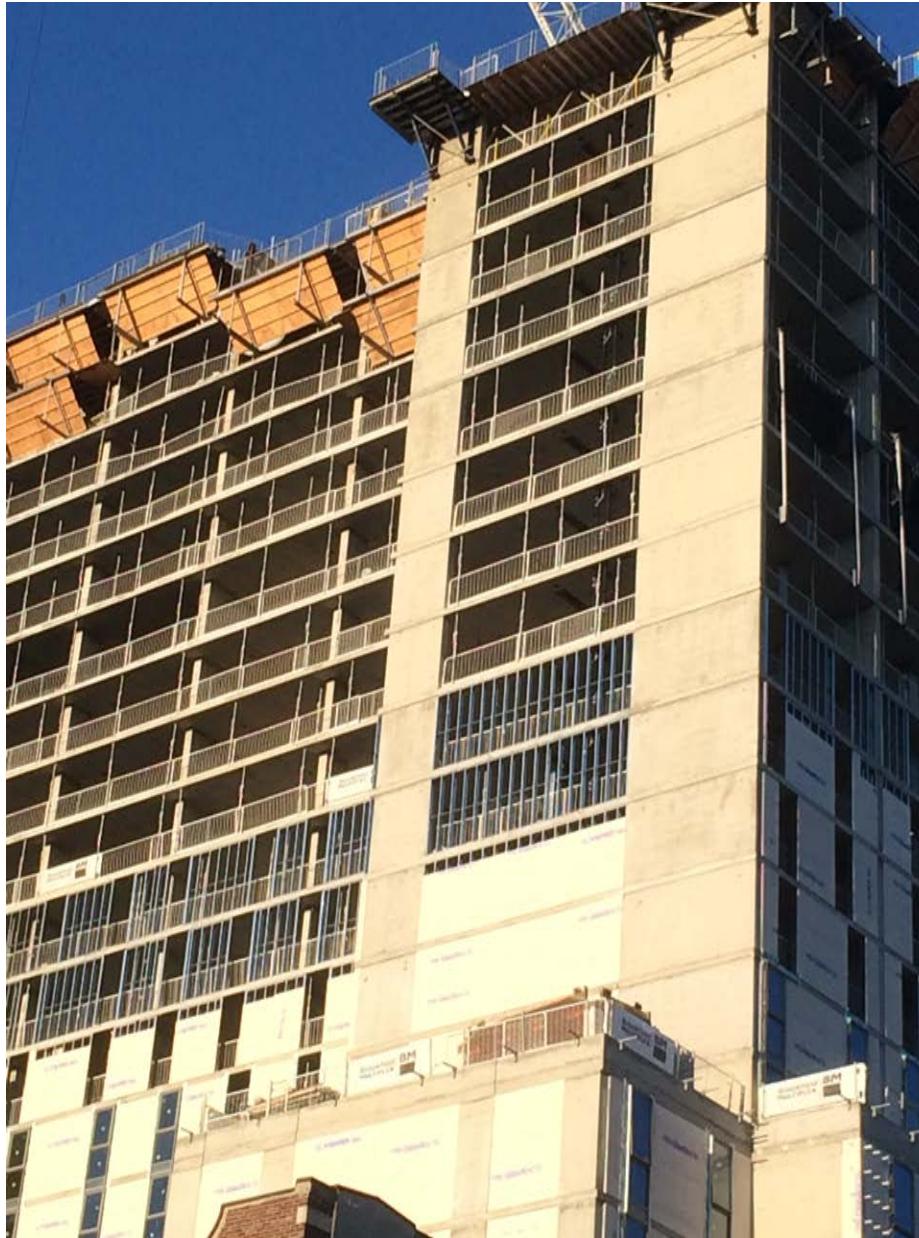








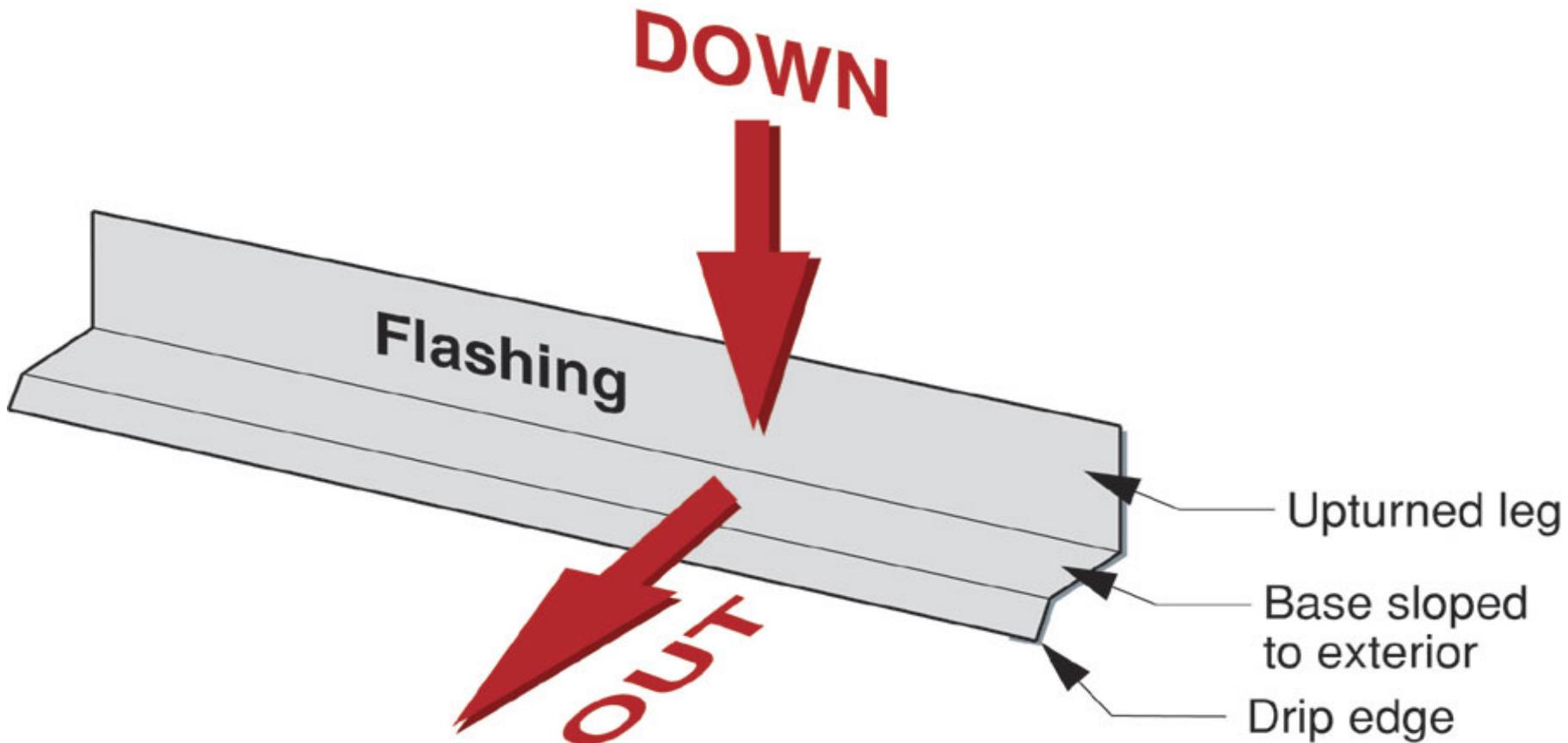


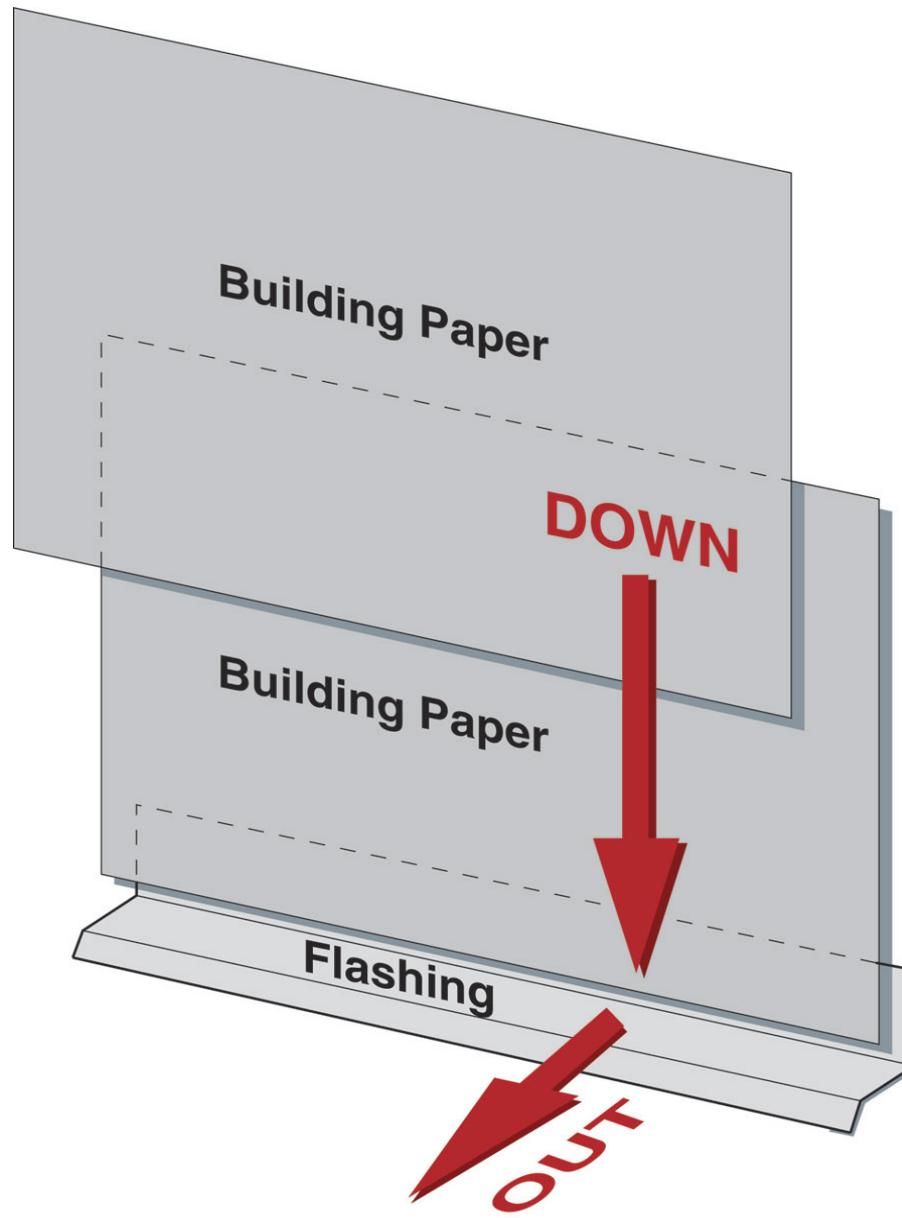








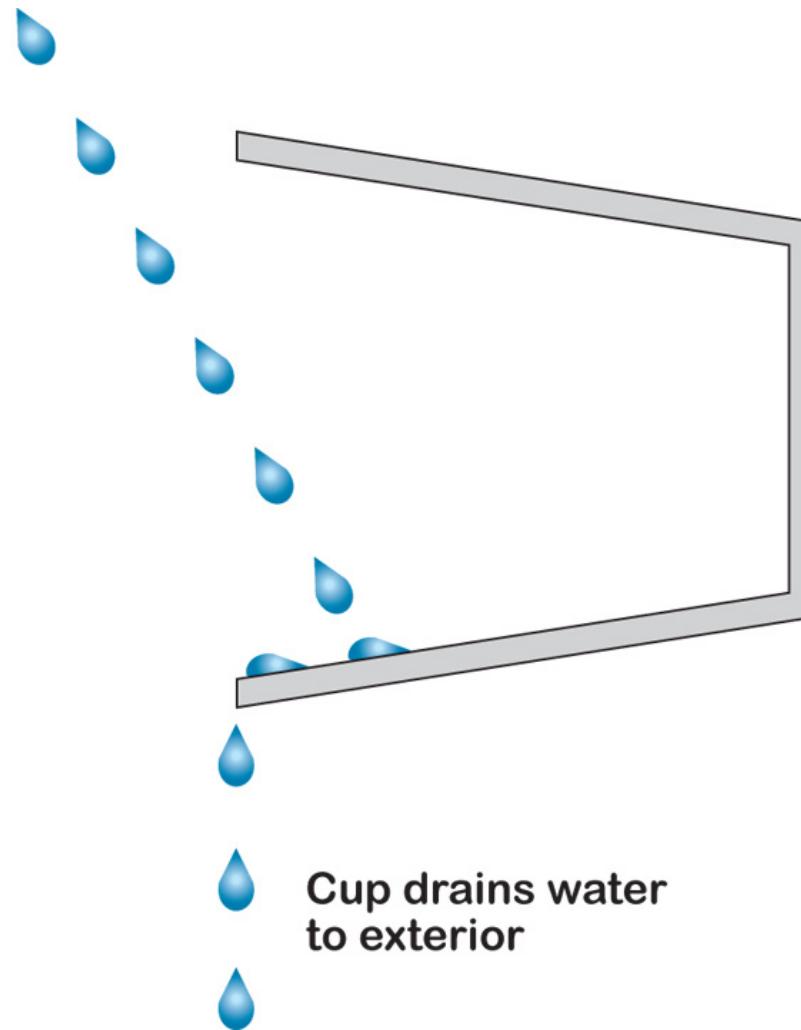








Rain enters cup  
due to momentum  
("kinetic energy")



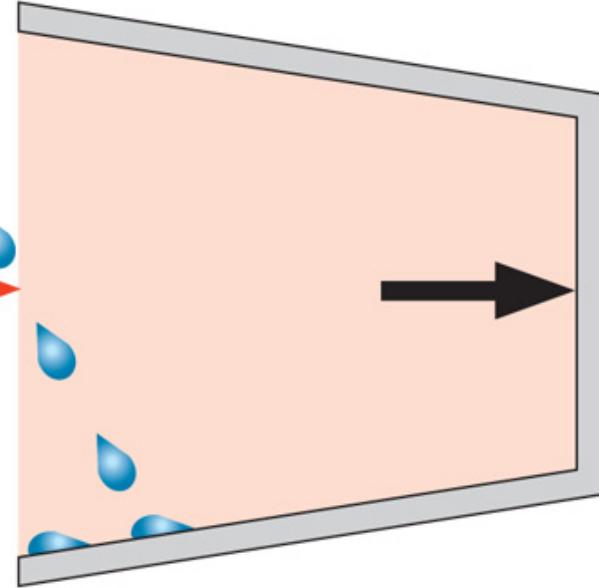
Rain enters cup  
due to momentum  
("kinetic energy")



