

5519 N. Diversey Blvd, Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

Prepared For: Dave & Heather Lukach

Inspection Date: 11-03-2026

Inspector: Scott Shirley

Phone Number: 414-573-4663

Report Number: 031126-1300

House to Home Inspections
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REPORT OVERVIEW

THE HOUSE IN PERSPECTIVE

This home is 50+ years old but is in need of maintenance and/or repairs.

CONVENTIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

SATISFACTORY - Indicates the component is functionally consistent with its original purpose but may show signs of normal wear and tear and deterioration.

MARGINAL - Indicates the component will probably require repair or replacement anytime within five years.

POOR - Indicates the component will need repair or replacement now or in the very near future.

DEFECT - A condition of an improvement that would significantly impair the health or safety of future occupants of a property or that, if not repaired, or replaced, would significantly shorten or adversely affect the expected normal life of the component of the improvement.

SAFETY HAZARD - Denotes a condition that is unsafe and in need of prompt attention.

THE SCOPE OF THE INSPECTION

All components designated for inspection in the ASHI® Standards of Practice are inspected, except as may be noted in the "Limitations of Inspection" sections within this report.

It is the goal of the inspection to put a home buyer in a better position to make a buying decision. Not all improvements will be identified during this inspection. Unexpected repairs should still be anticipated. The inspection should not be considered a guarantee or warranty of any kind.

Please refer to the pre-inspection contract for a full explanation of the scope of the inspection.

BUILDING DATA

Approximate Age:	1929
Style:	Single family
Main Entrance Faces:	North
State of Occupancy:	Occupied
Weather Conditions:	68 degrees and raining
Recent Rain:	Yes
Ground cover:	Wet

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SUMMARY

DEFECTS

A condition of an improvement that would significantly impair the health or safety of future occupants of a property or that, if not repaired, or replaced, would significantly shorten or adversely affect the expected normal life of the component of the improvement.

- **Kitchen items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **The oven and dishwasher were not working on the day of inspection**
- **Window items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **There is missing glass on the window in the 1st floor half bathroom**
  - **The right window on the south living room wall slams down when opened**
- **Plumbing items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **The water supply line behind the basement laundry sink is leaking/corroded**
  - **There is a drain cleaning attachment stuck in the upper bathroom shower drain**
  - **There is corrosion on the water supply line next to the shut off valve in the storage room at the bottom of the basement steps**
- **HVAC items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **The radiators in the 2nd floor east bedroom and at the bottom of the 3rd floor steps were not getting heat on the day of inspection**

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE REPAIRED

Item(s) that have failed or have potential of failing soon.

- **Exterior house items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **There is visible rot on the wood trim around the lower windows/doors on the south side of the house**
  - **There is visible rot on the wood trim around the basement windows on the north and south sides of the house**
- **Garage items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **The photo eyes on the garage door are not lined up and the door closer button has to be held down for the garage door to close**
- **Window items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **There are several windows throughout the house that have cracked glass (see comments)**
- **Basement items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **There are improper supports being used under the basement steps**
- **Plumbing items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **There is non standard flexible drain pipe being used under the 1st floor half bathroom sink**

POTENTIAL SAFETY DEFECTS

- **Recommend installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on every level of the house.**
- **There is a possible asbestos like wrap on several of the water supply lines and boiler supply lines in the basement. There are several areas of friable ends/deterioration visible. Recommend review/repair as necessary by a qualified contractor.**
- **Grounds items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **The step up front the yard to the deck and from driveway to the deck is higher than 8”**
- **Fireplace/chimney items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **There is creosote buildup in the living room fireplace and chimney flue**
  - **The firebrick in the living room fireplace is cracked**
- **Plumbing items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **The flexible gas connector run to the kitchen stove has been run through the floor. This is not standard practice**
  - **There is no extension installed on the TPR valve on the water heater**
  - **There is no handle installed on the shut off valve on the gas line for the dryer**
- **Electrical items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:**
  - **There is an open junction box in the 3rd floor closet and on the west exterior of the house**
  - **There is an open junction box on the south wall of the closet at the bottom of the basement steps**
  - **There is an ungrounded 2 prong outlet in the front entry hallway next to the steps**
  - **The outlet to the right of the basement laundry sink has reverse polarity**
  - **There is uncapped electrical wiring in the ceiling in foot of the laundry area**
  - **There are uncapped electrical wires on the ceiling (light fixture not installed) in the right closet on the west master bedroom wall**
  - **There is loose, unsheathed electrical wiring to the left of the main electrical panel**
  - **The ground and neutral wires in the basement sub panel are not separated and isolated**

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DEFERRED MAINTENANCE ITEMS

Items that have reached or are reaching their normal life expectancy or show indications that they may require repair or replacement anytime during the next five (5) years.

