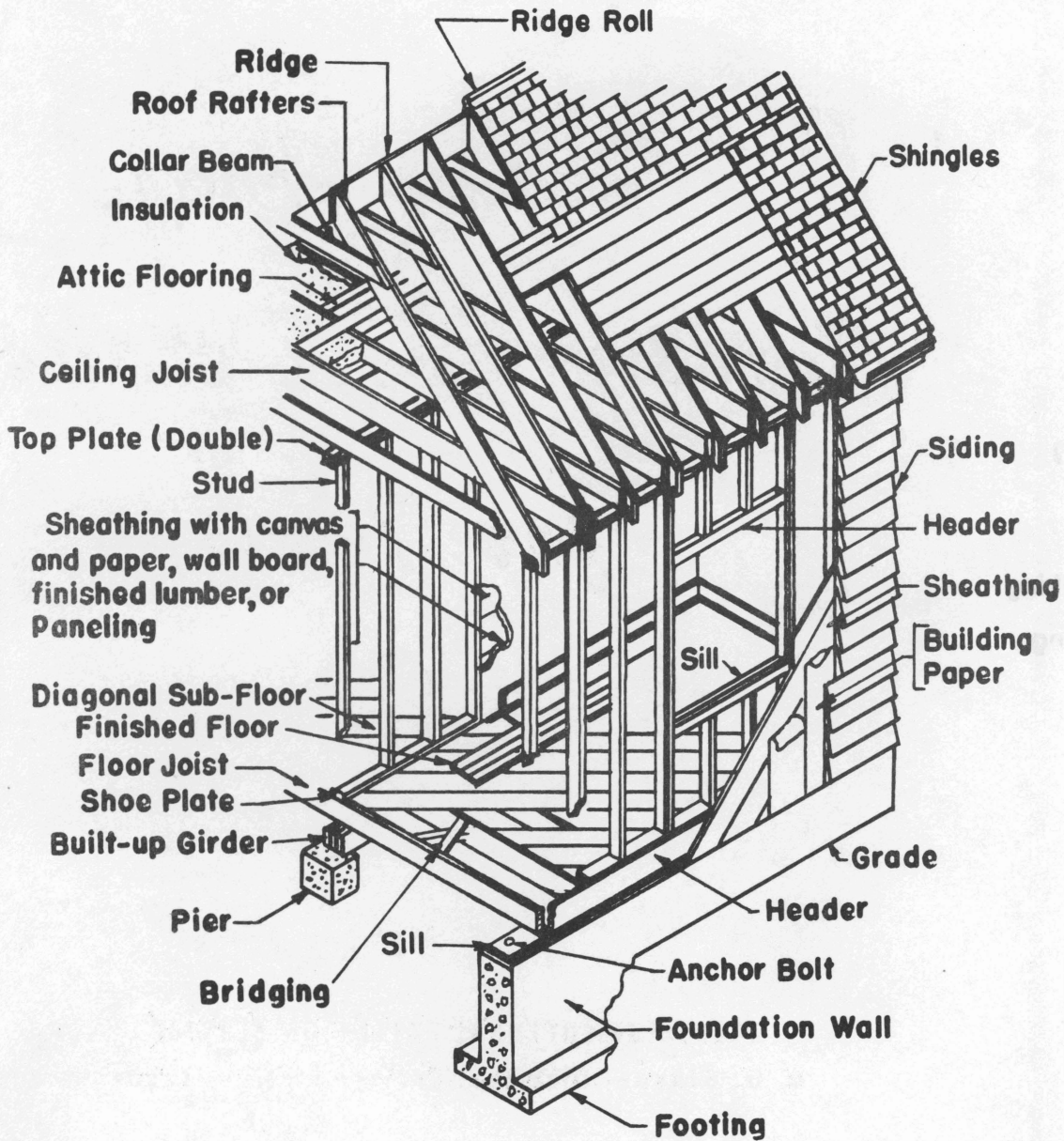


*Frame House
Construction Details
for Texas*

TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
G. G. Gibson, Director, College Station, Texas

THE SKELETON OF YOUR HOUSE



CONSTRUCTION TERMS

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Extension Agricultural Engineer
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Sound construction is good business. The methods and materials put into a house determine its livability and life expectancy. By knowing the following terms and insisting upon approved practices, soundness and permanence of construction is safeguarded.

Footings - enlargements at the bottom of a wall, pier, or column to distribute the load over a larger area.

Foundations - the wall built upon the footing, carried up to the sill and upon which the sill is laid.

Piers - intermediate supports for the sills close enough together to provide sufficient support for the superstructure.

Sills - usually a heavy timber or 2-inch plank single or double thickness secured to the foundation wall by anchor bolts.

Framing - the superstructure on the foundation, i. e., house from sills to ridge board.

Studs - the upright members used to make up the framework of the exterior walls and interior partitions.

Girders - heavy members, usually made of 2-inch planks spiked together, used to hold up the joists of the first floor. They run from foundation wall to foundation wall and are supported by piers or foundation walls.

Joists - horizontal beams, supporting the floor between wall and girders.

Bridging - light pieces placed diagonally between the joists to stiffen them.

Sub-floor - rough planks placed diagonally over the joists and on which the finished floor is laid.

Plates - a 2-inch plank cap laid horizontally on the top of the wall studding and interior partitions.

Fire-stops - usually 2 x 4's placed between the studs to impede the progress of fire.

Sheathing - rough planks, tongue and groove nailed diagonally, or composition board nailed to the outside frame.

Rafters - the main structural members of the roof.

Flashing - metal strips used to waterproof breaks in the roof at chimneys, valleys and hips.

Carriage - the heavy frame that supports the stairs.

Risers - the vertical boards of the stairway.

Treads - the horizontal boards or steps of the stairway.

Curtain-wall - walls of masonry or similar material between piers.

Siding - the outside layer of boards on the wall.

Millwork - the doors, windows, cabinets and sometimes taken to include the trim and paneling on the interior.

Building Paper - waxed or asphalt-coated paper applied over the sheathing to provide a moisture - and wind-proof membrane.

PUBLICATIONS THAT WILL AID IN PLANNING THE
FARM OR RANCH HOME

Extension Service, A. & M. College of Texas

- B-134 Pantry Suggestions
- B-172 Plans for Farm and Ranch Homes in Texas
- C-112 Finishing Floors, Walls and Woodwork
- C-233 How To Build With Native Stone
- C-246 Disposal of Waste Water from the Kitchen and Bath
- L-64 Protect Your Homestead from Fire
- F.B. 1426 Farm Plumbing
- F.B. 1452 Painting on the Farm
- F.B. 1572 Making Cellars Dry
- F.B. 1698 Heating the Farm Home
- F.B. 1720 Adobe or Dried Brick for Farm Buildings
- F.B. 1751 Roof Coverings for Farm Buildings and
Their Repair
- F.B. 1772 Use of Concrete on the Farm
- F.B. 1869 Foundations for Farm Buildings
- F.B. 1889 Fireplaces and Chimneys
- F.B. 1950 Sewage and Garbage Disposal on the Farm
- F.B. 1978 Safe Water for the Farm

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