Wind enters cup—  
pressurizing cup;  
no rain entry due  
to wind driven rain

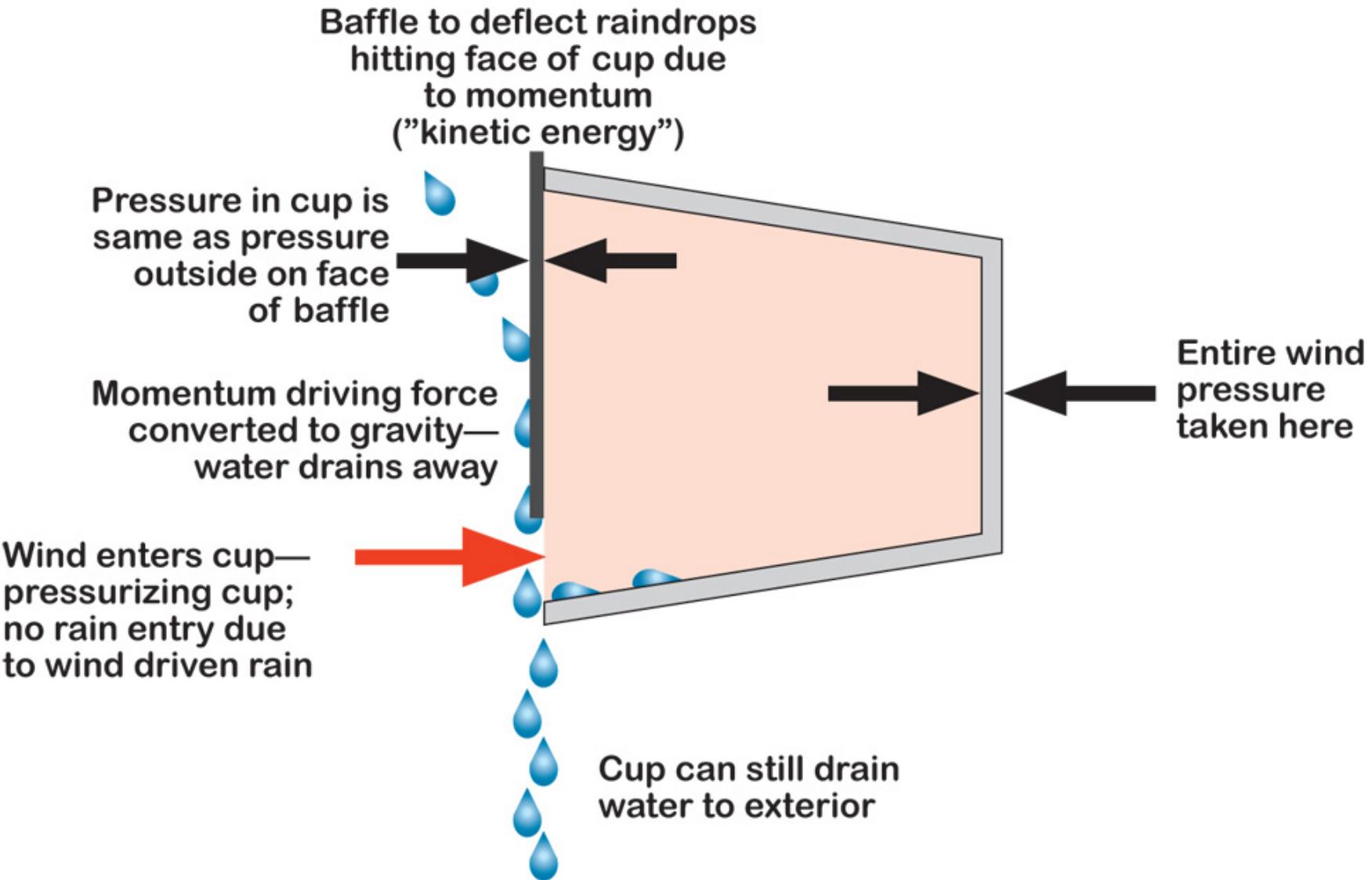


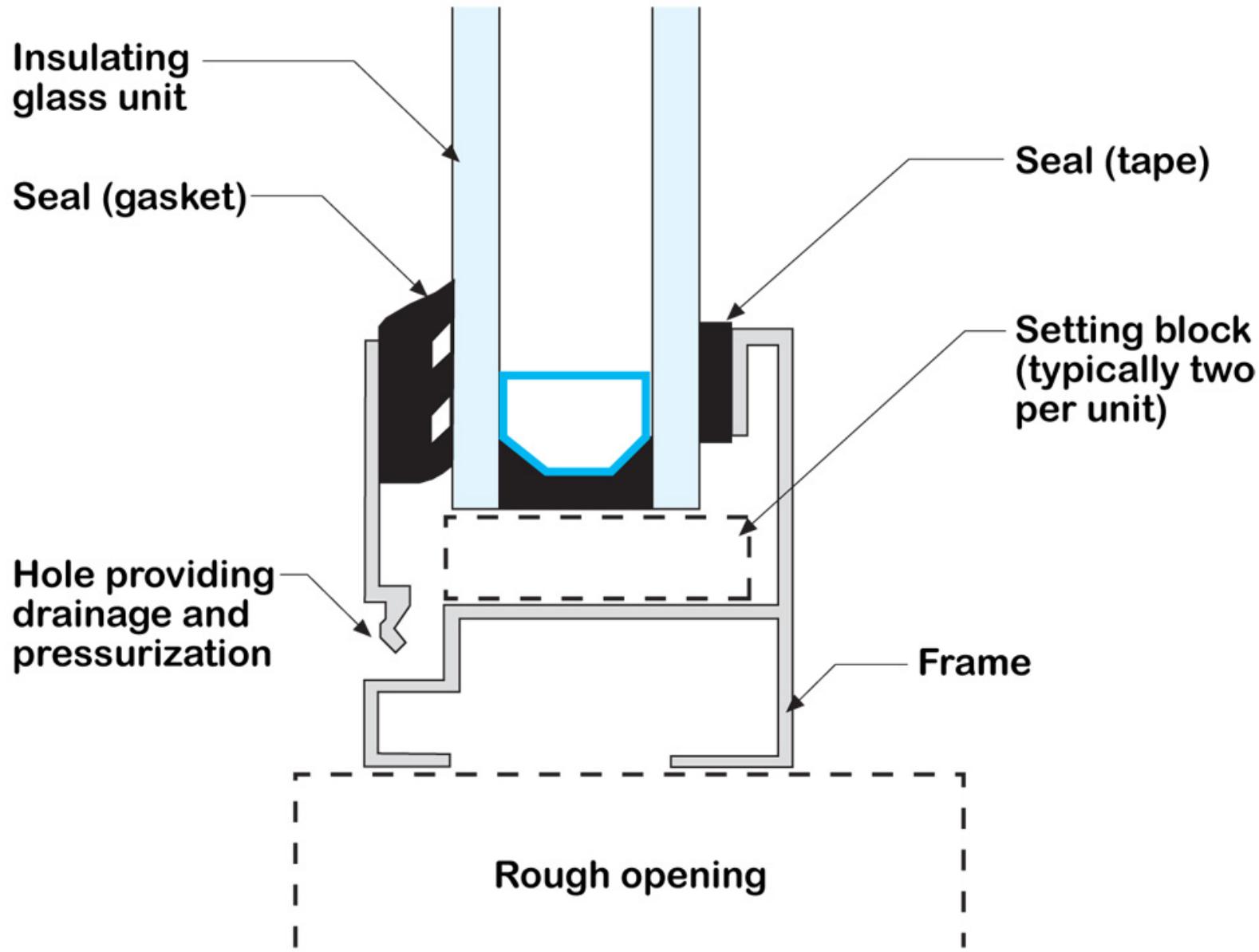
Entire wind  
pressure  
taken here

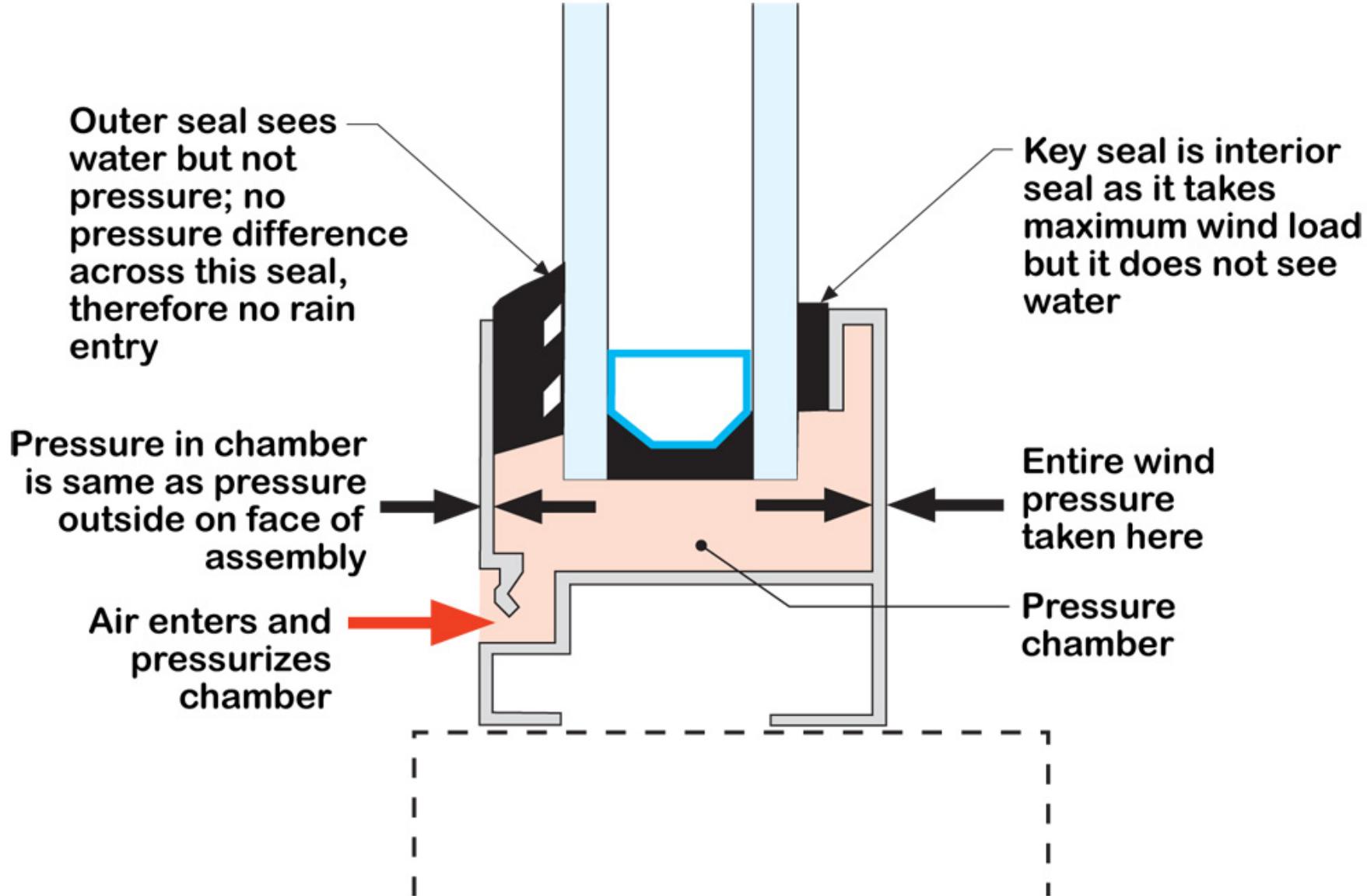


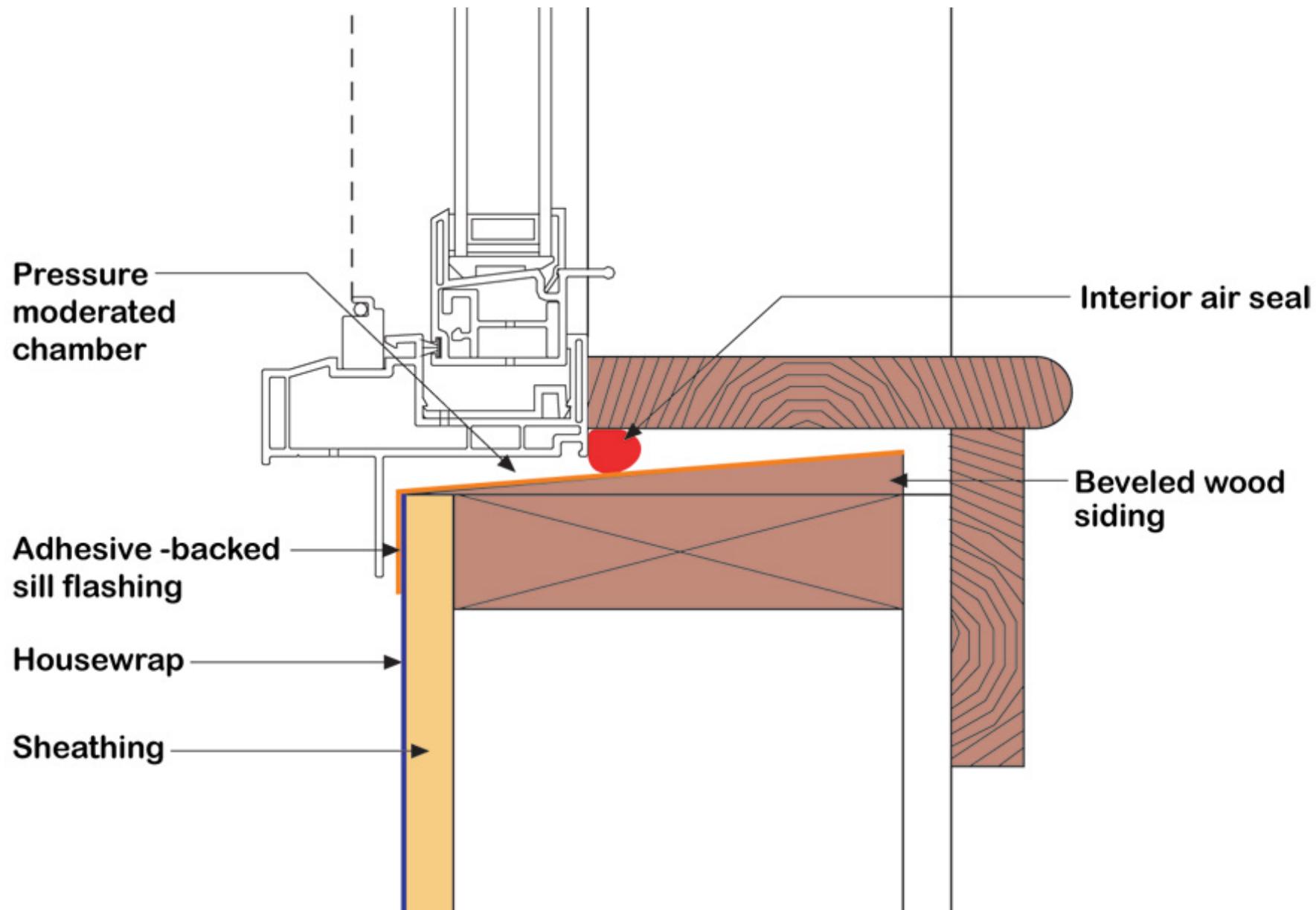
Cup can still drain  
water to exterior











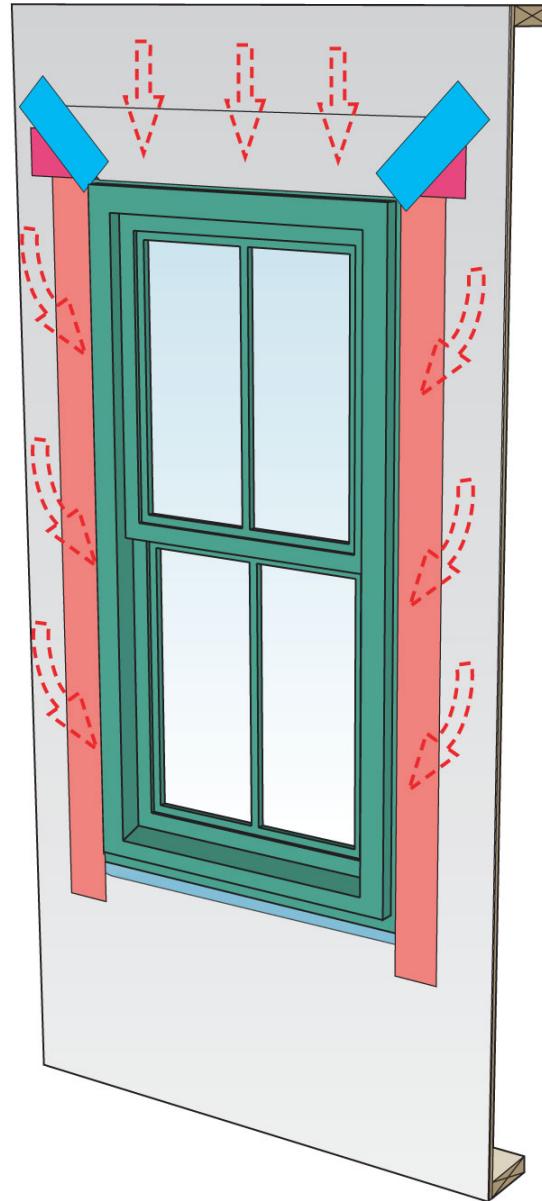


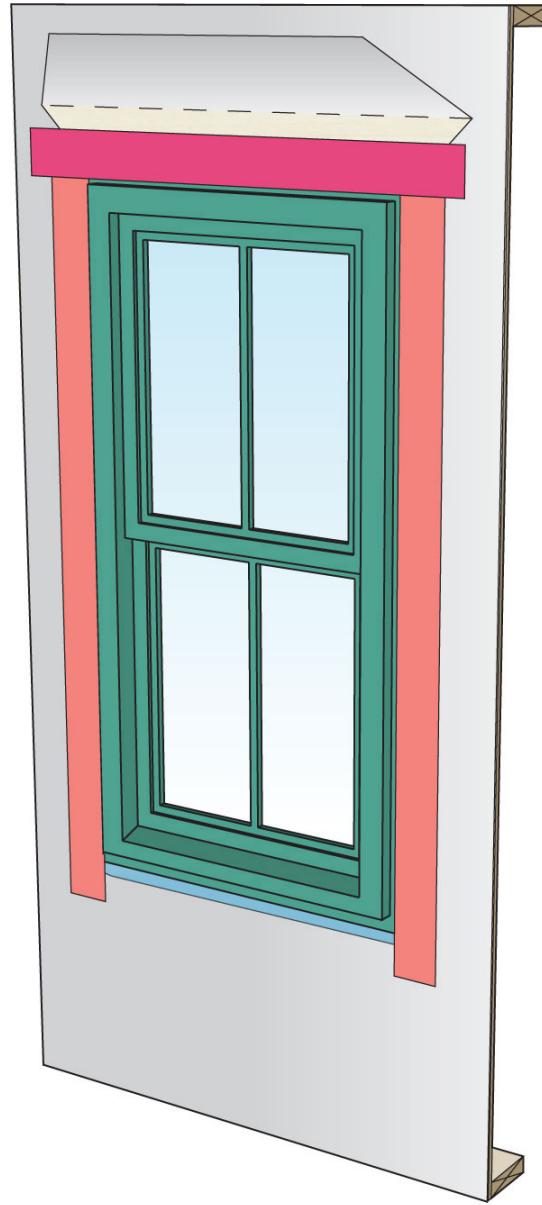




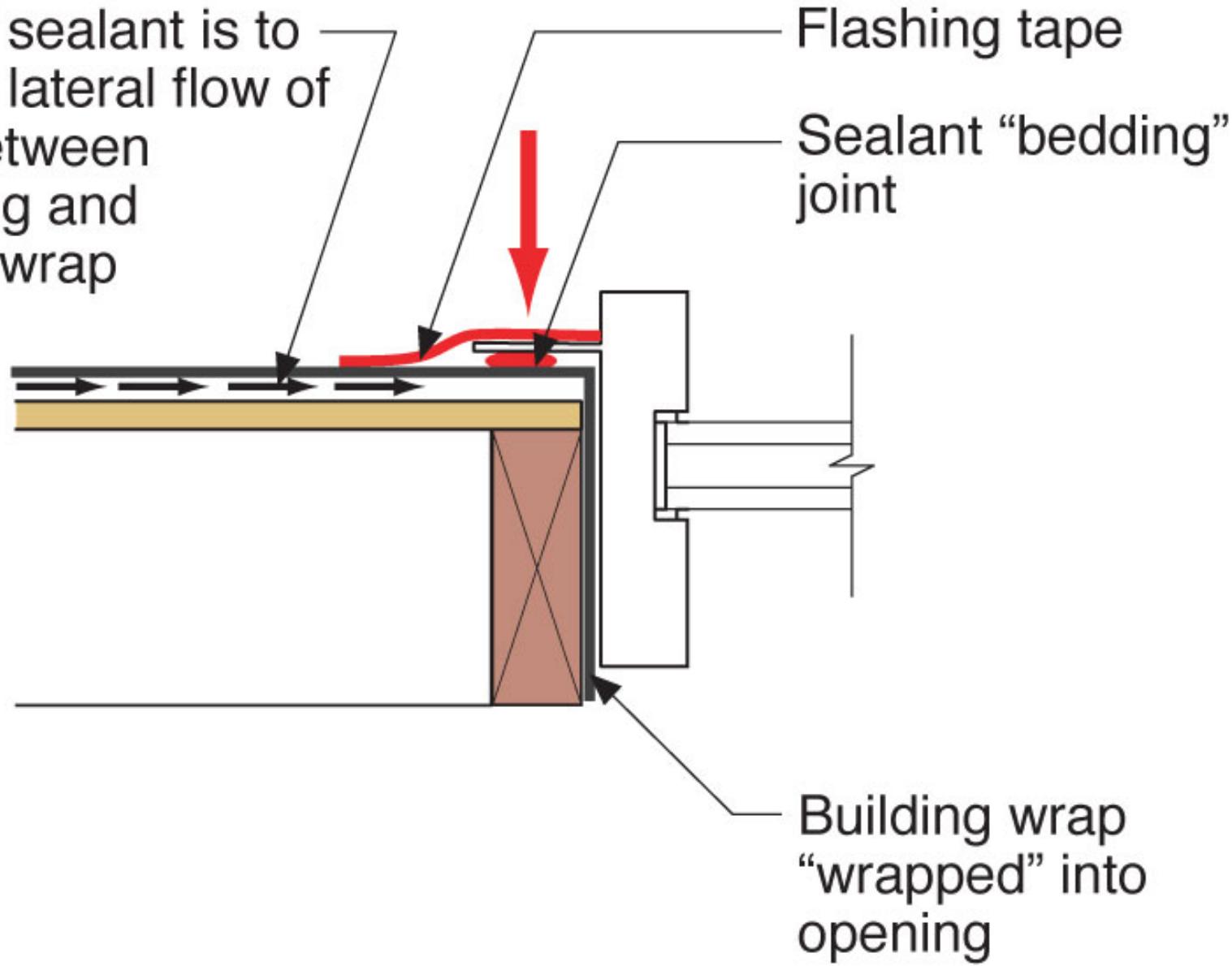


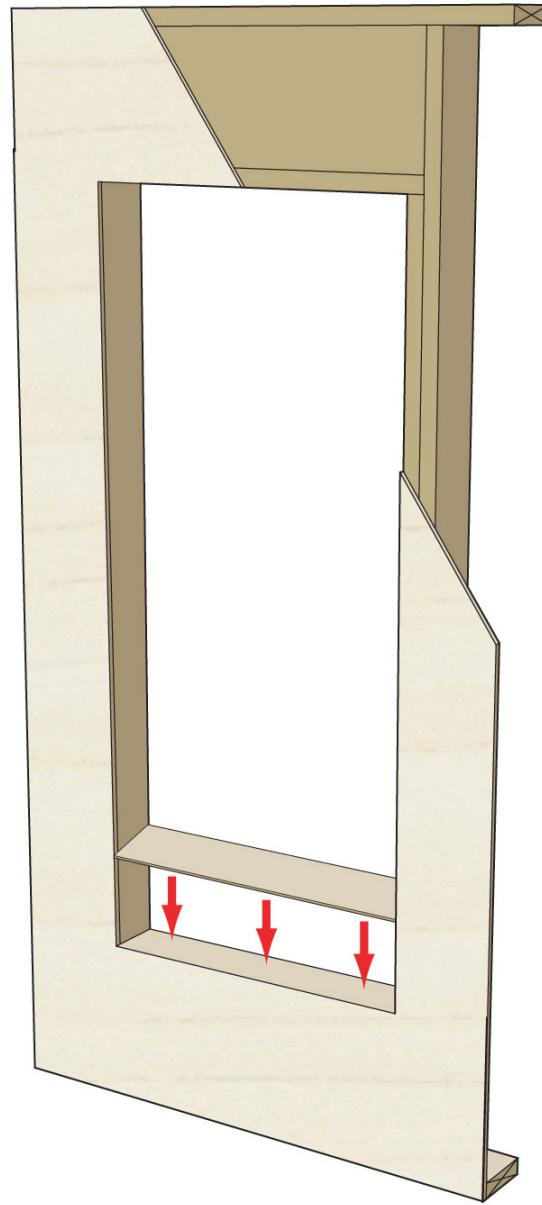


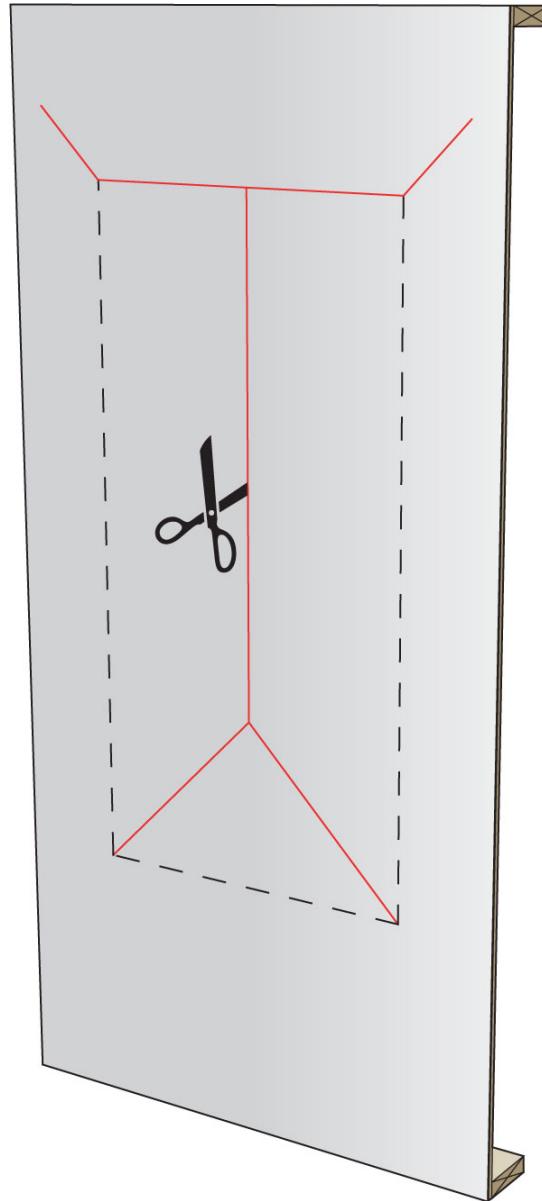


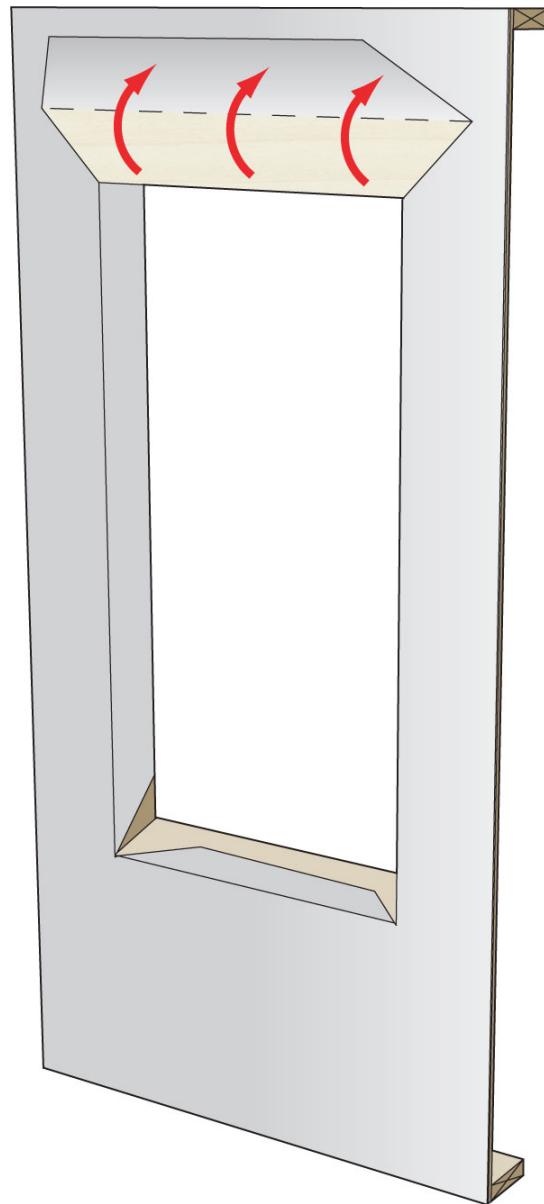


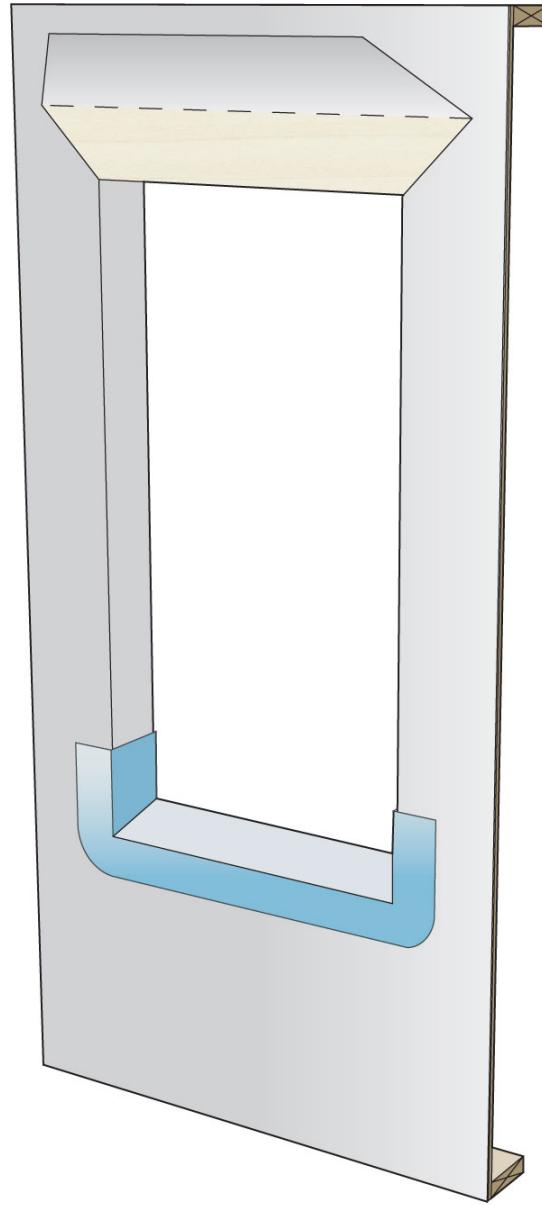
Intent of sealant is to limit this lateral flow of water between sheathing and building wrap