- **Grounds items (see comments)**
- **Exterior house items (see comments)**
- **Garage items (see comments)**
- **Interior items (see comments)**
- **Water heater (2007)**

*Items listed in this report may inadvertently have been left off the Summary Sheet. Customer should read the entire report, including the remarks.

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Photo Summary



Picture 1: Cracked concrete on the ledge under the upper right window on the east side of the house



Picture 2: There are several areas of cracked mortar on the east side of the house



Picture 3: There are several areas of cracked mortar on the east side of the house



Picture 4: Visible rot starting to show on the wood around the lower right windows/doors on the south side of the house



Picture 5: There is visible rot on the wood around the basement windows on the south side of the house



Picture 6: There is visible rot on the wood around the basement windows on the south side of the house

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Picture 7: There is visible rot on the wood around the basement windows on the south side of the house



Picture 8: There is visible rot on the wood around the basement windows on the west side of the house



Picture 9: Open junction box on the west exterior of the house



Picture 10: There are several areas of cracked mortar on the brick on the house



Picture 11: There are several areas of cracked mortar on the brick on the house



Picture 12: There is visible rot on the wood around the basement windows on the north side of the house

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Picture 13: There is visible rot on the wood around the basement windows on the north side of the house



Picture 14: Step up from the driveway to the deck is higher than 8”



Picture 15: Step up from the yard to the deck is higher than 8”



Picture 16: The oven was not working on the day of inspection



Picture 17: The dishwawher was not working on the day of inspection

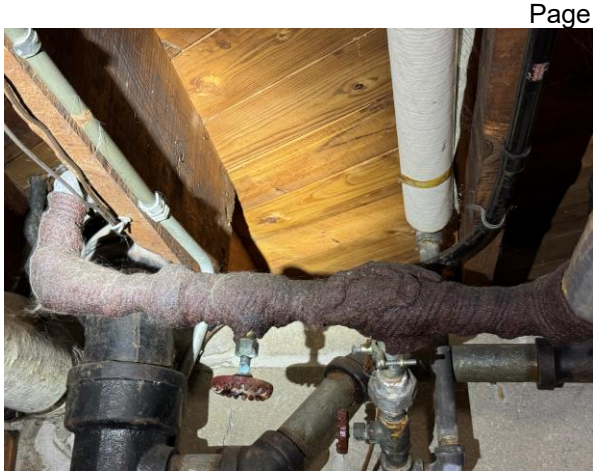


Picture 18: There are several windows with cracked glass throughout the house (see comments)

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Picture 19: Drain cleaning attachment is stuck in the upper bathroom shower drain



Picture 20: There is a possible asbestos like wrap on several of the water supply lines and boiler supply lines in the basement. There are friable ends/deterioration visible in several areas



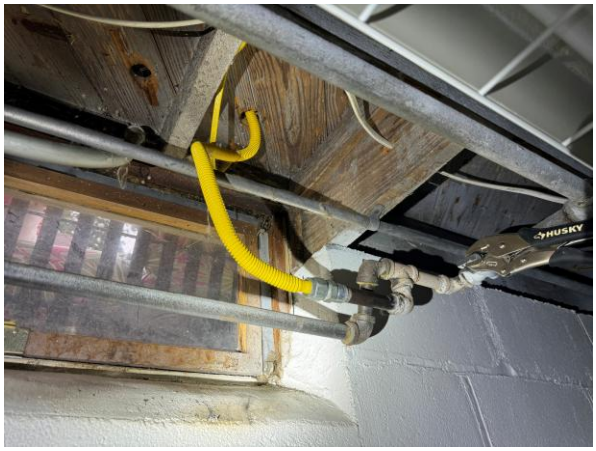
Picture 21: There is a possible asbestos like wrap on several of the water supply lines and boiler supply lines in the basement. There are friable ends/deterioration visible in several areas



Picture 22: There is a possible asbestos like wrap on several of the water supply lines and boiler supply lines in the basement. There are friable ends/deterioration visible in several areas



Picture 23: Leaking/corrosion on the water supply line next to the shut off valve in the storage room at the bottom of the basement steps



Picture 24: The CSST gas line being run to the kitchen stove is being run through the floor. This is not standard practice

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Picture 25: Leaking/corrosion on the water supply line behind the basement laundry sink



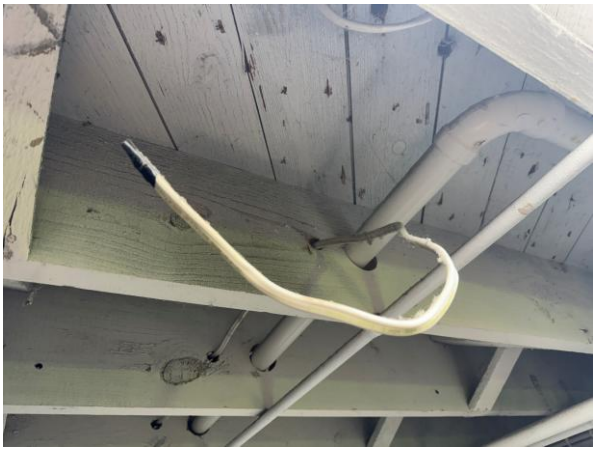
Picture 26: No extension installed on the TPR valve on the water heater



