

“Importance of proper detailing on performance of wood assemblies exposed to environment” by Judson A. Taylor and David P. Kuivanen

Wood is a versatile material with many advantages for use as exterior or interior components (e.g., ease of work, relatively low cost, attractive appearance, etc.). With proper detailing, preparation and finishing, wood components exposed to environments can last for decades with normal maintenance. Typical and recommended methods to protect the framing systems (including Type V construction) from water intrusion, moisture transfer, and condensation, often resulting in molds and deterioration, are discussed in this paper. Common pitfalls are examined. Also, new materials and methods of construction developed in recent years to better manage and prevent water intrusion are reviewed. An engineer must consider all of the above to successfully design wood components for longevity.

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