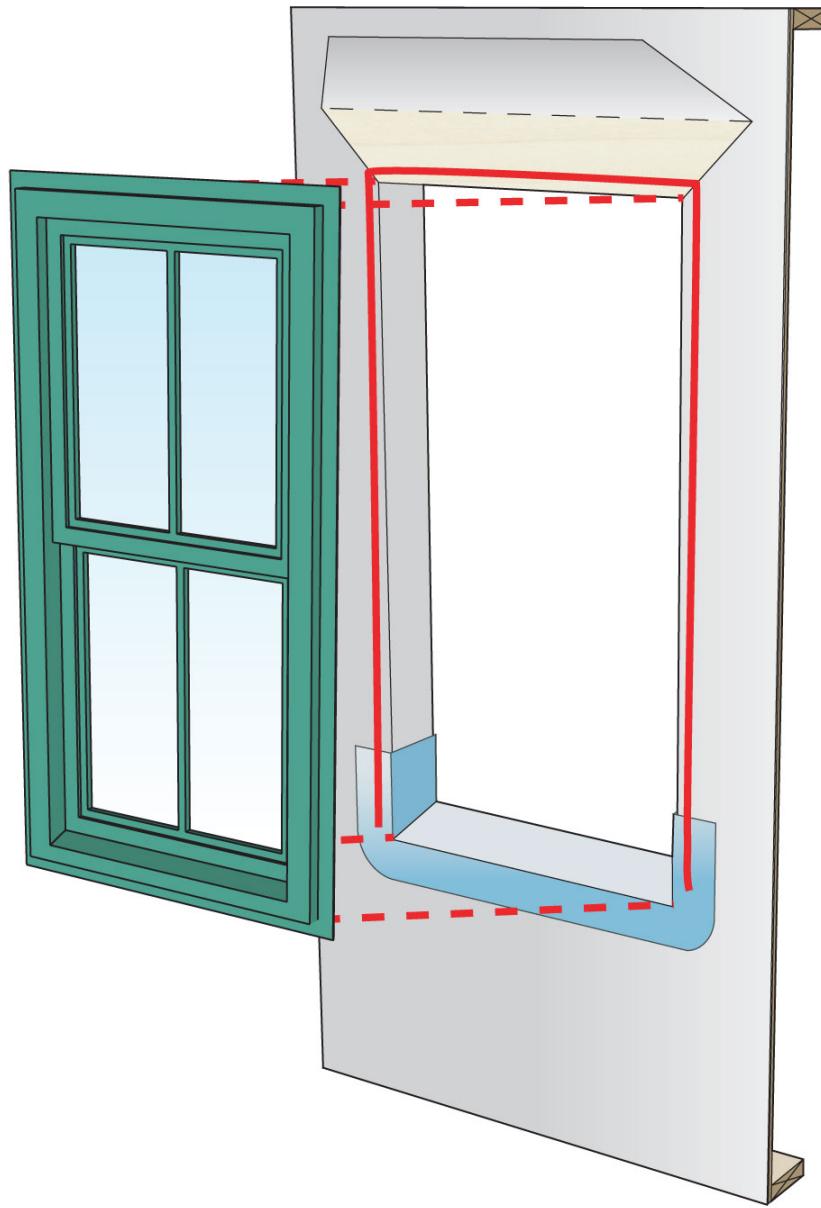


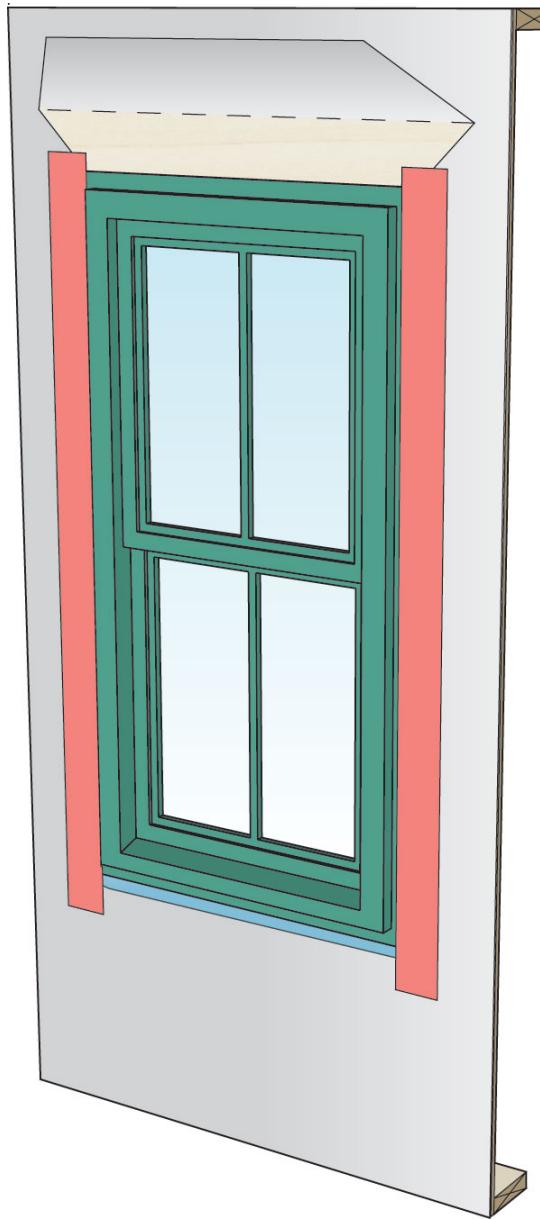


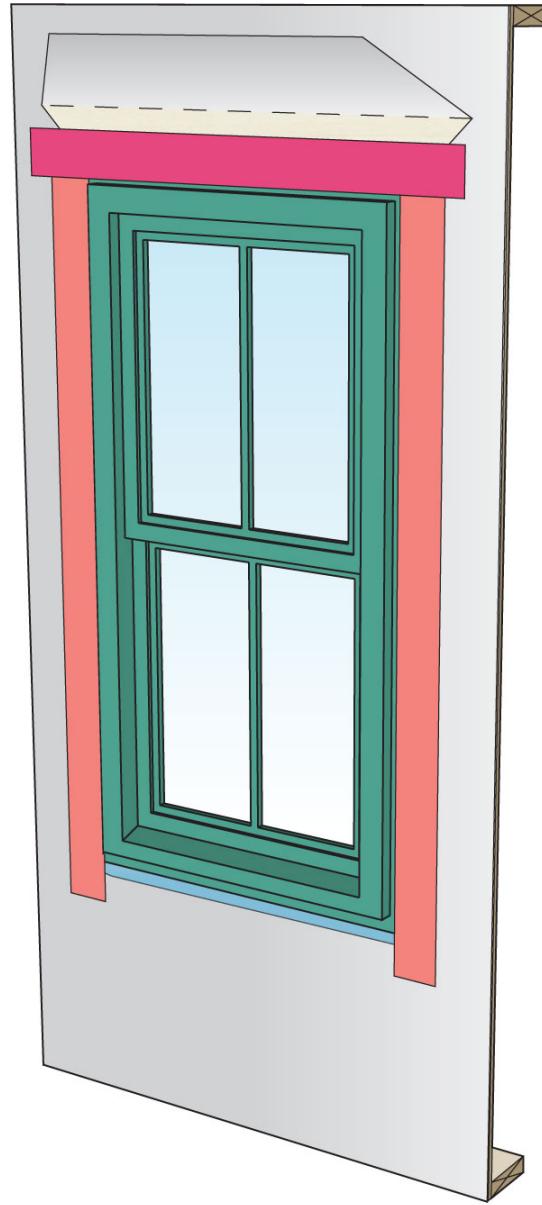


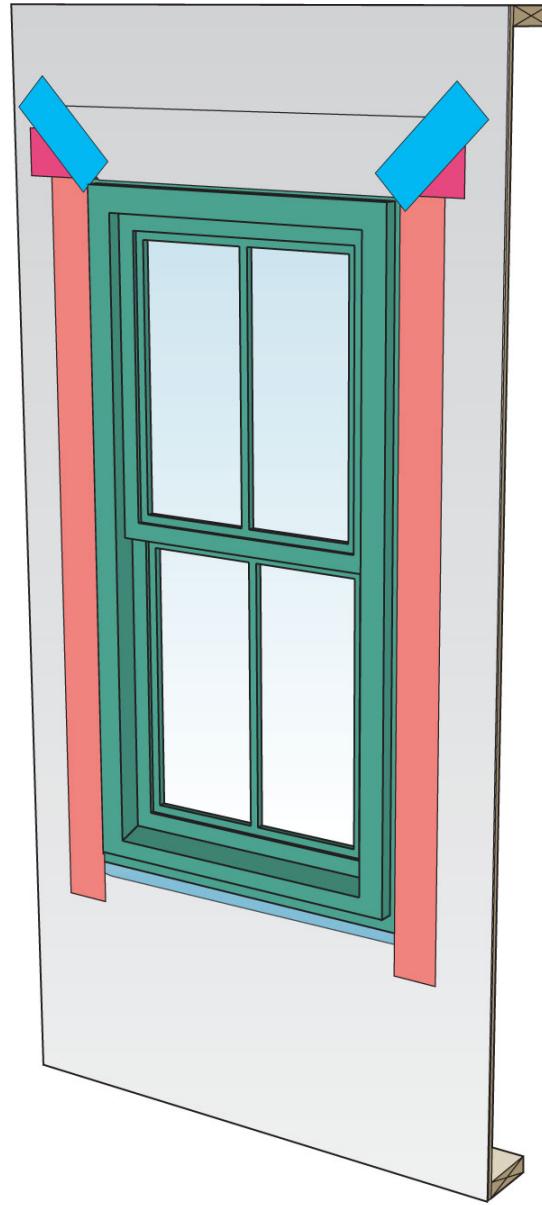


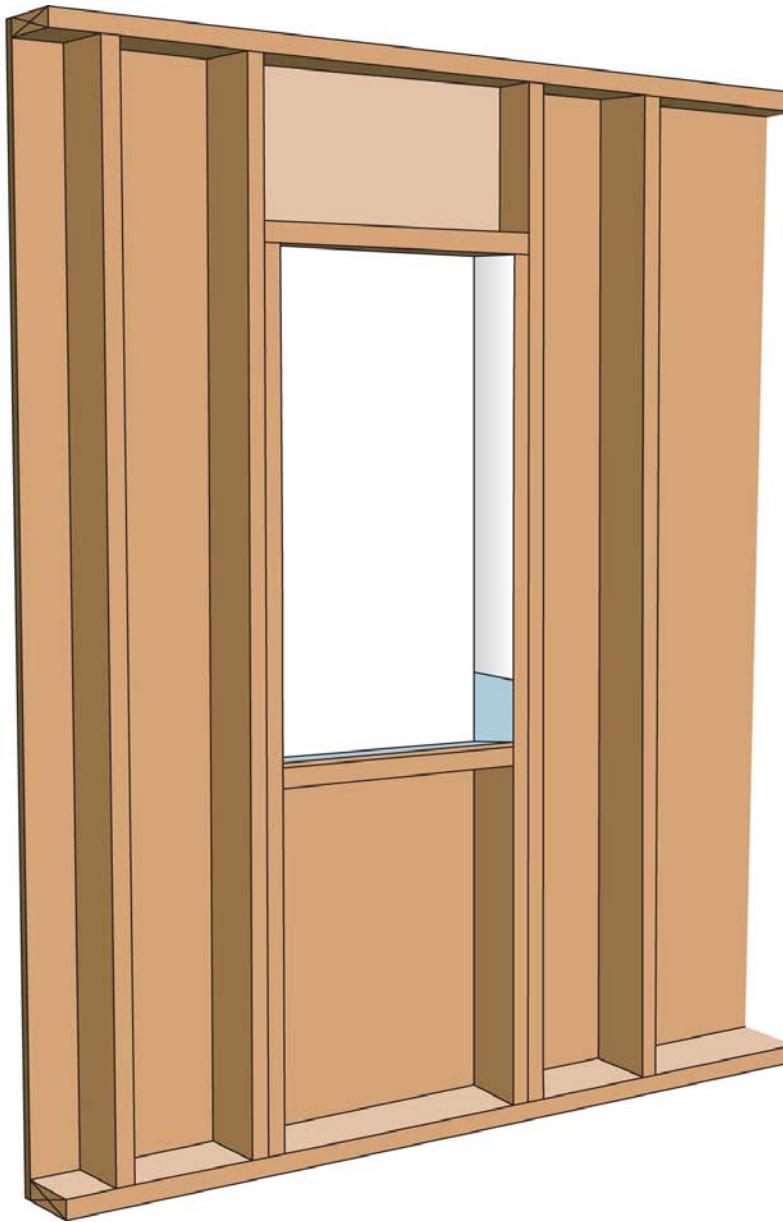








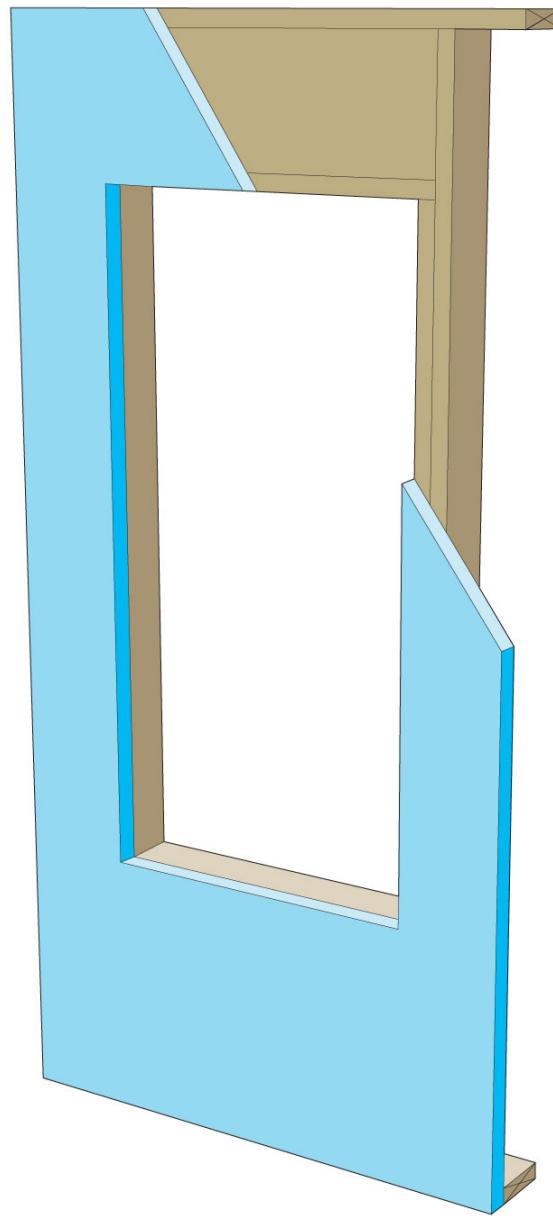


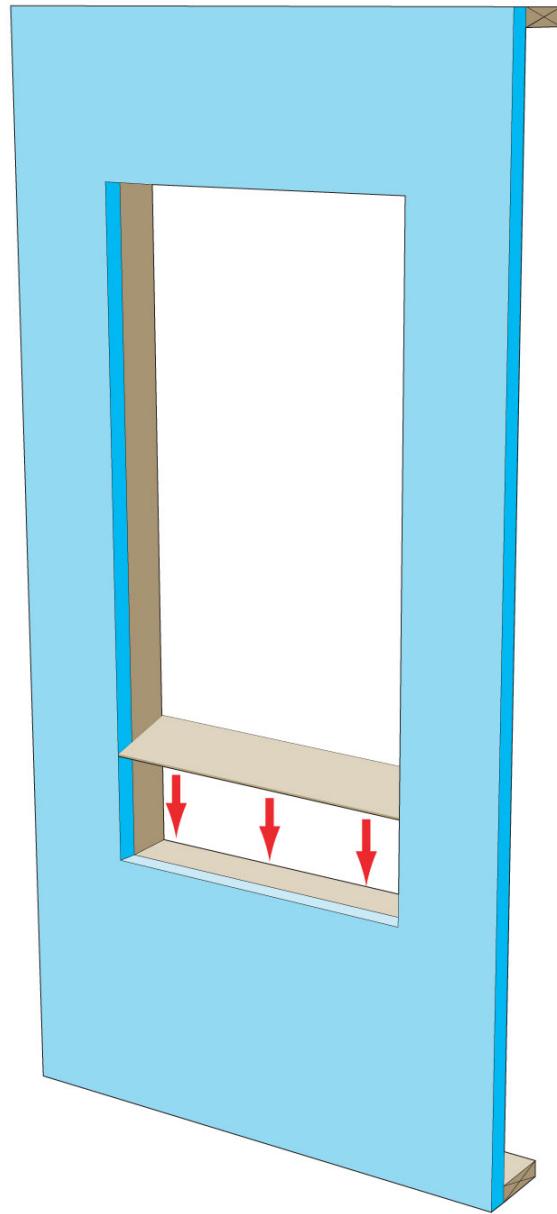


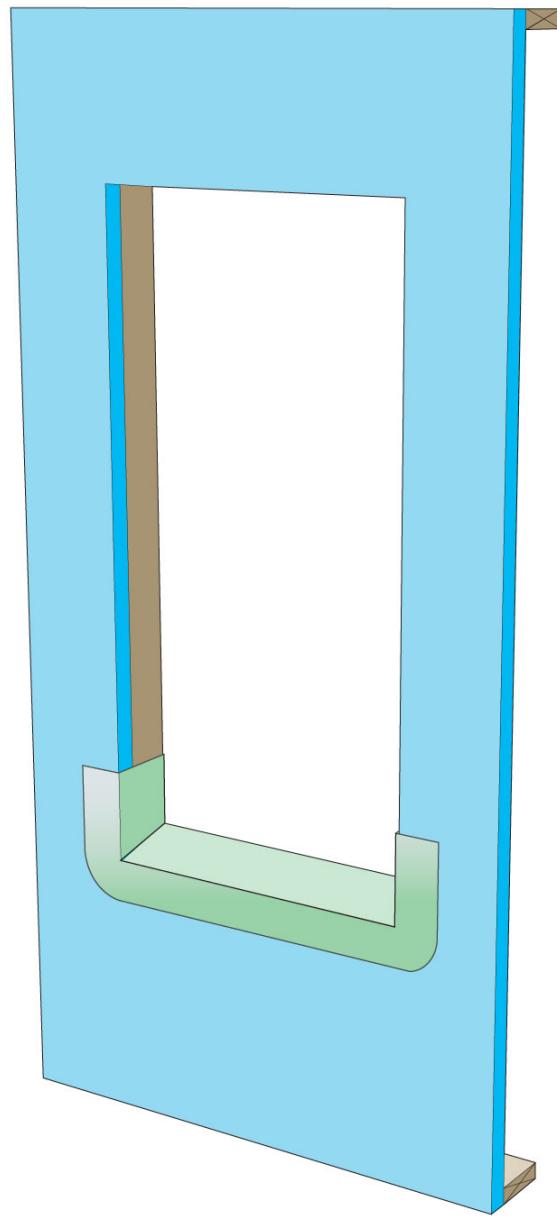


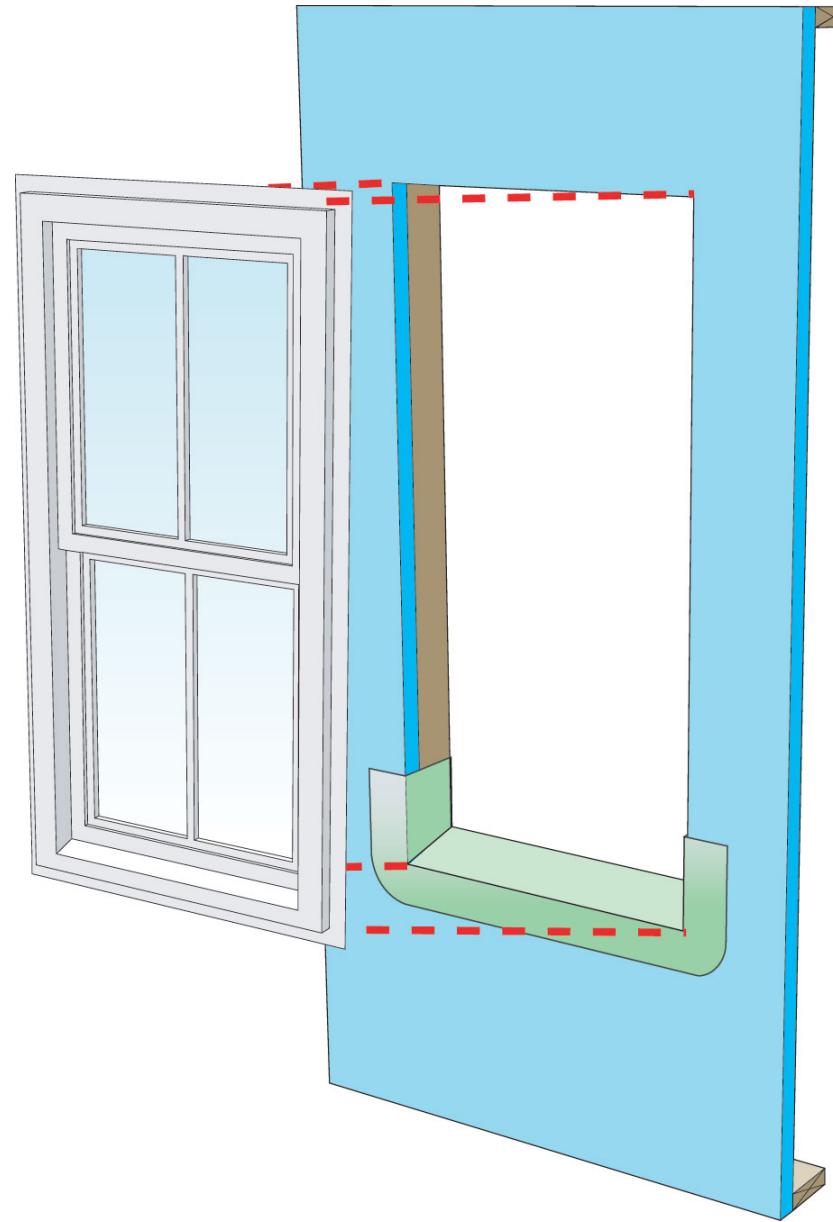