Picture 27: No handle installed on the shut off valve on the gas line for the dryer



Picture 28: There is creosote buildup in the living room fireplace/chimney flue. There is cracked firebrick in the fireplace



Picture 29: Loose/unsheathed electrical wiring in the basement laundry room



Picture 30: The ground & neutral wires in the basement sub panel are not separated and isolated

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GROUNDS

SERVICE WALKS

Material: ☑ Concrete

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Trip Hazard*** ☑ Typical cracks
☐ ***Pitched towards home*** **(See remarks)** ☐ ***Settling cracks***

DRIVEWAY/PARKING

Material: ☑ Concrete

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☑ ***Settling Cracks*** ☐ ***Trip hazard***
☐ ***Pitched towards home*** **(See remarks)** ☑ Typical cracks ☑ Fill cracks and seal

STOOPS/STEPS

☐ ***Uneven risers*** ☐ ***Rotted/Damaged*** ☑ ***Cracked*** ☐ ***Settled***

Material: ☑ Concrete ☐ Wood ☐ Brick ☐ ***Railing/Balusters recommended***

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Safety Hazard***

DECK/BALCONY *(flat, floored, roofless area)*

Material: ☑ Wood ☐ Metal ☑ Composite ☐ ***Railing/Balusters recommended***

Finish: ☑ Treated ☑ Painted/Stained
☐ ***Improper attachment to house*** ☐ ***Railing loose***

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Safety Hazard*** ☐ ***Wood in contact with soil***

LANDSCAPING AFFECTING FOUNDATION **(See remarks)**

Negative Grade: ☑ East ☑ West ☑ North ☐ South ☐ Satisfactory

☑ ***Recommend additional backfill*** ☑ ***Recommend window wells/covers*** ☐ ***Trim back trees/shrubberies***

☐ ***Wood in contact with/improper clearance to soil***

WALL

Material: Concrete ☐ ***Drainage holes recommended***

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Safety Hazard*** ☑ ***Leaning/cracked/bowed***

(Relates to the visual condition of the wall)

FENCE

Type: ☑ Wood

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☑ Typical cracks ☐ ***Loose Blocks/Caps***
☑ ***Planks Missing/Damaged***

HOSE BIBS

☑ No anti-siphon valve ☑ **Recommend Anti-siphon valve**

Operable: ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not tested due to exterior temperature

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Grounds items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - The step up front the yard to the deck and from driveway to the deck is higher than 8”
- Grounds items recommended to be monitored or budgeted for future repairs or replacement:
  - The caulk where the front step meets the front stoop is cracked in several areas
  - The concrete under the front entry door is cracked
  - The deck is grade level and the underside of the deck was not visible due to this
  - The fence on the north side of the yard is leaning
  - The concrete wall between the house and the alley is cracked in several areas
  - There are several areas of visible rot on the deck floorboards
  - There are several areas of visible rot on the fence
  - The sidewalks on the north side of the garage are pitched towards the garage

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ROOF VISIBILITY ☑ All

INSPECTED FROM ☑ Ground (***Inspection Limited***) ☑ With Binoculars/Drone

STYLE OF ROOF

Type: ☑ Gable ☑ Flat
Pitch: ☑ Flat ☑ Steep

Roof #1 Type: Asphalt Layers: 1+

VENTILATION SYSTEM

Type: ☑ Ridge

Ventilation Appears to be adequate: ☐ Yes ☑ No **(See interior remarks)**

FLASHING

Material: ☐ Not visible ☑ Galv/Alum ☑ Rubber

Condition: ☐ Not visible ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Rusted*** ☐ **Missing**
☐ ***Separated from chimney/roof*** ☐ ***Recommend Repair***

VALLEYS

Material: ☐ Not Visible ☑ Asphalt

Condition: ☐ Not visible ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor
☐ *Holes* ☐ **Rusted** ☐ ***Recommend Repair***

SKYLIGHTS

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Cracked/Broken***

PLUMBING VENTS ☑ Yes ☐ No ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ Not Visible

CONDITION OF ROOF COVERINGS **Roof #1:** ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Recommend Review

Condition: ☐ Curling ☐ Cracking ☐ Granules missing ☐ Broken Shingles
☐ Nail popping ☐ Exposed felt ☐ Cupping ☐ Missing Tabs/Shingles/Tiles
☐ Moss buildup ☐ Exposed/Improper Nailing
☐ ***Recommend roofer evaluate*** ☐ ***Evidence of Leakage***