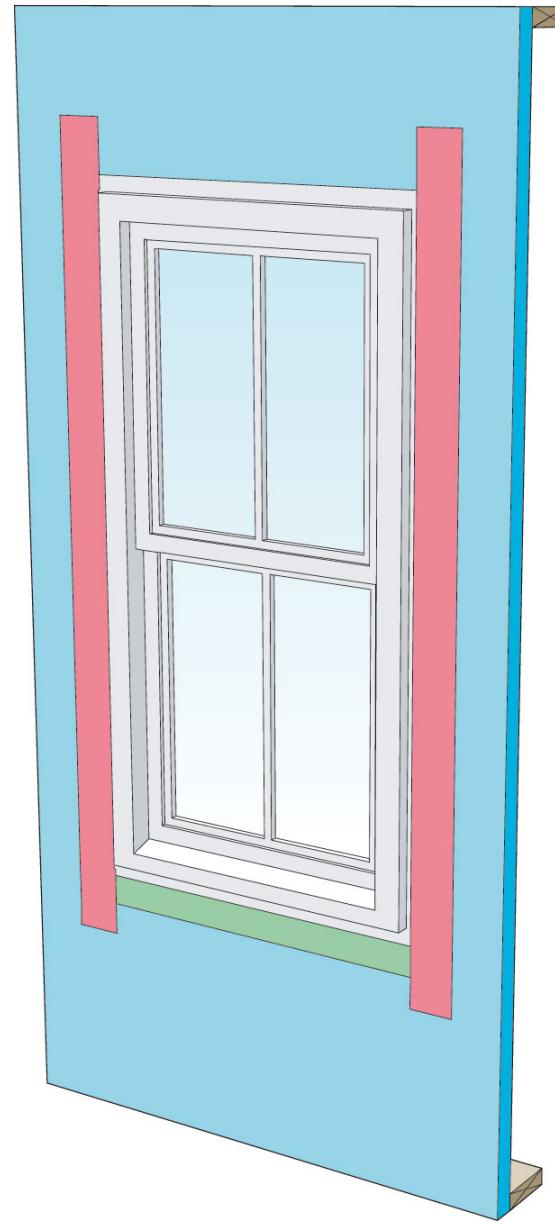


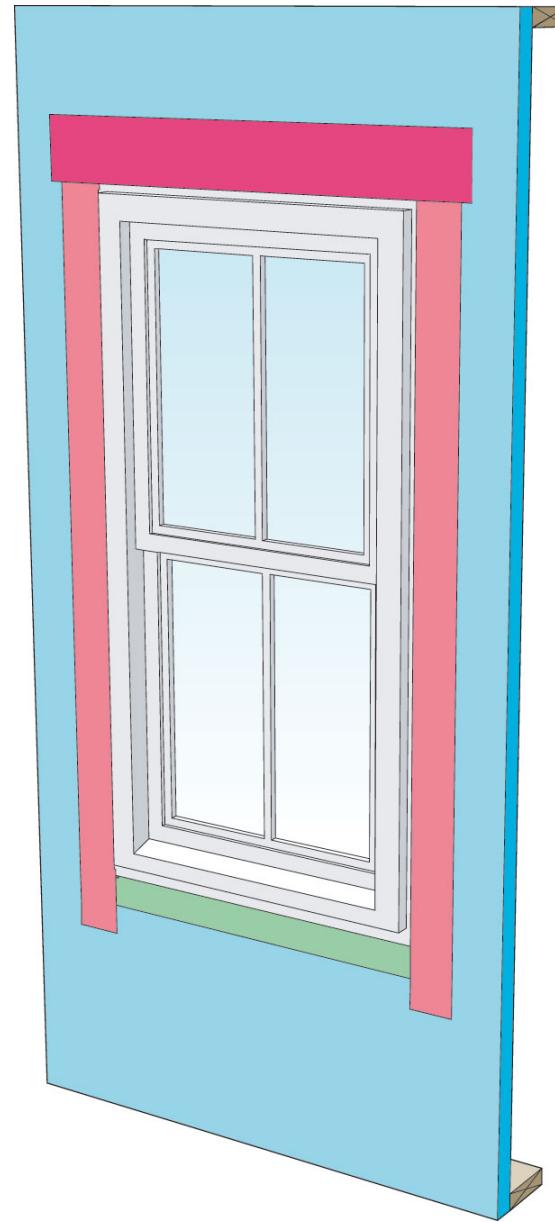


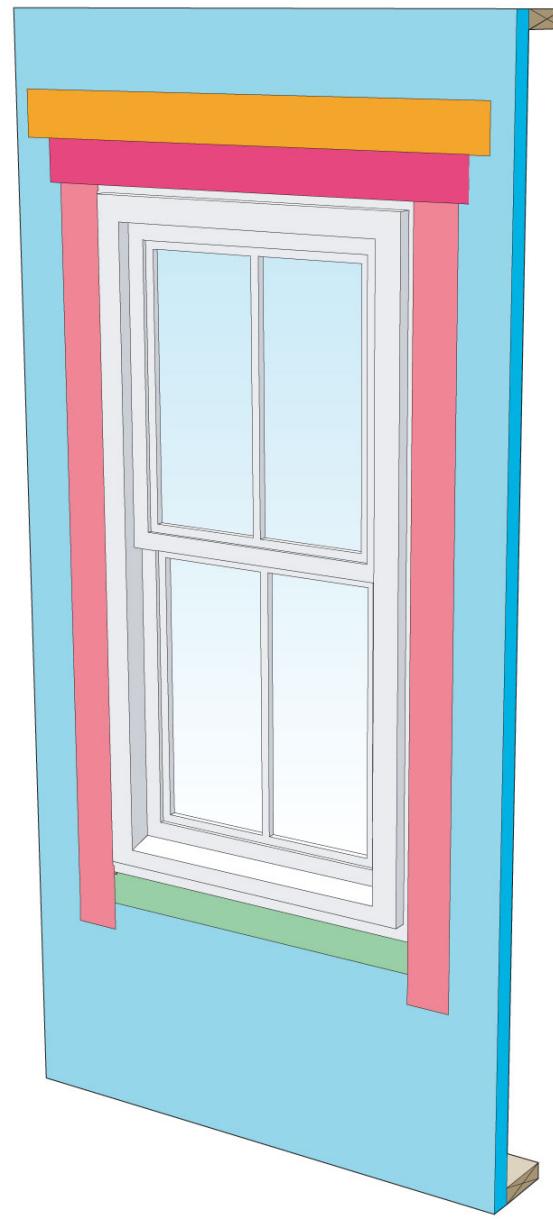


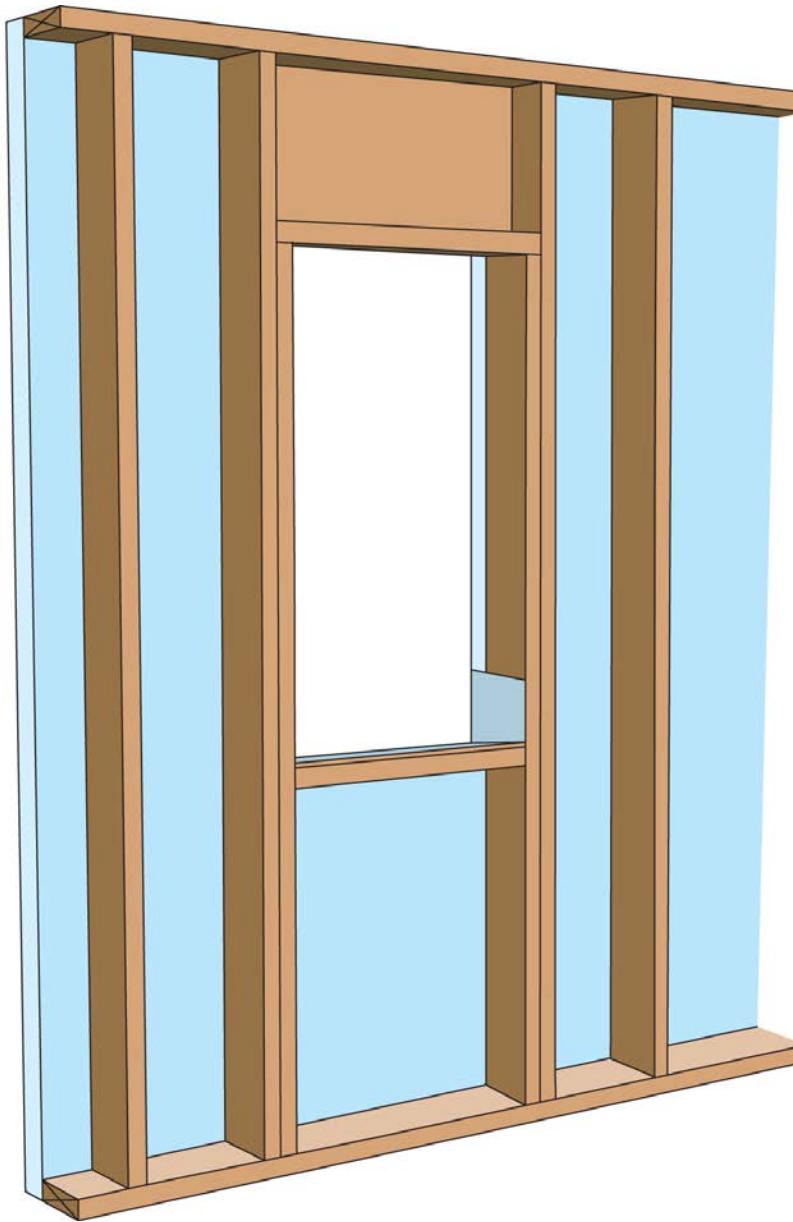










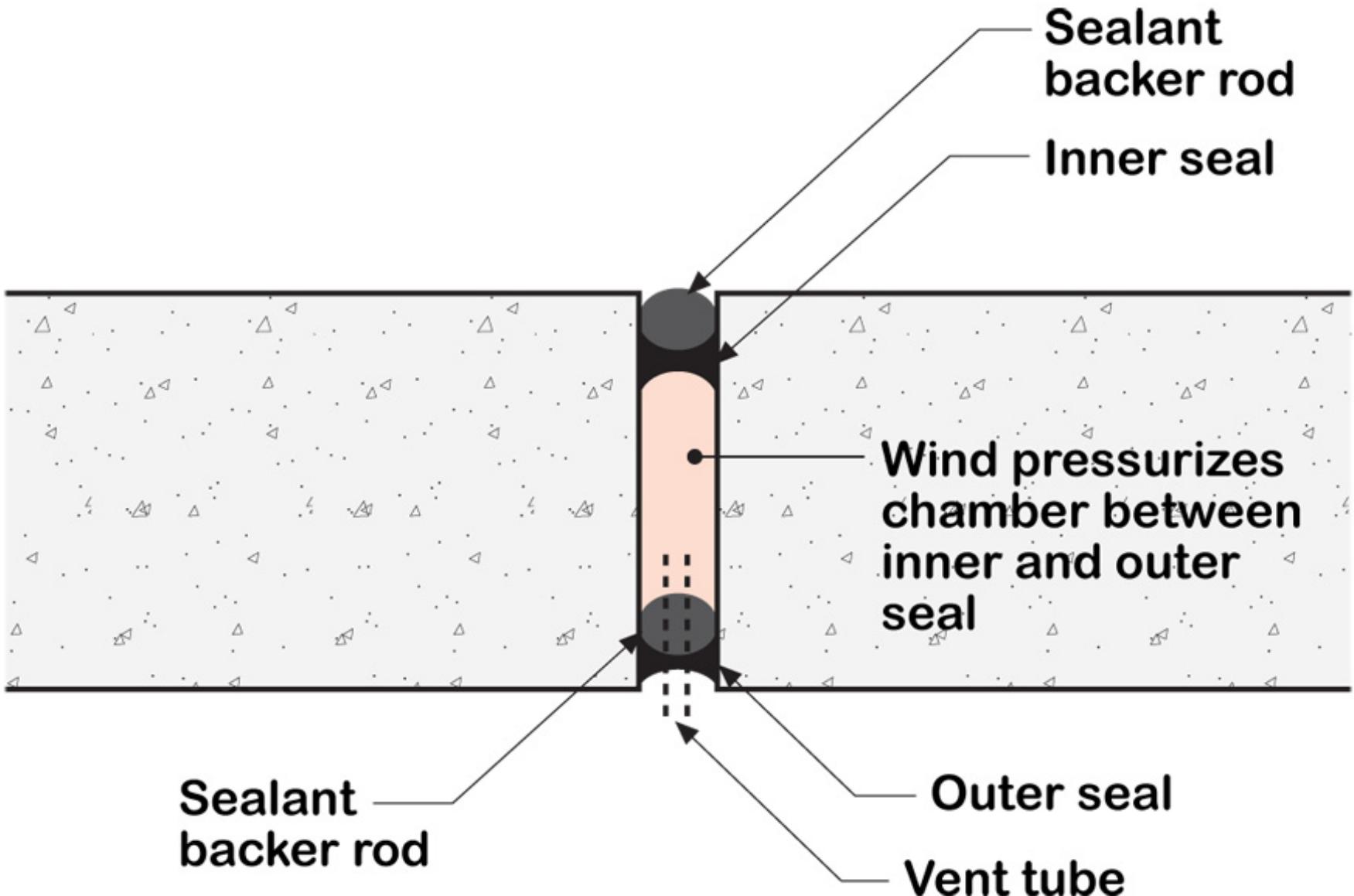


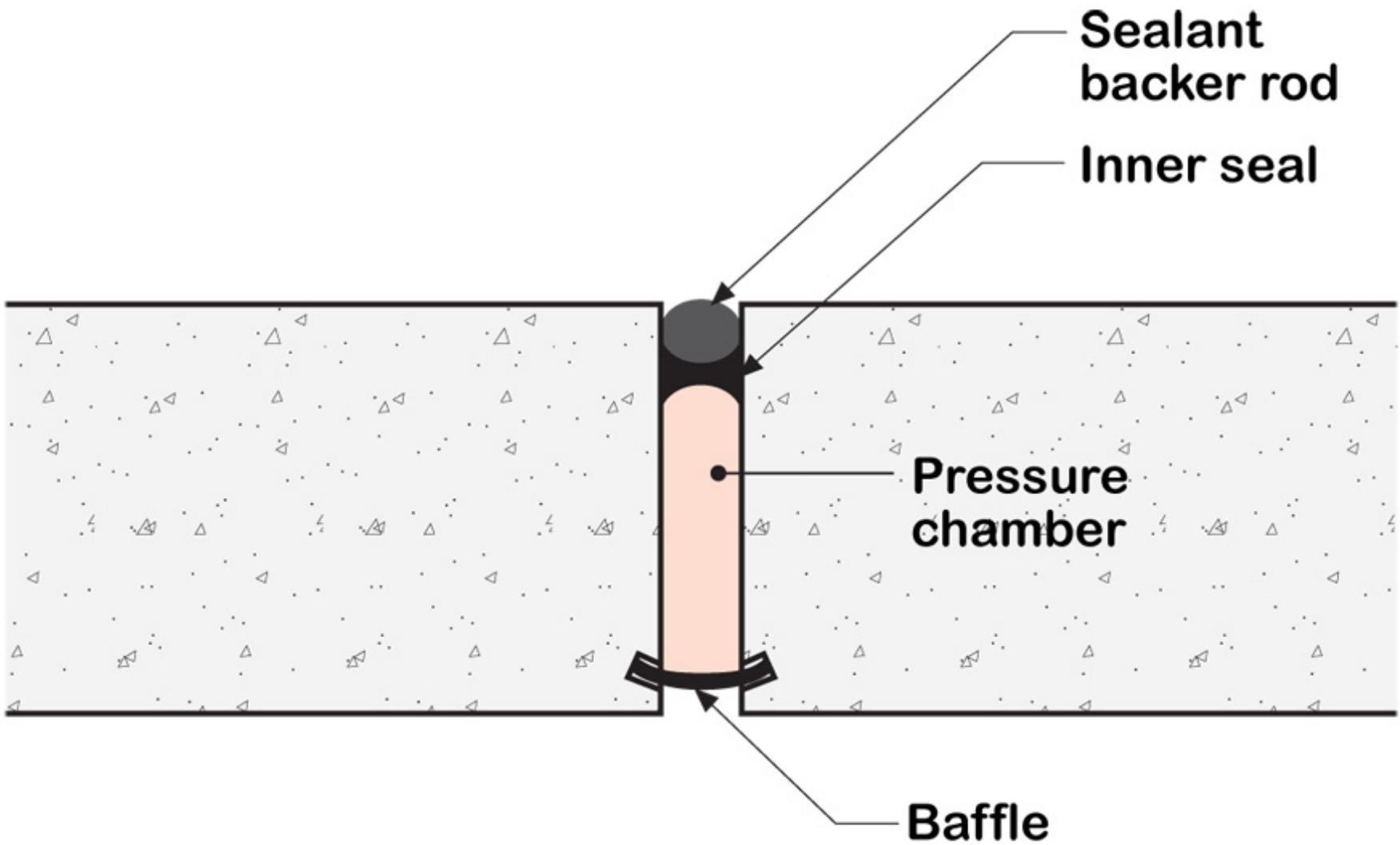


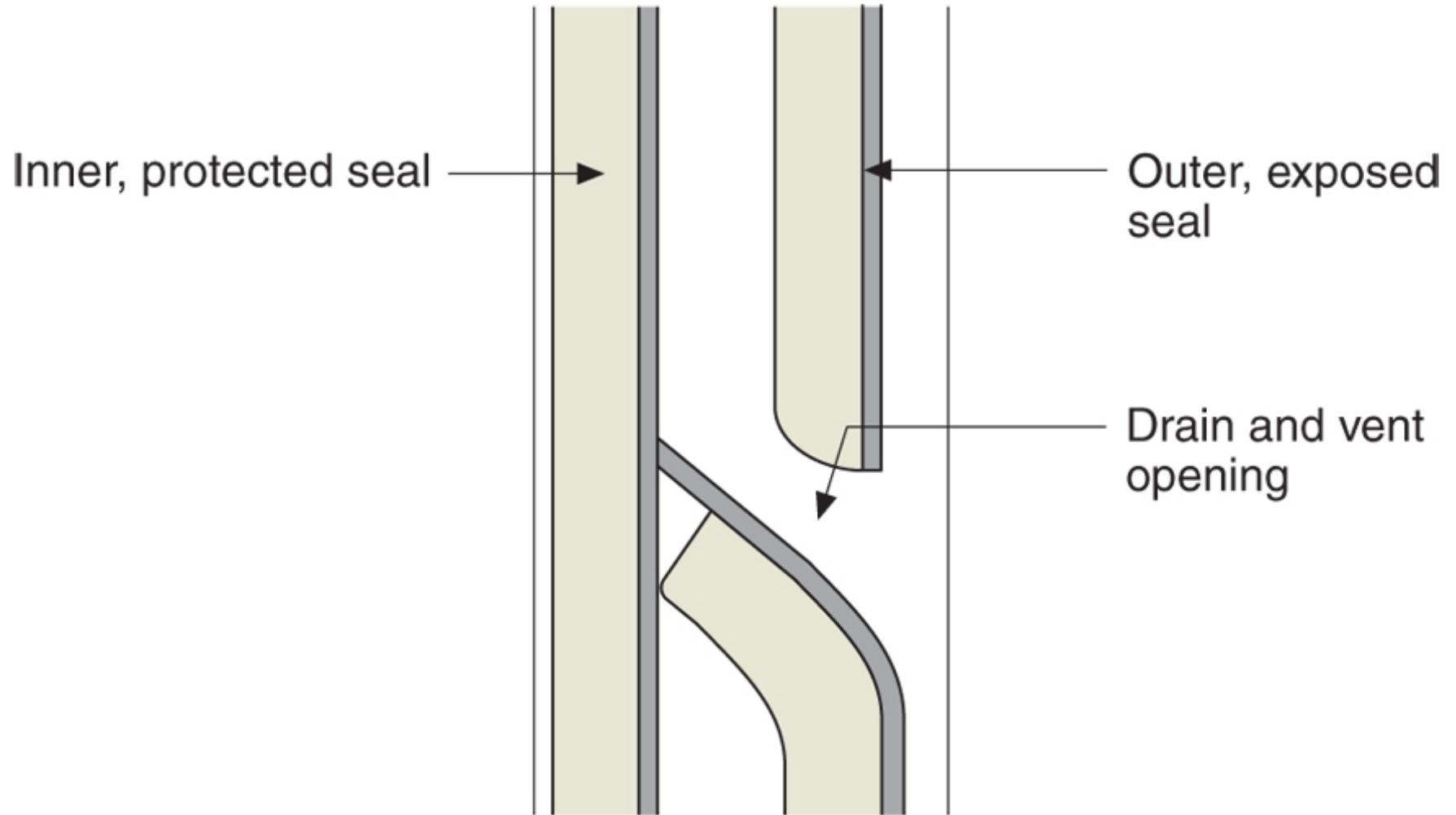


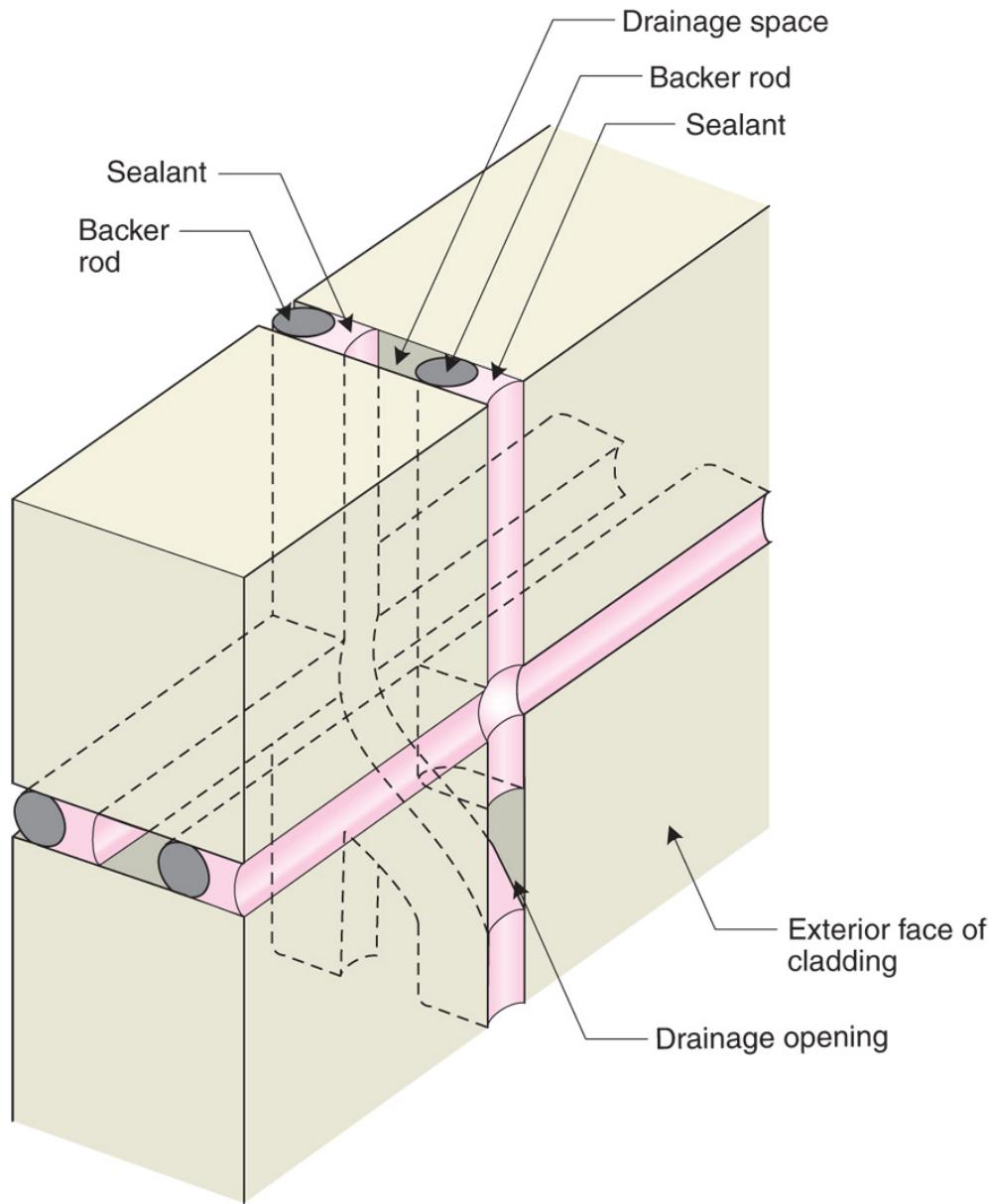


















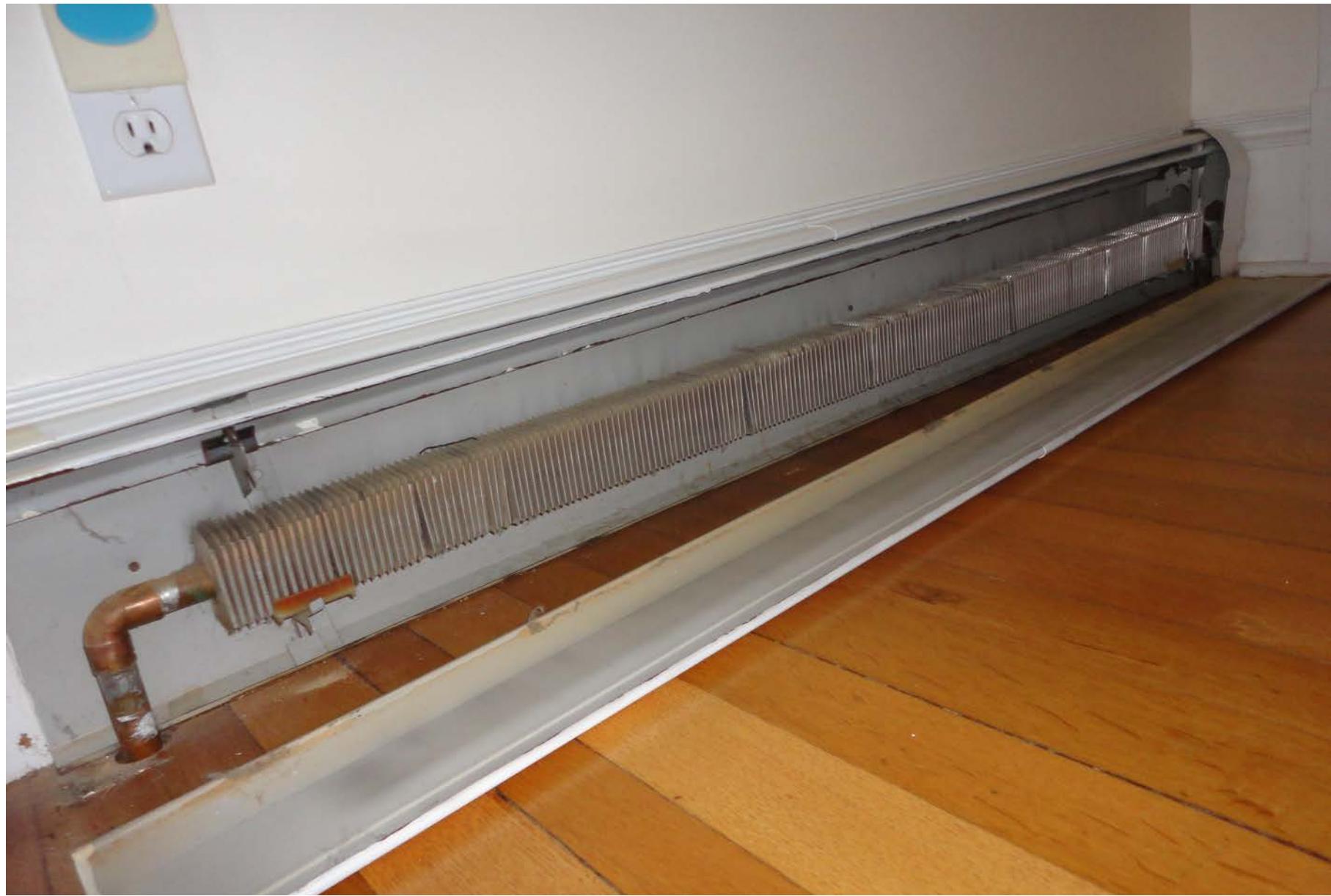


# Life is Tough Enough As it Is...

Life is Tough Enough As it Is...  
It's Harder When You Are Stupid

# Don't Do Stupid Things

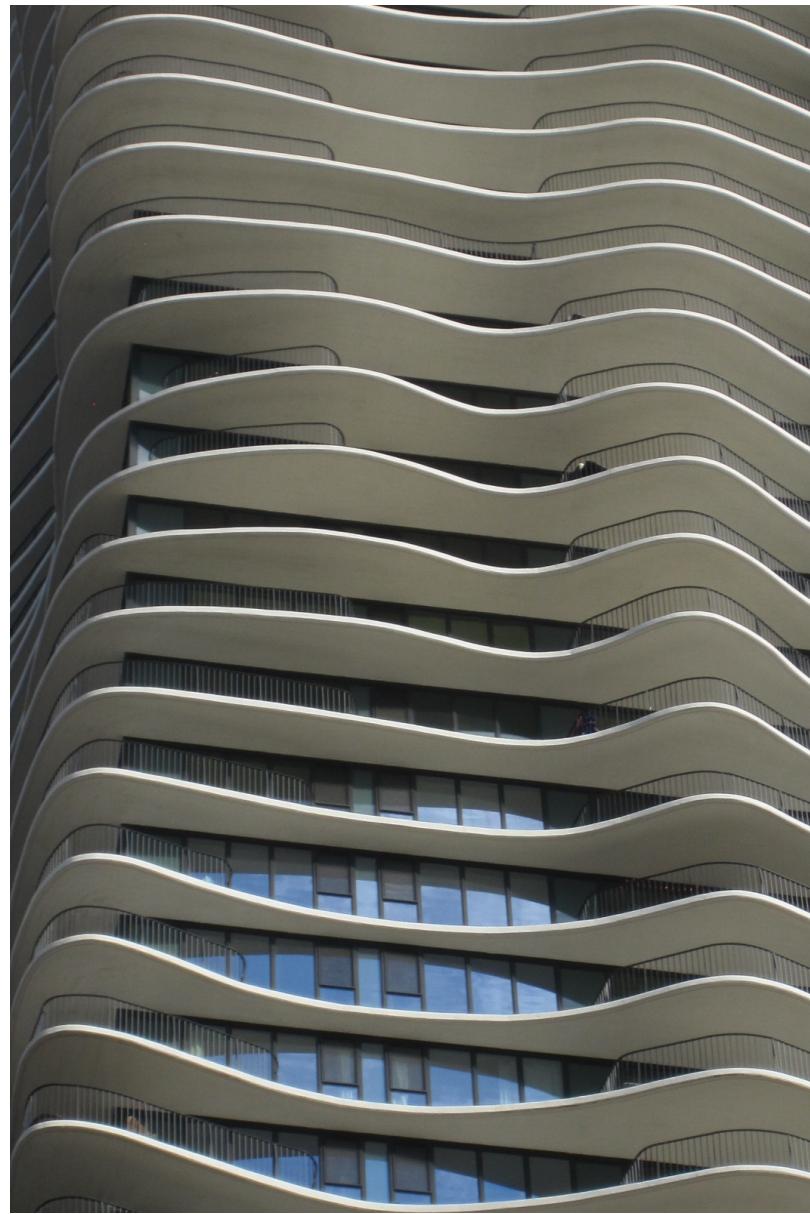


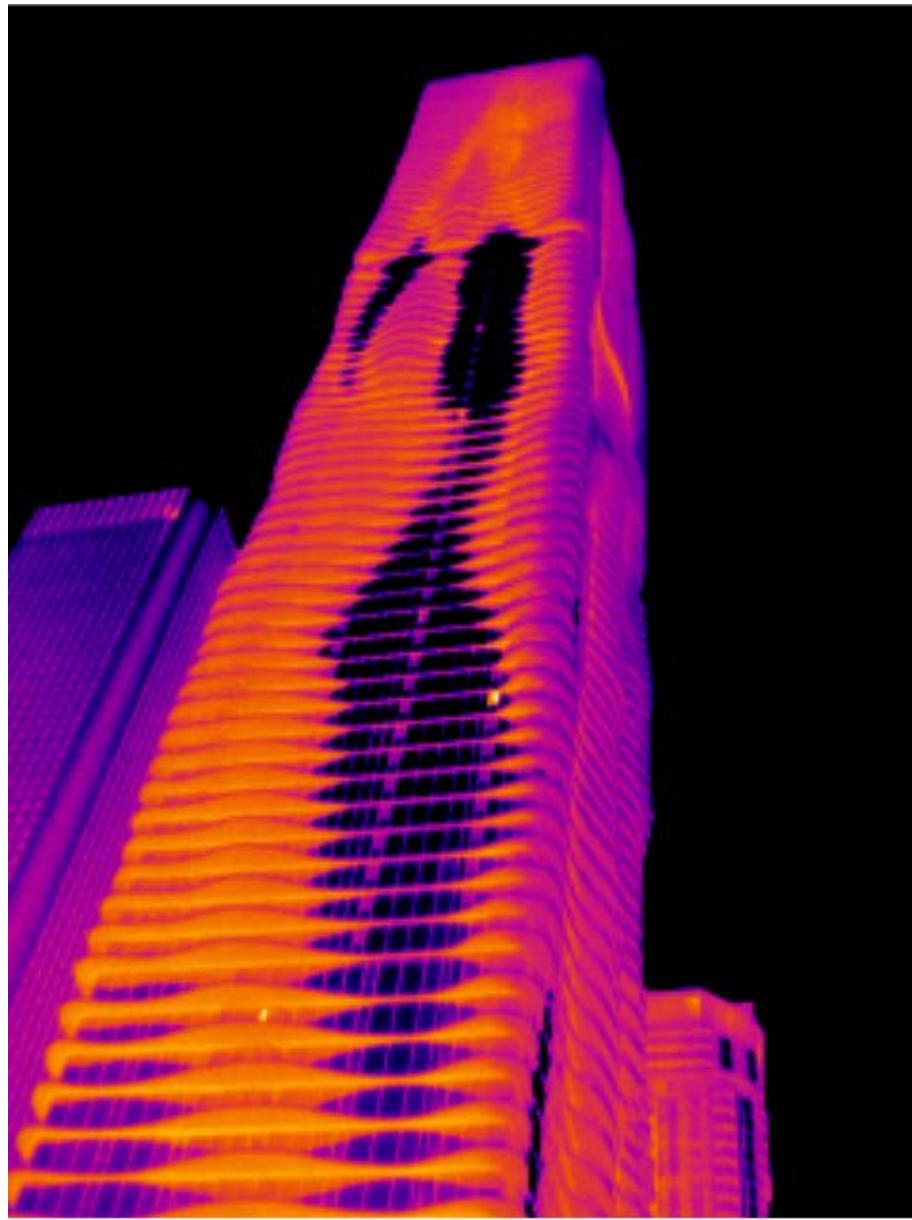


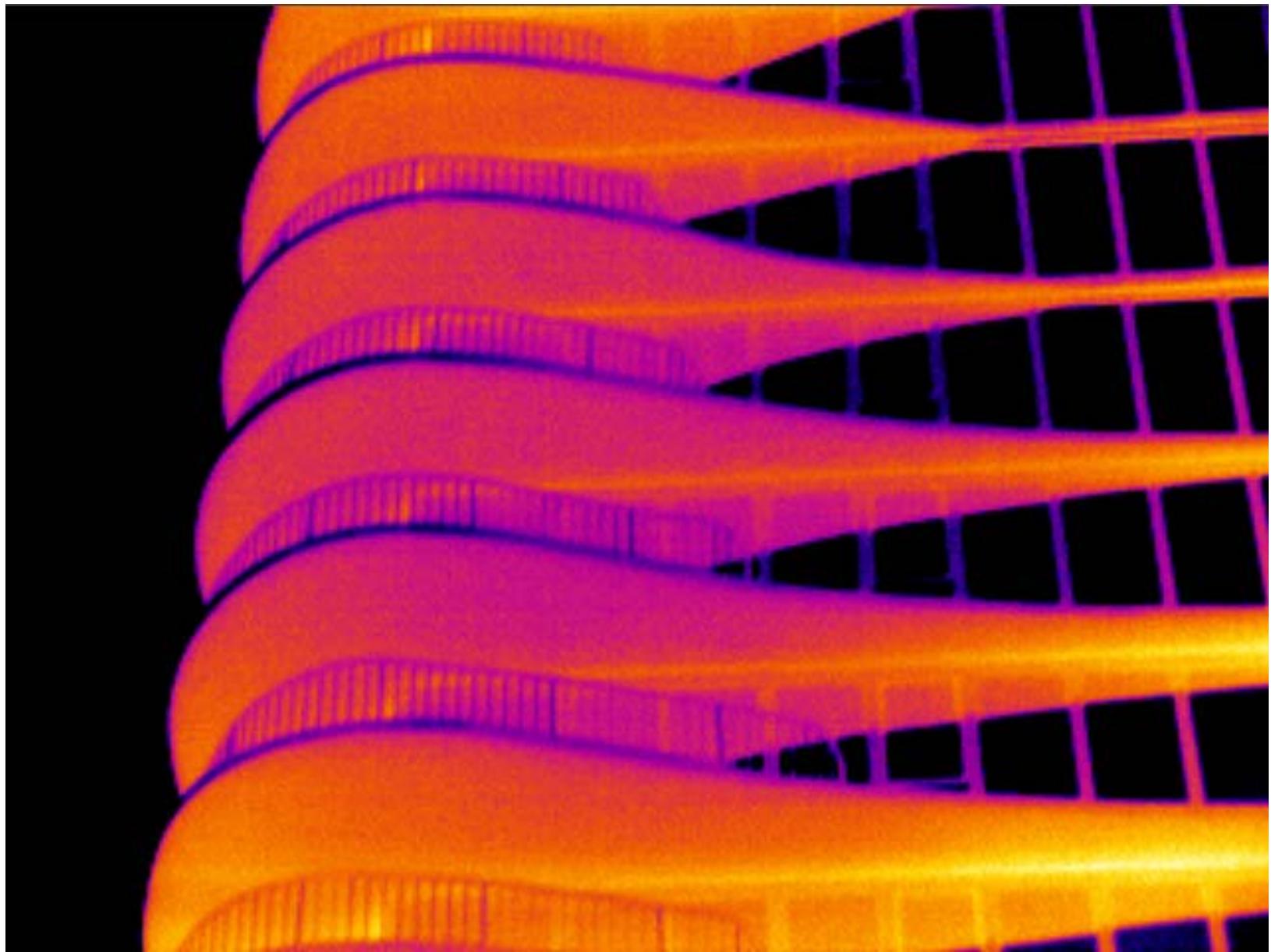


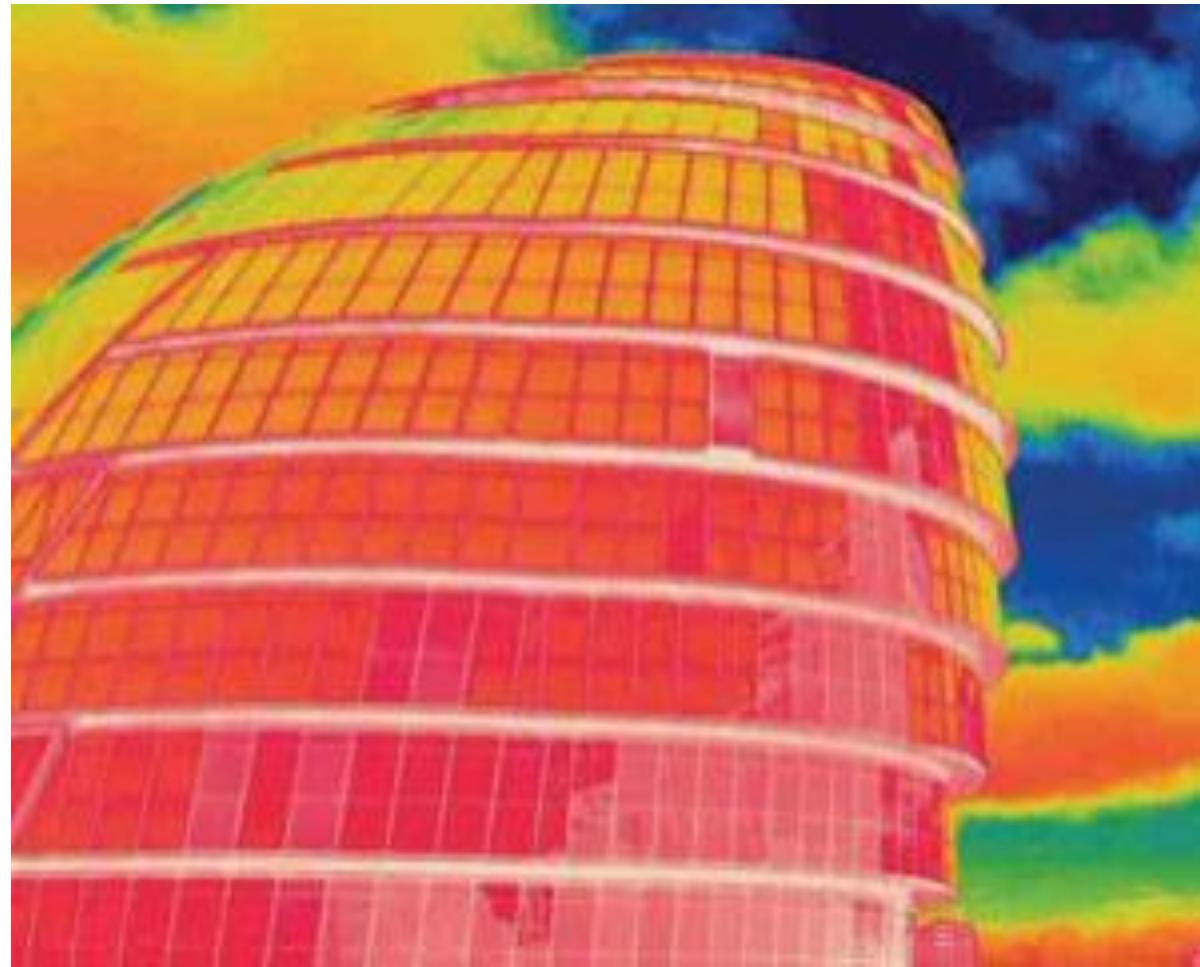






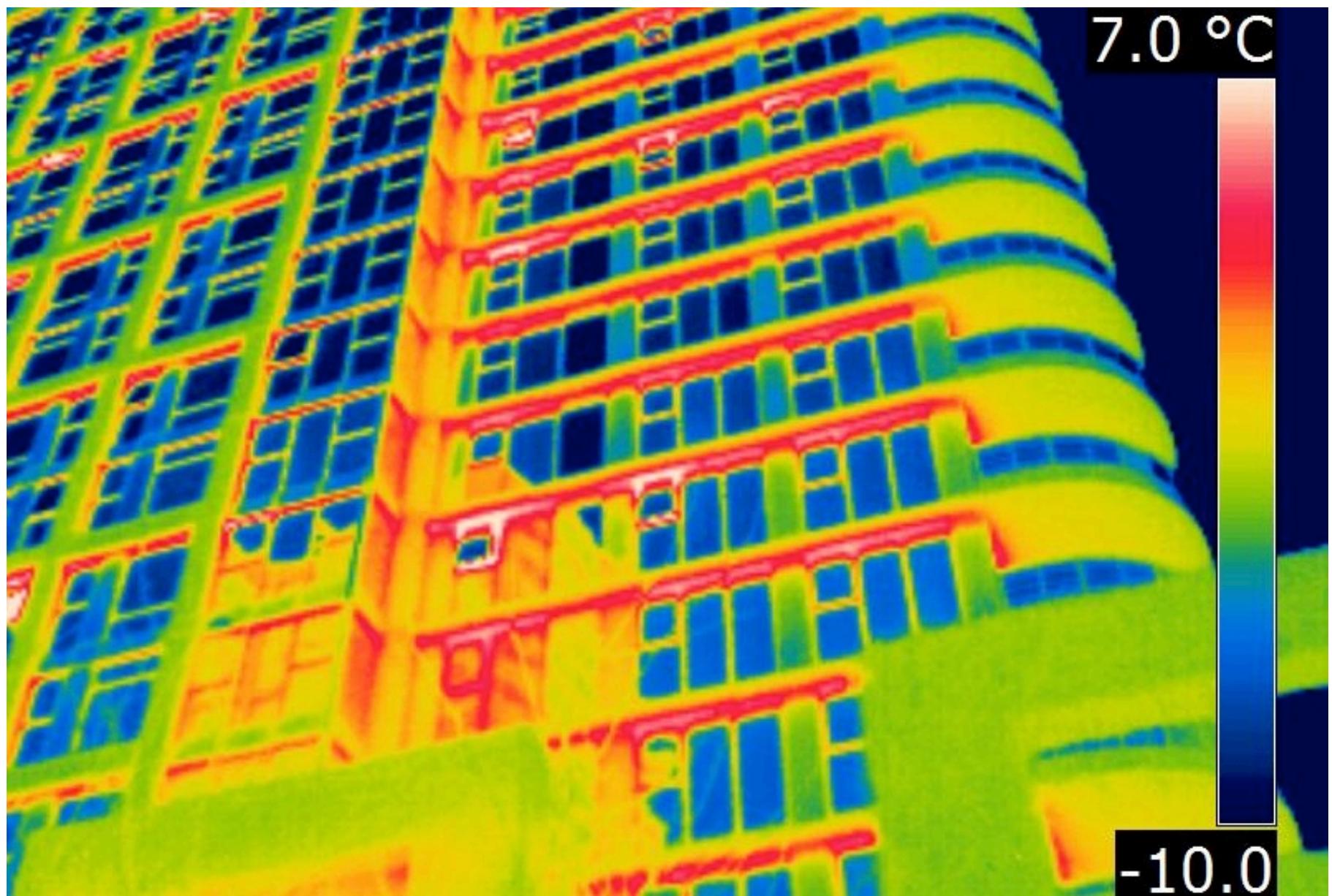