Conditions reported above reflect visible portion only. See additional Comments

GENERAL COMMENTS

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EXTERIOR

GUTTERS/SCUPPERS/EAVESTROUGH

Material: ☑ Galvanized/Aluminum

Leaking: ☐ Corners ☐ Joints ☐ ***Hole in main run***

Attachment: ☐ ***Loose*** ☐ ***Missing spikes*** ☐ ***Improperly sloped (See remark)***

Extension needed: ☐ North ☐ South ☐ East ☐ West ☐ ***Recommend repair/replacement of damaged sections***

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Downspouts needed*** ☑ ***Needs to be cleaned***

SIDING

Material: ☑ Brick

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☑ ***Recommend repair/painting***

☐ ***Wood deterioration*** ☐ ***Loose/Missing/Holes*** ☑ Typical cracks ☐ Peeling paint

1.)TRIM 2.)SOFFIT 3.)FASCIA 4.)FLASHING

Material: ☑ Wood ☑ Aluminum/Steel

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☑ ***Recommend repair/painting*** ☑ ***Damaged wood***

CAULKING

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

☑ ***Recommend around windows/doors/masonry ledges/corners/utility penetrations***

WINDOWS & SCREENS

☐ ***Failed/fogged insulated glass***

Material: ☑ Wood ☑ Metal

Screens: ☐ Not installed ☐ Torn ☐ Bent

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☑ ***Recommend repair/painting*** ☑ Glazing Compound/Caulk needed

STORMS WINDOWS

Material: ☐ Not installed ☑ Wood

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ ***Wood rot*** ☑ ***Broken/cracked*** ☑ ***Recommend repair/painting***

EXTERIOR DOORS

Weather stripping: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ Missing ☐ Damaged

Door Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Exterior house items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - There is visible rot on the wood trim around the lower windows/doors on the south side of the house
  - There is visible rot on the wood trim around the basement windows on the north and south sides of the house
- Exterior house items recommended to be monitored or budgeted for future repairs:
  - There are gaps between the flashing and siding above the upper windows on the west side of the house
  - There is cracked/missing mortar on several areas of the brick siding on the west side of the house
  - There is visible rot on the wood around the exhaust vent on the west exterior of the house
  - There is cracked mortar on the areas around several of the windows on the east side of the house
  - There is cracked concrete on the small balcony/ledge outside the upper right window on the east side of the house
  - There is visible rot on the lower left storm window on the east side of the house

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EXTERIOR

CHIMNEY(S)

Location(s): South side of the house/roof

Viewed From: ☑ Ground ***(Inspection Limited)*** ☑ With Binoculars/Drone

Rain Cap/Spark Arrestor: ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ ***Recommended***

Chase: ☑ Brick

Evidence of: ☐ Holes in metal ☐ Cracked chimney cap ☑ Loose mortar joints
☐ Flaking ☑ Spalling brick ☐ Rust

Flue: ☑ Tile ☐ Metal ☐ ***Unlined*** ☐ Not visible

Evidence of: ☐ Scaling ☐ Cracks ☐ Creosote ☐ ***Not evaluated (See remarks page)***
☐ ***Have flue(s) cleaned and re-evaluated*** ☐ ***Recommend Cricket/Saddle/Flashing***

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Recommend Review/Repair***

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Chimney items recommended to be monitored or budgeted for future repairs:
  - There is a small area of spalling on the bottom area of the north side of the chimney
  - There are several areas of minor cracking in the mortar on the chimney

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EXTERIOR

SERVICE ENTRY

Incoming Power Lines: ☑ Overhead ☐ ***Weather head/mast needs repair*** ☐ ***Overhead wires too low***

Exterior receptacles: ☐ Yes ☑ No **Operable:** ☐ Yes ☐ No

GFCI present: ☐ Yes ☐ No **Operable:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ *Recommend GFCI Receptacles*

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Reverse polarity/Open ground(s)*** ☐ ***Safety Hazard***

BUILDING(S) EXTERIOR WALL CONSTRUCTION

Type: Not visible but likely: ☑ Masonry

Condition: ☑ Not visible

SLAB-ON-GRADE/FOUNDATION WALL

Foundation Wall: ☑ Not visible

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Monitor ☐ Have Evaluated

Concrete Slab: ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Monitor ☐ Have Evaluated

Condition reported above reflect visible portion only.

EXTERIOR A/C - HEAT PUMP

UNIT #1: ☐ N/A **Location:** West side of the house Approximate age: 2021

Brand: Carrier Model #: PA13NA042-B Serial #: 1921X50154

Outside Disconnect: ☑ Yes ☐ No Maximum fuse/breaker rating: 40 Amp

Fuses/breakers installed: ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ ***Improperly sized fuses/breakers***

Level: ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ ***Cabinet/housing rusted*** ☐ ***Damaged base/pad***

Condenser Fins: ☐ ***Damaged*** ☐ Need cleaning Improper Clearance (air flow) ☐ Yes ☑ No

☐ ***Damaged Refrigerant Line*** **Insulation:** ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ Replace

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Not operated due to exterior temperature***

GENERAL COMMENTS

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GARAGE/CARPORT

TYPE
☑ Detached ☑ 2-car

AUTOMATIC OPENER ☑ Operable ☐ Inoperable

SAFETY REVERSE **Operable:** ☑ Yes ☐ No ☑ *Need(s) adjusting* ☐ *Safety hazard(s)*
Photo eyes: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Operable:** ☐ Yes ☑ No ☑ Improperly Placed

GUTTERS / EAVESTROUGH **Condition:** ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

SIDING / TRIM
Siding: ☑ Brick
Trim: ☑ Wood

FLOOR
Material: ☑ Concrete
Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Typical cracks ☐ *Large settling cracks* ☐ *Recommend evaluation/repair*
Burners less than 18" above garage floor: ☑ N/A

SILL PLATES ☑ Not visible ☑ Floor level ☐ Elevated ☐ *Rotted/Damaged* ☐ *Recommend repair*

GARAGE DOOR(S)
Material: ☑ Metal
Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ *Overhead door hardware loose* ☐ *Recommend repair*
Recommend Priming/Painting Inside & Edges: ☑ Yes ☐ No ☑ *Weatherstripping missing/damaged*

EXTERIOR SERVICE DOOR
Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ *Damaged/Rusted*

ELECTRICAL RECEPTACLES PRESENT ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not visible
Reverse polarity: ☐ Yes ☑ No **Open ground:** ☐ Yes ☑ No ☑ *Safety hazard*
GFCI Present: ☐ Yes ☑ No **Operable:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ *Handyman/extension cord wiring*

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Garage items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - The photo eyes on the garage door are not lined up and the door closer button has to be held down for the garage door to close
- Garage items recommended to be monitored or budgeted for future repairs or replacement
  - The garage floor slab has settled and cracked in several areas
  - There is cracked mortar on the brick on several areas of the garage
  - There is rust on the bottom of the garage door
  - The metal lintel above the garage door is visibly sagging
  - The gutters on the north side of the garage are dented
  - The garage attic/storage areas was not able to be viewed due to a car being parked u see the access hatch

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KITCHEN

COUNTERTOPS ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ ***Recommend repair/caulking***

CABINETS ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ ***Recommend repair/adjustment***

PLUMBING COMMENTS

Faucet Leaks: ☐ Yes ☑ No

Pipes leak/corroded: ☐ Yes ☑ No

Sink/Faucet: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Chipped ☐ Cracked ☐ ***Recommend repair***

Functional Drainage: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Functional Flow: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

WALLS & CEILING

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☑ Typical cracks ☐ ***Moisture stains***

Heat source present: ☑ Yes ☐ No

FLOOR **Condition:** ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ Sloping ☑ Squeaks

WINDOWS

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ Cracked ☐ Evidence of leaking insulated glass

APPLIANCES ***Appliances are tested for functional operation only. A complete inspection was not performed. (See remarks page)***

☑ Disposal	*Operable*:	☑ Yes	☐ No	☑ Microwave	*Operable*:	☑ Yes	☐ No
☑ Oven	*Operable*:	☐ Yes	☑ No	☑ Exhaust Fan	*Operable*:	☑ Yes	☐ No
☑ Range	*Operable*:	☑ Yes	☐ No	☑ Refrigerator	*Operable*:	☑ Yes	☐ No
☑ Dishwasher	*Operable*:	☐ Yes	☑ No				

Dishwasher Air Gap Present: ☐ Yes ☑ Not Visible/Present

Receptacles Present: ☑ Yes ☐ No Operable: ☑ Yes ☐ No

GFCI: ☑ Yes ☐ No Operable: ☑ Yes ☐ No

Open ground/Reverse polarity: ☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ ***Potential Safety hazard(s)***

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Kitchen items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - The oven and dishwasher were not working on the day of inspection
- Kitchen items recommended to be monitored or budgeted for future repairs or replacement:
  - There is no air gap installed for the dishwasher. Recommend installing an air gap to prevent back flow contamination

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BASEMENT LAUNDRY ROOM

Laundry sink: ☐ N/A

Faucet leaks: ☐ Yes ☑ No

Pipes leak: ☐ Yes ☑ No

Cross connections: ☐ Yes ☑ No

Heat source present: ☐ Yes ☑ No

Room vented: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Dryer vented: ☑ Wall ☐ Ceiling ☐ Floor ☐ Not Vented to Exterior