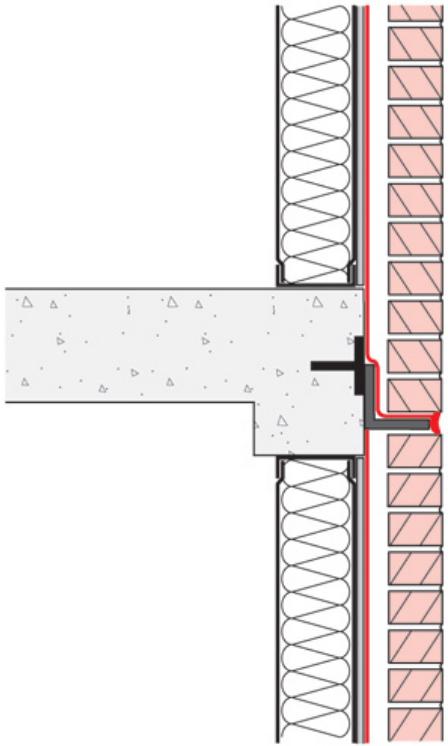




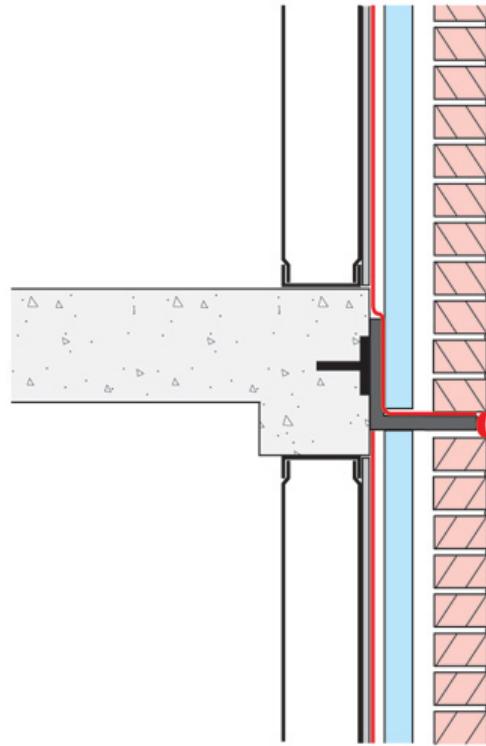




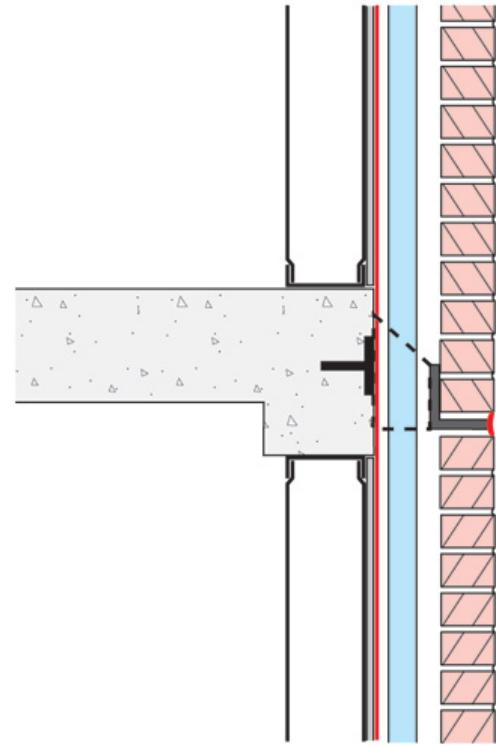




**“The Ugly”**



**“The Bad”**



**“The Good”**

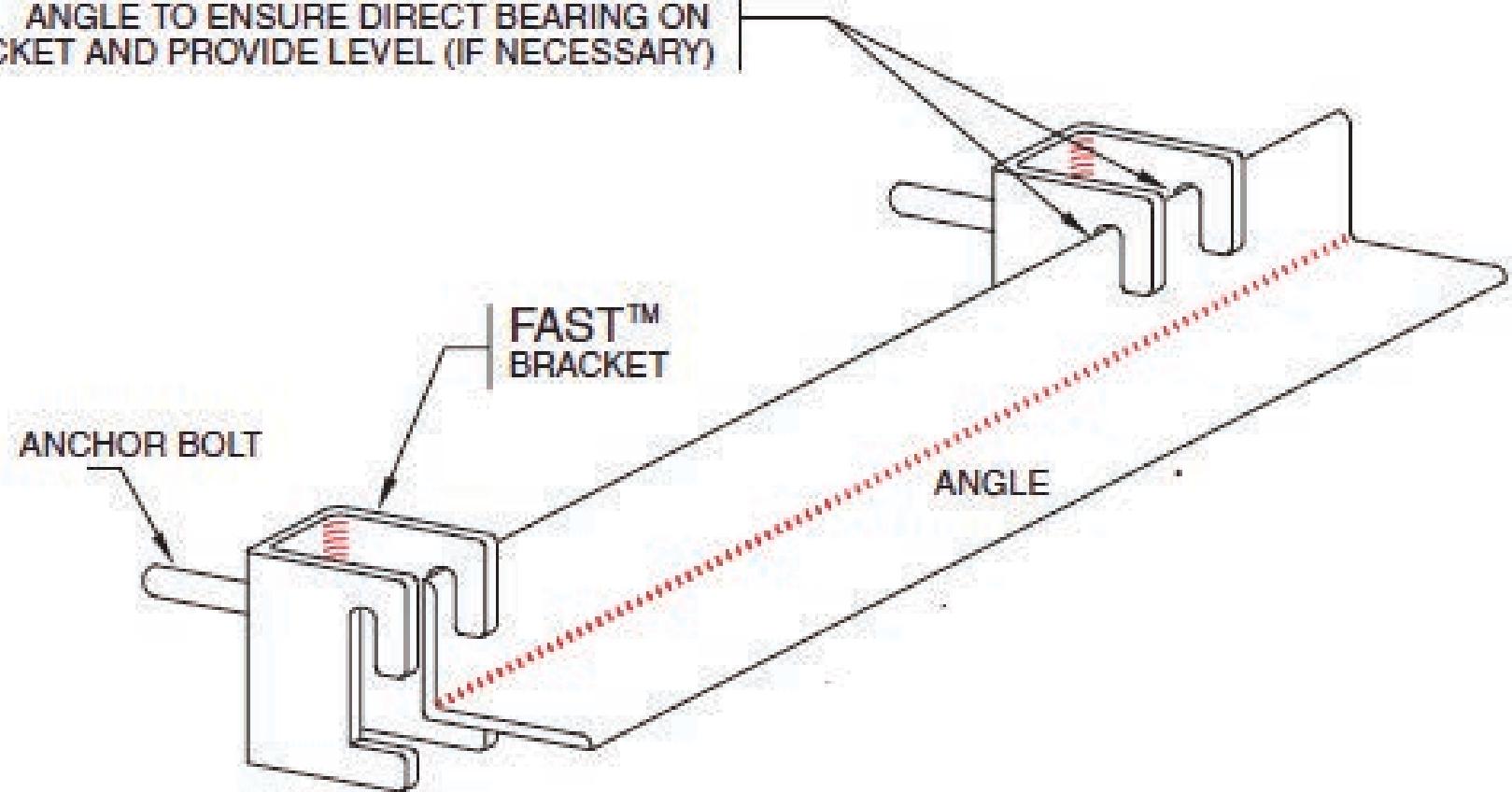






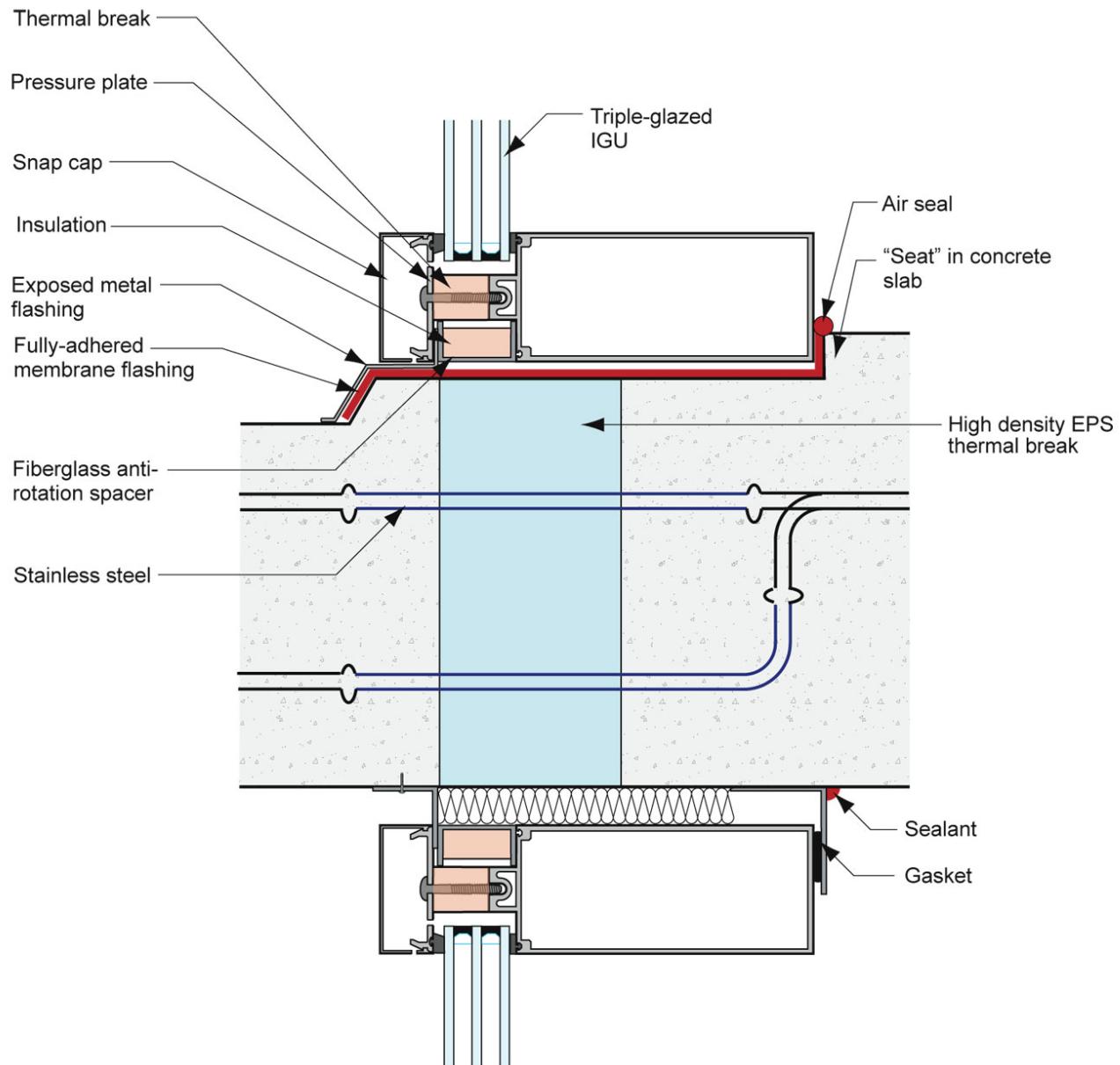


WEDGE SHIMS INSERTED BEHIND/FRONT OF ANGLE TO ENSURE DIRECT BEARING ON BRACKET AND PROVIDE LEVEL (IF NECESSARY)