☐ ***Plastic Dryer Vent not recommended*** ☐ ***Recommend repair*** ☐ ***Safety hazard***

Electrical: **Open ground/Reverse polarity:** ☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ ***Potential Safety hazard(s)***

GFCI present: ☐ Yes ☑ No **Operable:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ ***Safety hazard***

Appliances: ☑ Washer ☐ Dryer ☐ Water Heater ☐ Furnace/Boiler

Washer hook-up lines/valves: ☐ Leaking ☐ Corroded ☐ Not visible

Gas Shut-off Valve: ☐ Yes ☐ Cap Needed ☑ ***Safety hazard***

GENERAL COMMENTS

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BATHROOM(S)

1ST FLOOR HALF BATH

Sinks: **Faucet leaks:** ☐ Yes ☑ No **Pipes leak:** ☐ Yes ☑ No

Toilet: **Bowl Loose:** ☐ Yes ☑ No **Operable:** ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ Cracked bowl ☐ Toilet leaks

Caulk/Grouting Needed: ☑ Yes ☐ No

Drainage: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Water flow: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Moisture stains present: ☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ Walls ☐ Ceilings ☐ Cabinets

Receptacles Present: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Operable:** ☑ Yes ☐ No

GFCI: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Operable:** ☑ Yes ☐ No

Open ground/Reverse polarity: ☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ ***Potential Safety hazard(s)*** ***(See remarks)***

Heat source present: ☑ Yes ☐ No

Window/doors: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ Cracked ☐ Evidence of leaking insulated glass

Exhaust fan: ☐ Yes ☑ No

UPPER BATH

Sinks: **Faucet leaks:** ☐ Yes ☑ No **Pipes leak:** ☐ Yes ☑ No

Tubs: **Faucet leaks:** ☐ Yes ☑ No **Pipes leak:** ☐ Yes ☑ Not Visible

Showers: **Faucet leaks:** ☐ Yes ☑ No **Pipes leak:** ☐ Yes ☑ Not Visible

Toilet: **Bowl loose:** ☐ Yes ☑ No **Operable:** ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ Cracked bowl ☐ Toilet leaks

Shower/Tub area: ☑ Ceramic/Plastic ☐ Fiberglass ☐ Masonite

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ Rotted floors ☑ Caulk or Grout Needed

Drainage: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Water flow: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Moisture stains present: ☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ Walls ☐ Ceilings ☐ Cabinets

Receptacles Present: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Operable:** ☑ Yes ☐ No

GFCI: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Operable:** ☐ Yes ☐ No

Open ground/Reverse polarity: ☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ ***Potential Safety hazard(s)*** ***(See remarks)***

Heat source present: ☑ Yes ☐ No

Window/doors: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ Cracked ☐ Evidence of leaking insulated glass

Exhaust fan: ☐ Yes ☑ No

GENERAL COMMENTS

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BEDROOMS

Number of bedrooms: 3

Walls & Ceilings Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Observations: ☑ Typical Cracks ☐ Damage/Holes ☐ ***Moisture Stains***

Floors Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Observations: ☐ Slopes ☑ Squeaks ☐ ***Damage***

Electrical: **Open ground/Reverse polarity:** ☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ ***Safety Hazard*** ☐ Cover plates missing

Switches: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Receptacles:** ☑ Yes ☐ No **Operable:** ☑ Yes ☐ No

Heating Source Present: ☑ Yes ☐ Not visible

LIVING SPACES

Living Spaces: 4

Walls & Ceilings Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Observations: ☑ Typical Cracks ☐ Damage/Holes ☐ ***Moisture Stains***

Floors Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Observations: ☐ Slopes ☑ Squeaks ☐ ***Damage***

Electrical: **Open ground/Reverse polarity:** ☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ ***Safety Hazard*** ☐ Cover plates missing

Switches: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Receptacles:** ☑ Yes ☐ No **Operable:** ☑ Yes ☐ No

Heating Source Present: ☑ Yes ☑ Not visible

GENERAL COMMENTS

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INTERIOR

INTERIOR WINDOWS / GLASS

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☑ ***Needs repair***
☑ Representative number of windows operated ☑ Painted shut/do not open ***(See remarks)***
☑ Glazing compound needed ☐ Cracked glass ☑ Hardware missing
☑ ***Broken counter-balance mechanism***

Evidence of Leaking Insulated Glass: ☐ Yes ☑ No

FIREPLACE

Location(s): Living room

Type: ☑ Wood
Material: ☑ Masonry
Damper operable: ☑ Yes ☐ No
☑ ***Open joints or cracks in firebrick/panels should be sealed*** ☐ ***Fireplace doors need repair***
Damper Modified for Gas Operation: ☐ Yes ☑ No ☐ ***Damper missing***
Hearth Extension Adequate: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Mantel:** ☐ N/A ☑ Secure ☐ Loose
Physical Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☑ ***Recommend having flue cleaned and re-examined***

STAIRS / STEPS / BALCONIES

Risers/Treads: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor
Handrail: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Safety Hazard***
☐ **Hand Rail/Railing/Balusters Recommended** ☐ ***Risers/Treads uneven***
Headroom: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

SMOKE / CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS *(See remarks)*

Present: Smoke Detector: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Operable:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☑ Not tested
CO Detector: ☐ Yes ☑ No **Operable:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not tested

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Recommend installing smoke and carbon monoxide detectors on every level of the house.
- Fireplace/chimney items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - There is creosote buildup in the living room fireplace and chimney flue
  - The firebrick in the living room fireplace is cracked
- Window items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - There is missing glass on the window in the 1st floor half bathroom
  - The window on the north wall of the 2nd floor east bedroom has cracked glass
  - Both windows on the east master bedroom wall have cracked glass
  - The left window on the east living room wall has cracked glass
  - The right window on the south living room wall has cracked glass
  - The window above the washer in the basement laundry room has cracked glass
  - The right window on the south living room wall slams down when opened
  - The right window on the south master bedroom wall would not open
- Interior items recommended to be monitored or budgeted for future repairs or replacement:
  - The window in the 1st floor half bathroom has broken ropes
  - The railing at the top not the 2nd floor steps is starting to loosen
  - There is no locking mechanism on the left window on the east master bedroom wall
  - There is cracked/bubbling paint on the ceiling of the landing at the bottom of the 3rd floor steps
  - The ceiling fan n the 3rd floor family room would not turn on during the inspection
  - There is visible rust on all metal windows in the basement

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INTERIOR

ATTIC/STRUCTURE/FRAMING/INSULATION

Access: ☐ Stairs ☐ Pull down ☐ Scuttle hole/Hatch ☐ ***No access***

Inspected From: ☐ Access panel ☐ In the attic

Location: ☐ Bedroom hall ☐ Bedroom closet ☐ Garage

Flooring: ☐ Complete ☐ Partial ☐ None

Insulation: ☐ Fiber glass ☐ Batts ☐ Loose ☐ Cellulose ☐ Foam
☐ Vermiculite ☐ Rock wool Depth: ☐ ***Recommend Baffles @ Eaves***
☐ ***Damaged*** ☐ ***Displaced*** ☐ ***Missing*** ☐ ***Compressed***

Installed In: ☐ Rafters ☐ Walls ☐ Between ceiling joists ☐ Underside of Roof Deck ☐ Not visible
☐ ***Recommend additional insulation (See comments)***

Vapor Barriers: ☐ Kraft/foil faced ☐ Plastic ☐ Not visible ☐ ***Improperly Installed***

Ventilation: ☐ ***Ventilation appears adequate*** ☐ ***Recommend additional ventilation***

Fans Exhausted To Attic: ☐ Yes ☐ No **Outside:** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not visible

HVAC Duct: ☐ Satisfactory ☐ ***Damaged*** ☐ ***Split*** ☐ ***Disconnected*** ☐ ***Leaking*** ☐ ***Recommend Insulation***

Chimney Chase: ☐ N/A ☐ Satisfactory ☐ ***Needs repair*** ☐ Not visible

Structural Problems Observed: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ ***Recommend repair*** ☐ ***Recommend Structural Engineer***

Roof Structure: ☐ Rafters ☐ Trusses ☐ Wood
☐ Collar Ties ☐ Purlins ☐ Knee Wall

Ceiling Joists: ☐ Wood ☐ Metal ☐ Not visible

Sheathing: ☐ Plywood ☐ OSB ☐ Planking ☐ ***Rotted*** ☐ ***Stained*** ☐ ***Delaminated***

Evidence of Condensation/Moisture Leaking: ☐ Yes ☐ No ***(See remarks)***

Firewall between Units: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ ***Needs repair/sealing***

Electrical: ☐ ***Open junction box(es)*** ☐ ***Handyman wiring*** ☐ ***Visible knob-and-tube***

GENERAL COMMENTS

- The attic has been finished as a 3rd floor living space.