Zeroth Law –  $A=B$  and  $B=C$  therefore  $A=C$

First Law - Conservation of Energy

Second Law - Entropy

Third Law – Absolute Zero

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Thermodynamics

In an isolated system, a process can occur only if it increases the total entropy of the system

Rudolf Clausius

Heat Flow Is From Warm To Cold  
Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold  
Moisture Flow Is From More To Less  
Air Flow Is From A Higher Pressure to a  
Lower Pressure  
Gravity Acts Down

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold  
Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold  
Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Thermal Gradient – Thermal Diffusion  
Concentration Gradient – Molecular Diffusion

Moisture Flow Is From Warm To Cold  
Moisture Flow Is From More To Less

Thermal Gradient – Thermal Diffusion  
Concentration Gradient – Molecular Diffusion

Vapor Diffusion

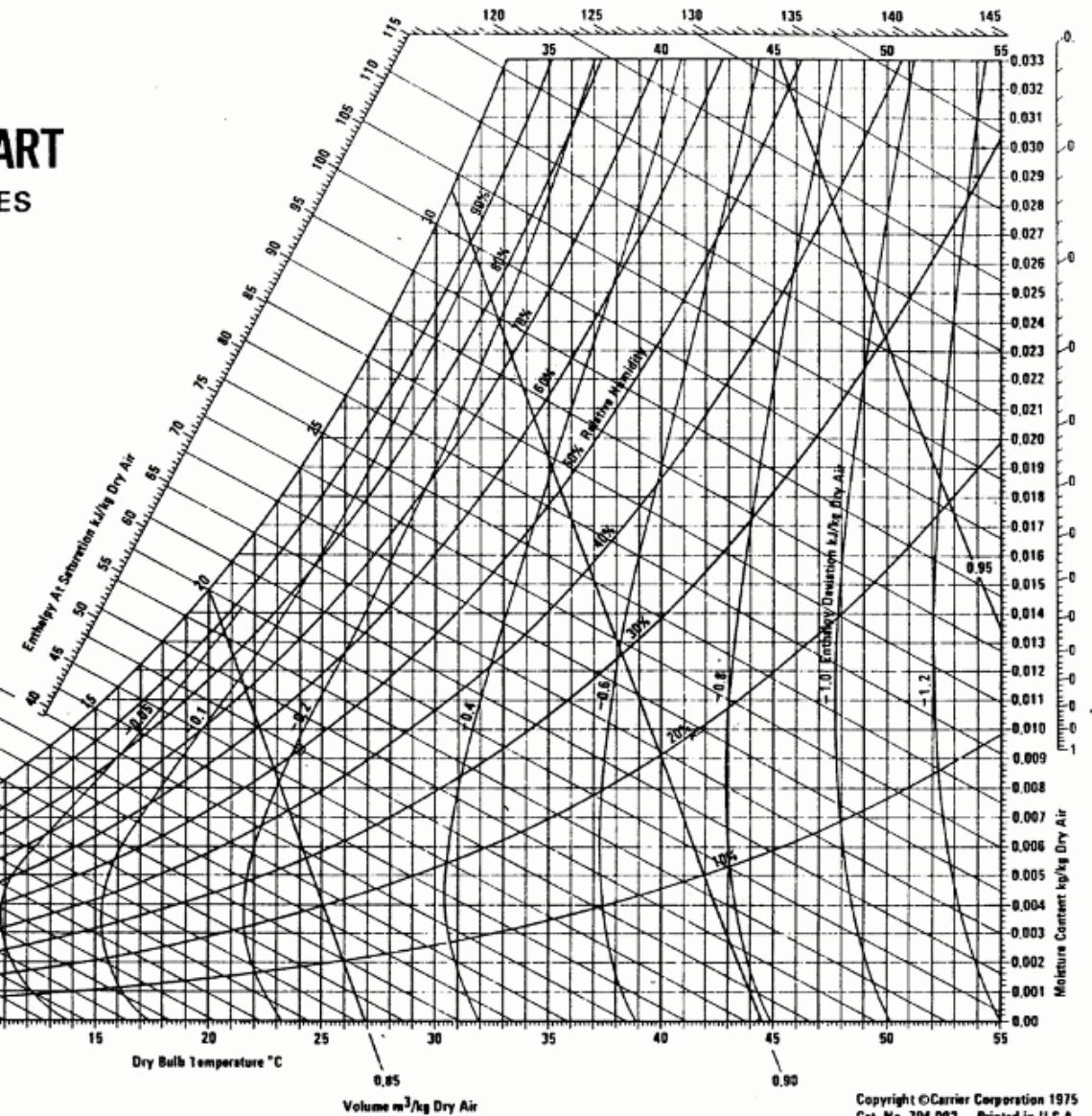
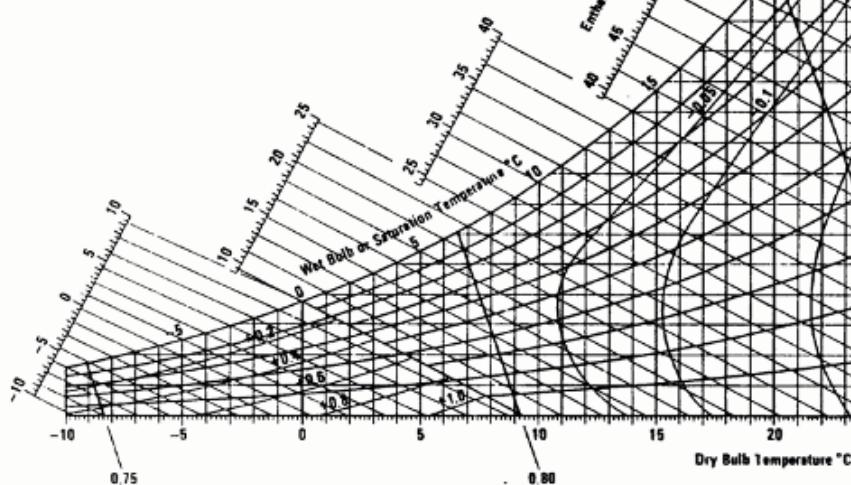
# Thermodynamic Potential

**Carrier**

# PSYCHROMETRIC CHART

## NORMAL TEMPERATURES

SI METRIC UNITS  
Barometric Pressure 101.325 kPa  
SEA LEVEL

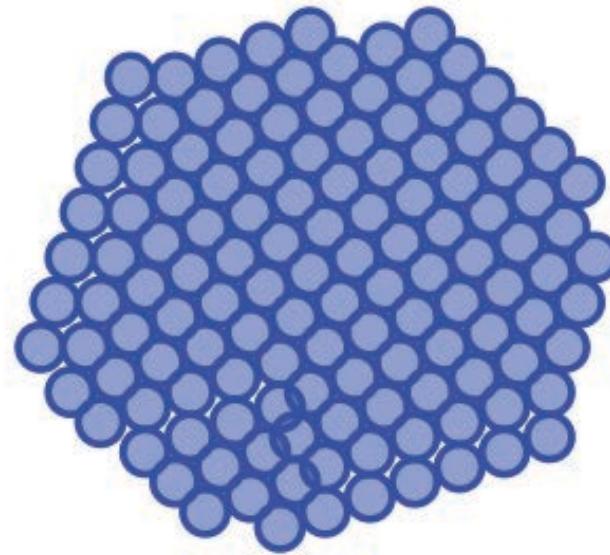


Below 0°C Properties and Enthalpy Deviation Lines Are For Ice

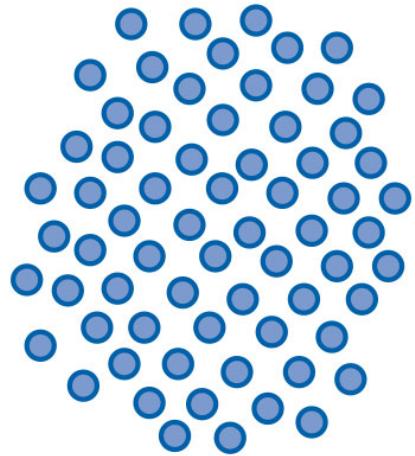
Copyright ©Carrier Corporation 1975  
Cat. No. 794-002 Printed in U.S.A.



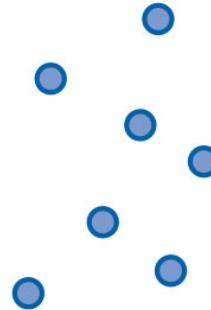
**Vapor**



**Liquid**



## DIFFUSION

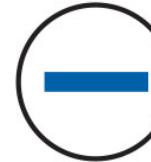


Higher Dewpoint Temperature  
Higher Water Vapor Density  
or Concentration  
(Higher Vapor Pressure)  
on Warm Side of Assembly

Low Dewpoint Temperature  
Lower Water Vapor Density  
or Concentration  
(Lower Vapor Pressure)  
on Cold Side of Assembly

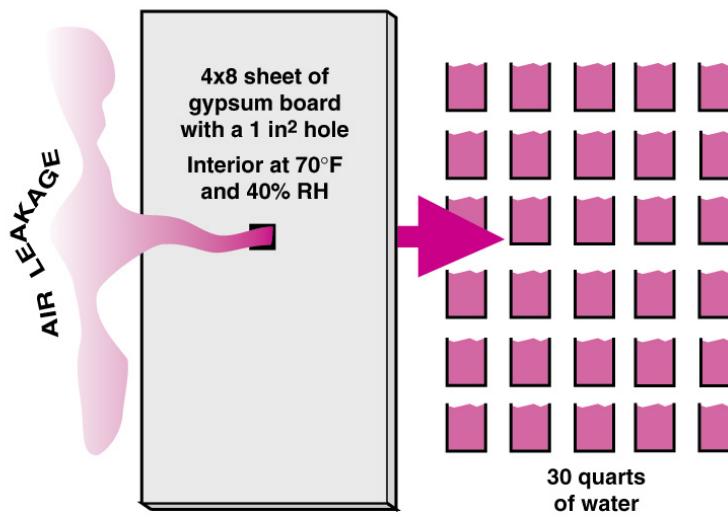
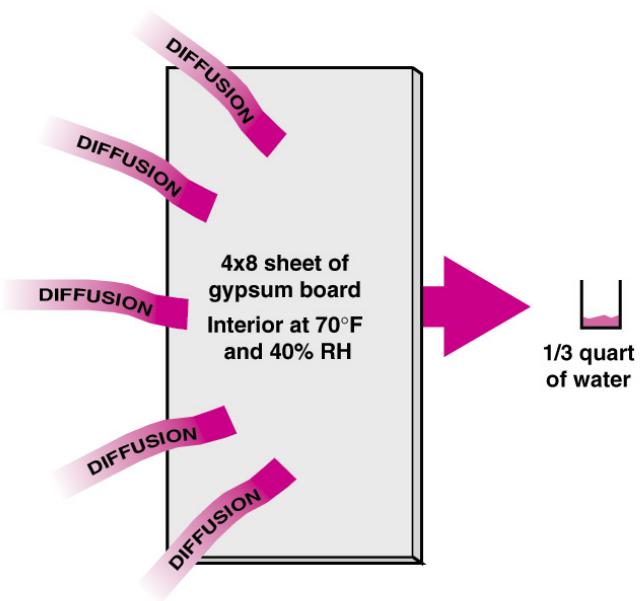


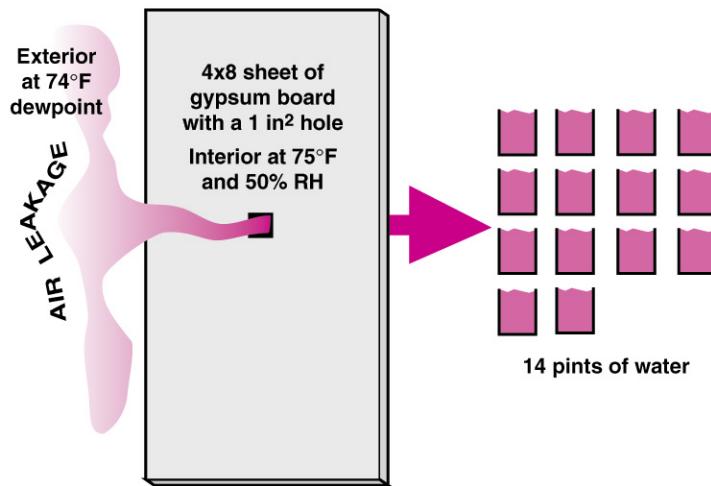
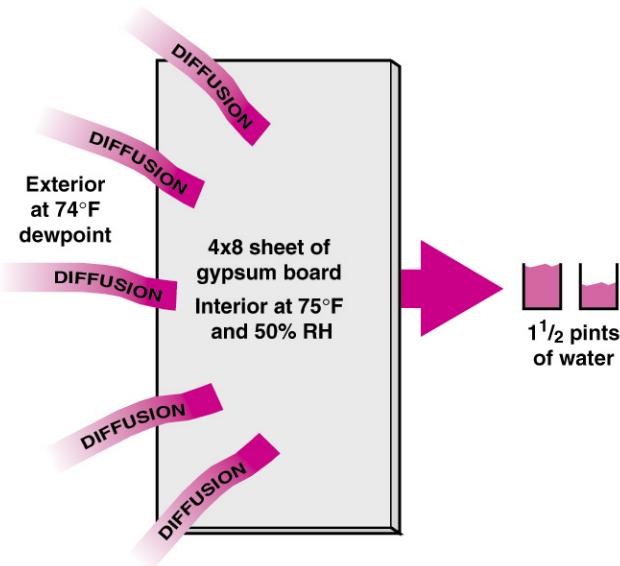
## AIR TRANSPORT



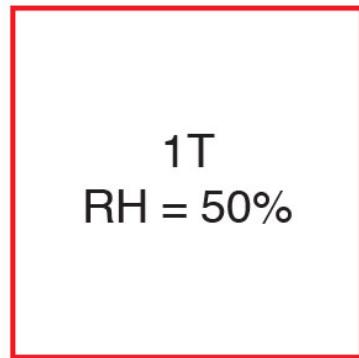
Higher Air  
Pressure

Lower Air  
Pressure

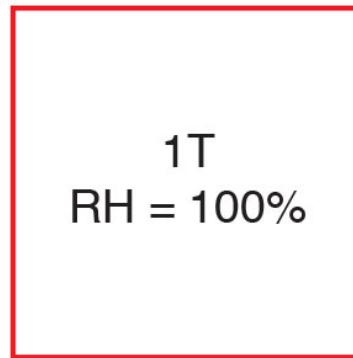




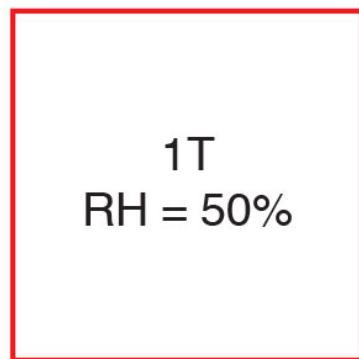
2T, 75°F



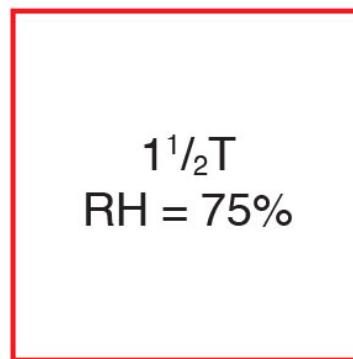
1T, 60°F

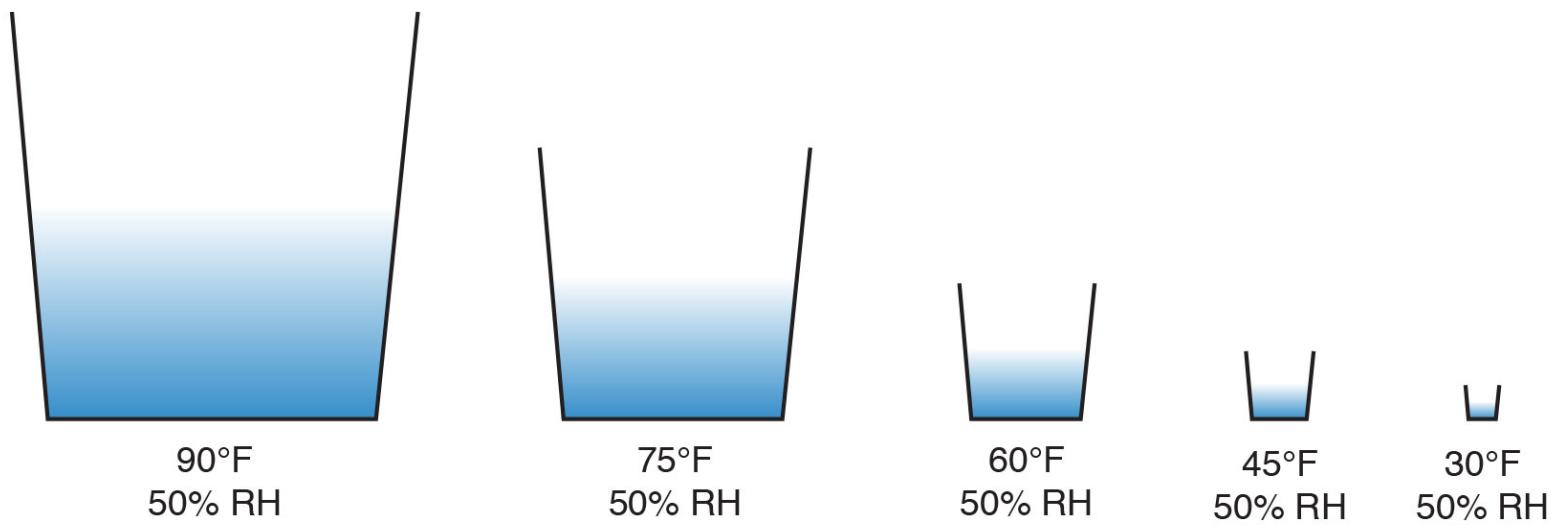


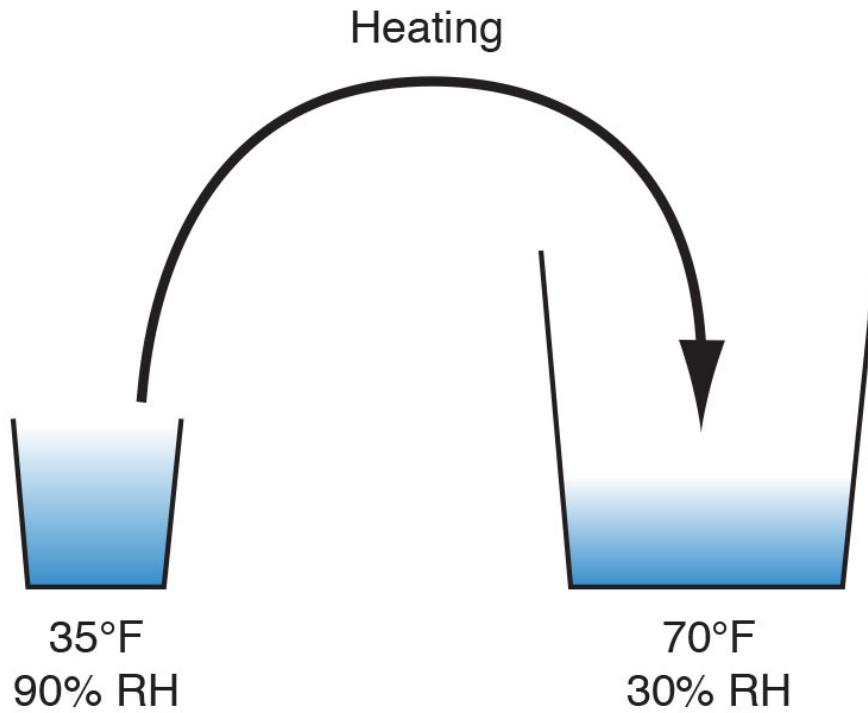
2T, 75°F

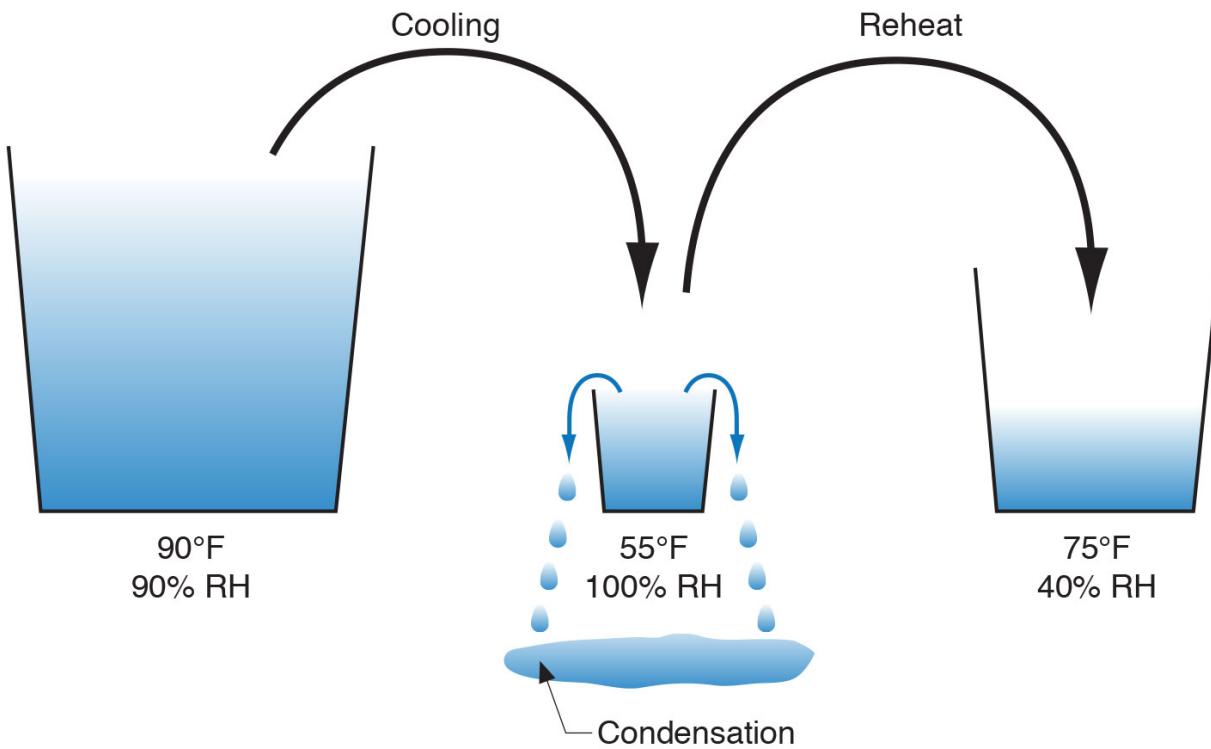


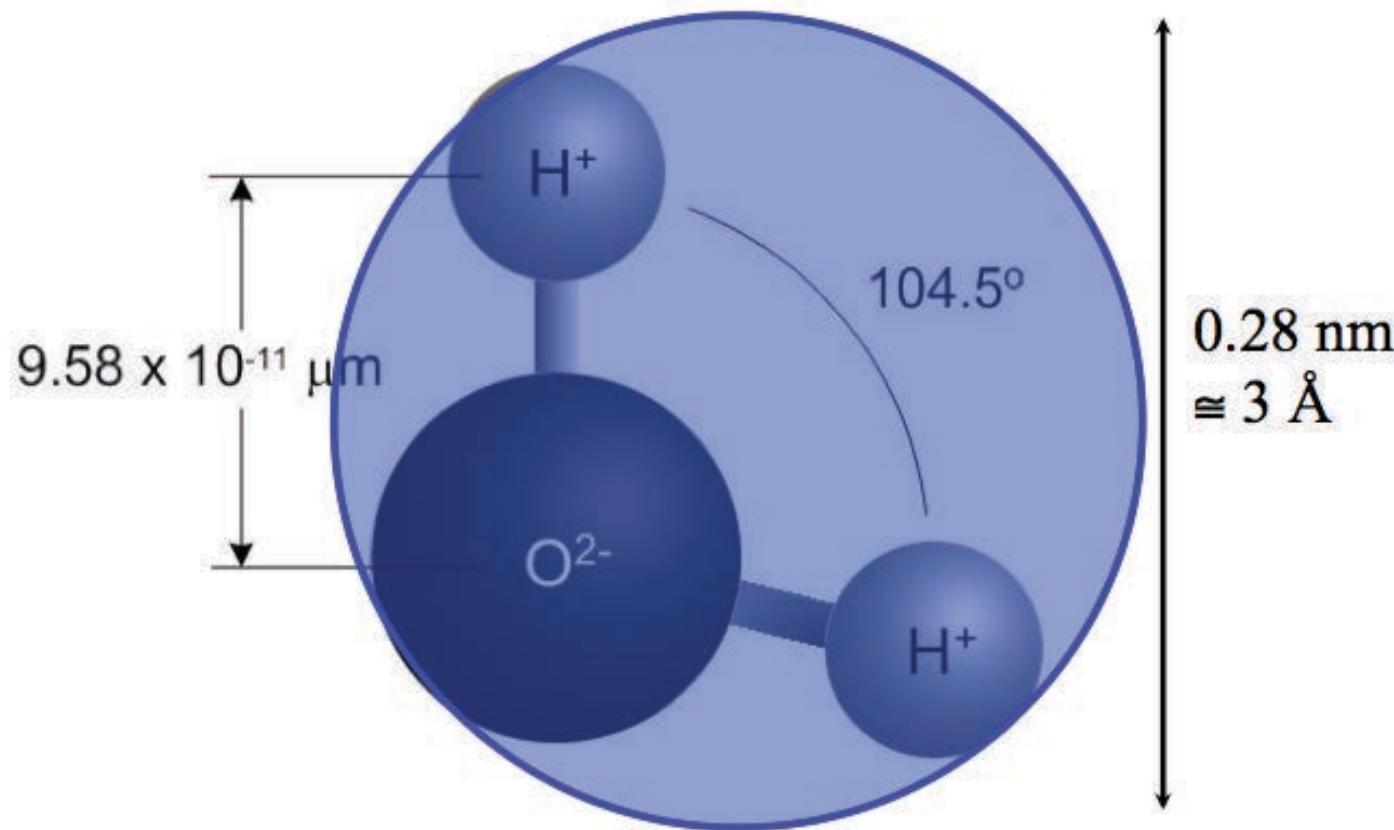
2T, 75°F

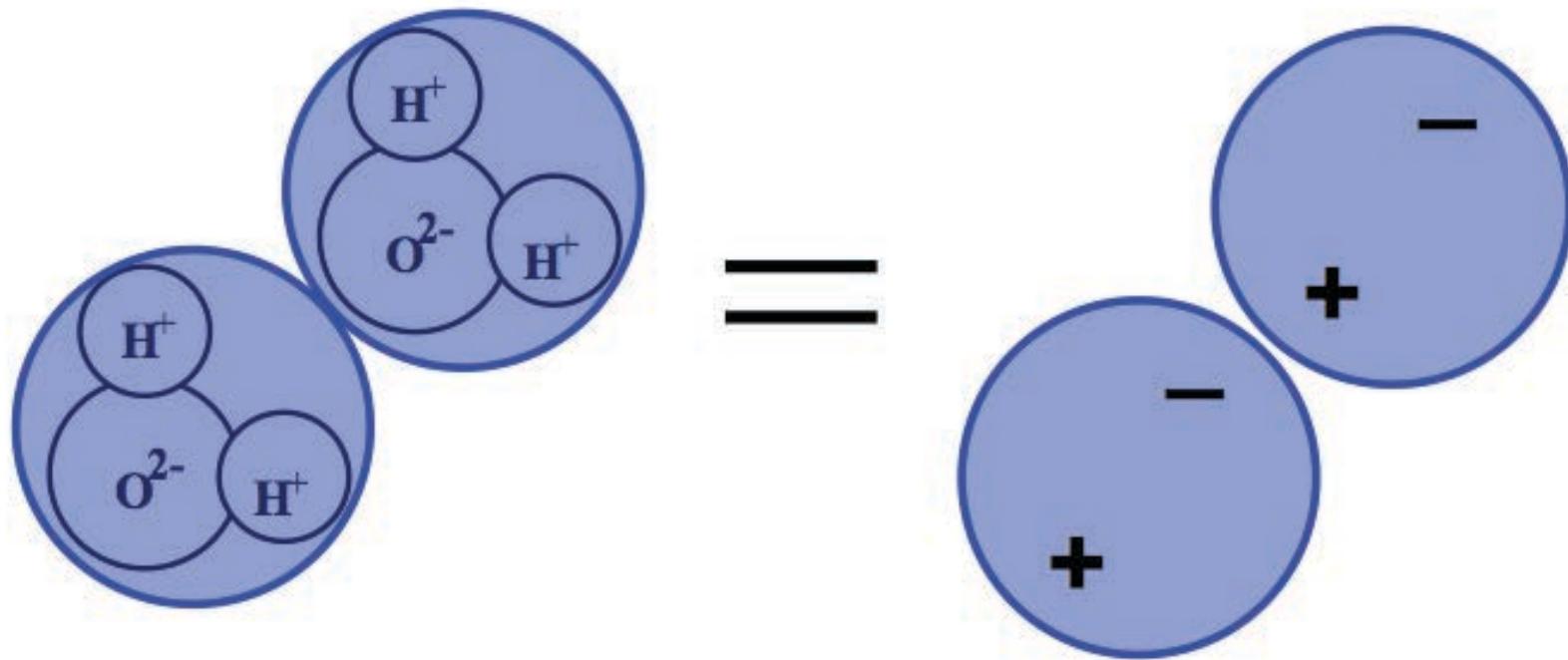


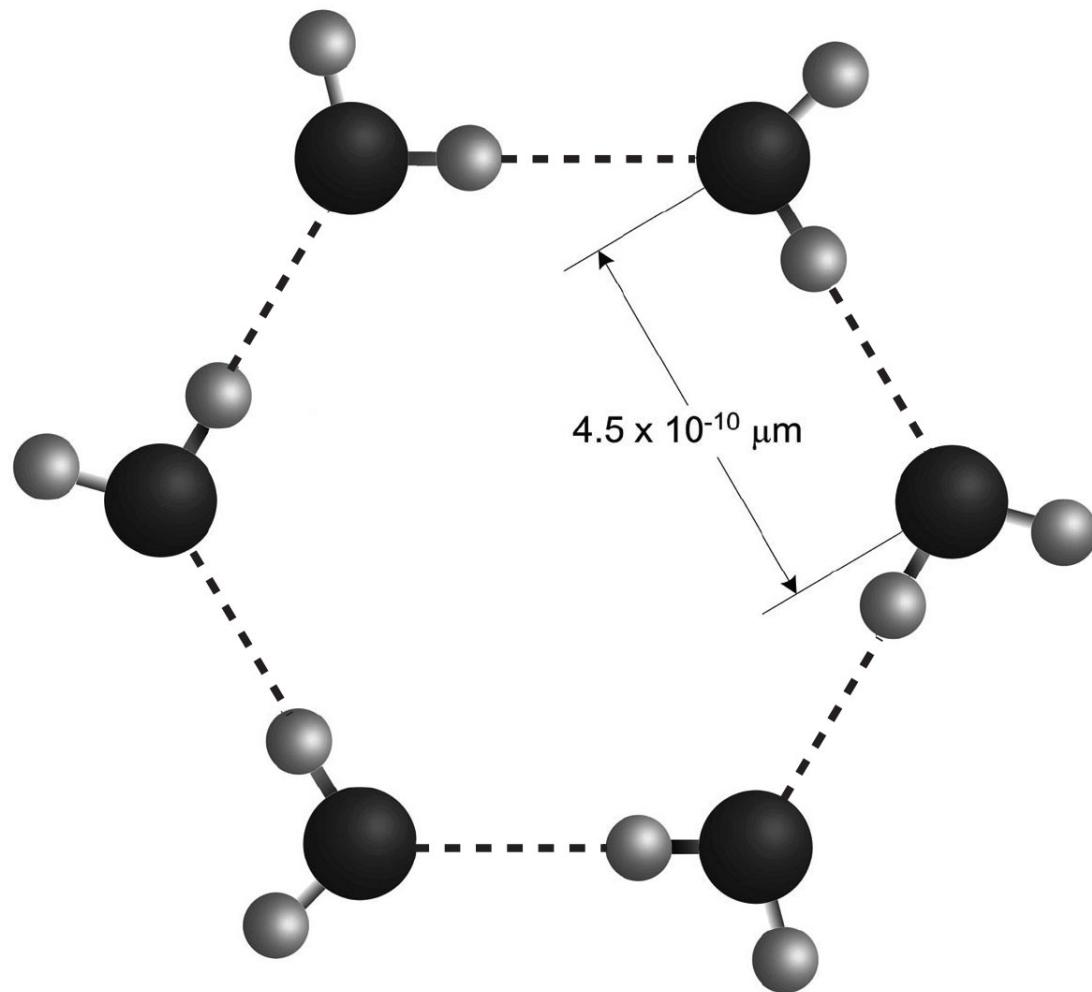












# Damage Functions

Damage Functions  
Water  
Heat  
Ultra Violet Radiation

Damage Functions

Water

Heat

Ultra Violet Radiation

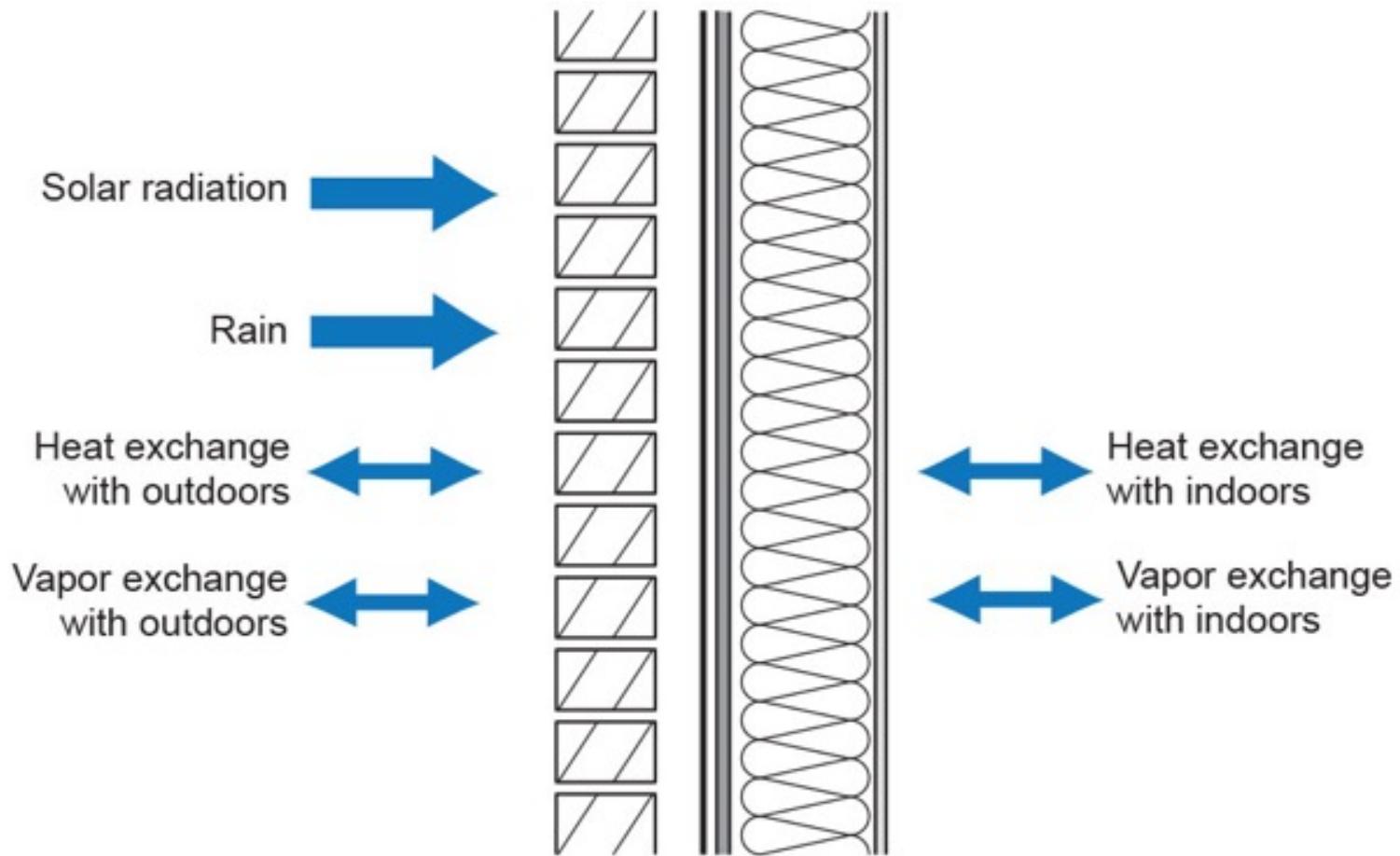
Oxidization (Ozone)  
Fatigue (Creep)

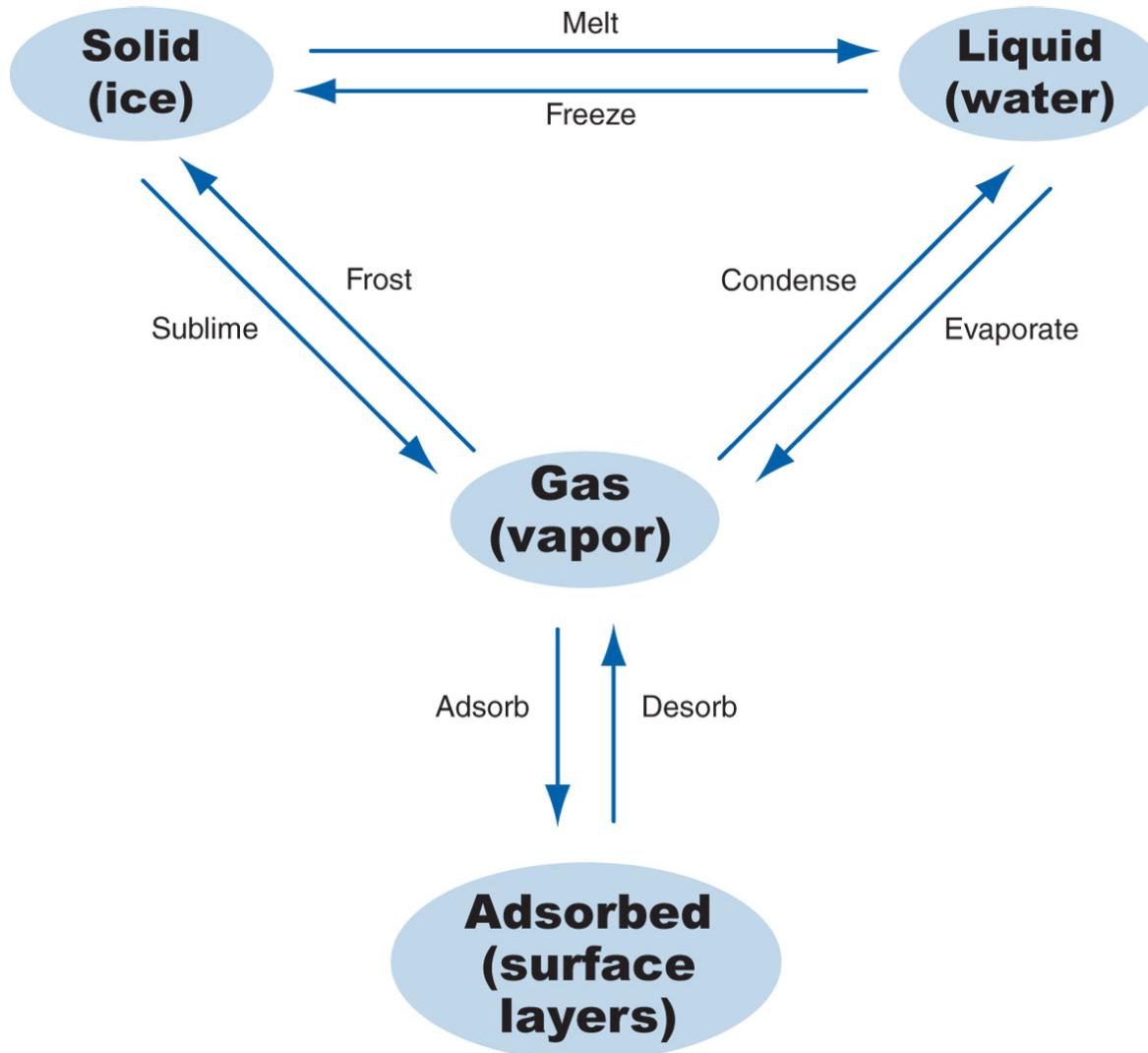
The Three Biggest Problems In Buildings  
Are Water, Water and Water...

Heat  
Air  
Moisture

HAM

# Hygrothermal Analysis





## Moisture Transport in Porous Media

| Phase     | Transport Process | Driving Potential    |
|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Vapor     | Diffusion         | Vapor Concentration  |
| Adsorbate | Surface Diffusion | Concentration        |
| Liquid    | Capillary Flow    | Suction Pressure     |
|           | Osmosis           | Solute Concentration |

## Moisture Transport in Assemblies

| Phase            | Transport Process  | Driving Potential    |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Vapor</b>     | Diffusion          | Vapor Concentration  |
|                  | Convective Flow    | Air Pressure         |
| <b>Adsorbate</b> | Surface Diffusion  | Concentration        |
| <b>Liquid</b>    | Capillary Flow     | Suction Pressure     |
|                  | Osmosis            | Solute Concentration |
|                  | Gravitational Flow | Height               |
|                  | Surface Tension    | Surface Energy       |
|                  | Momentum           | Kinetic Energy       |
|                  | Convective Flow    | Air Pressure         |

Water Control Layer

Air Control Layer

Vapor Control Layer

Thermal Control Layer