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BASEMENT

STAIRS

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☑ Typical wear and tear ☐ Need repair

Handrail: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Condition:** ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Loose

☐ ***Handrail/Railing/Balusters Recommended***

Headway Over Stairs: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ ***Low clearance*** ☐ ***Safety Hazard***

FOUNDATION

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ ***Have evaluated*** ☐ ***Monitor***

Material: ☑ Concrete block

Horizontal Cracks:	☐ North	☐ South	☐ East	☐ West
Step Cracks:	☐ North	☐ South	☐ East	☐ West
Vertical Cracks:	☐ North	☐ South	☐ East	☑ West
Covered Walls:	☑ North	☑ South	☑ East	☑ West
Movement Apparent:	☐ North	☐ South	☐ East	☐ West
Indication Of Moisture:	☑ Yes	☐ No	☐ Fresh	☑ Old stains

Condition reported above reflects visible portion only

FLOOR

Material: ☑ Concrete ☑ Not visible/Covered with floor coverings

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☑ Typical cracks

DRAINAGE

Sump Pump: ☐ Yes ☑ No

Floor Drains: ☑ Yes ☐ Not visible ☑ Drains not tested

GIRDERS / BEAMS

Material: ☑ Not visible/ Covered with finish material

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ Stained/rusted

COLUMNS

Material: ☑ Block ☑ Not visible/ Covered with finish material

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ Stained/rusted

JOISTS

Material: ☑ Wood ☑ Not visible/ Covered with finish material

☑ 2x10 ☐ ***Sagging/altered joists***

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

SUB FLOOR

☑ Indication of moisture stains/rotting

** Areas around shower stalls, etc., as viewed from basement or crawl space

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GENERAL COMMENTS

- There is a possible asbestos like wrap on several of the water supply lines and boiler supply lines in the basement. There are several areas of friable ends/deterioration visible. Recommend review/repair as necessary by a qualified contractor.
- Basement items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - There are improper supports being used under the basement steps
- Basement items recommended to be monitored or budgeted for future repairs or replacement:
  - Most visible basement walls have been painted. Recommend asking the homeowner for more information about when these areas were painted
  - There is hairline vertical cracking on the west basement wall. Recommend sealing the cracks and monitoring
  - There is peeling paint on several of the water/boiler supply lines in the basement laundry room
  - There is discoloration or old stains on all basement walls. Recommend keeping gutters clean, downspouts extended, window wells covered and exterior grading properly sloped away from the foundation to ensure roof and surface water does not pool near the foundation

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PLUMBING

WATER SERVICE

Main Shut-off Location: In the basement

Water Entry Piping: ☑ Not visible ☐ Copper/Galvanized ☐ **Plastic*** (PVC, CPVC, **Polybutylene**, PEX) ☐ Lead

Lead Other Than Solder Joints: ☐ Yes ☑ No ☑ Unknown ☐ Service entry

Visible Water Distribution Piping: ☑ Copper ☑ Galvanized

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor

Functional Flow: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Water pressure over 80 psi***

Pipes, Supply/Drain: ☑ ***Corroded*** ☑ ***Leaking*** ☐ ***Valves broken/missing***

☑ ***Dissimilar metal*** **Cross connection:** ☐ Yes ☑ No

Drain/Waste/Vent Pipe: ☑ Cast iron ☑ Galvanized ☑ PVC

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Traps Proper P-Type: ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ ***P-traps recommended***

Functional Drainage: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Interior Fuel Storage System: ☑ N/A

Gas Line: ☑ Black iron ☑ CSST ☐ Not visible

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Recommend plumber evaluate***

MAIN FUEL SHUT-OFF LOCATION

At the gas meter

WATER HEATER #1

Brand name: GE **Serial #:** GELN0607518733 Approx. age: 2007 **Capacity:** 50 gal.

Type: ☑ Gas

Combustion Air Venting Present: ☑ Yes ☐ No

Relief Valve: ☑ Yes ☐ No **Extension proper:** ☐ Yes ☑ No ☑ ***Missing*** ☑ ***Recommend repair***

Vent Pipe: ☑ Satisfactory ☑ Pitch proper ☐ ***Improper*** ☐ ***Rusted*** ☐ ***Recommend repair***

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Plumbing items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - The flexible gas connector run to the kitchen stove has been run through the floor. This is not standard practice
  - There is no extension installed on the TPR valve on the water heater
  - There is no handle installed on the shut off valve on the gas line for the dryer
  - The water supply line behind the basement laundry sink is leaking/corroded
  - There is a drain cleaning attachment stuck in the upper bathroom shower drain
  - There is non standard flexible drain pipe being used under the 1st floor half bathroom sink
  - There is corrosion on the water supply line next to the shut off valve in the storage room at the bottom of the basement steps
- Plumbing items recommended to be monitored or budgeted for future repairs or replacement:
  - The water supply lines behind the basement laundry sink are hanging loose. Recommend connecting the flexible metal bracket to the wall to secure the water supply lines
  - Several of the water supply lines in the home are galvanized pipe which due to age should be monitored and budgeted for future replacement
  - The water heater is older and was working as it should on the day of inspection. Due to its age recommend monitoring and budgeting for future repairs or replacement of the unit

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HEATING SYSTEM

BOILER SYSTEM

Brand Name: New Yorker — Approximate age: 2020
Model #: CGS60C — Serial #: 65750859

Energy Source: ☑ Gas
Distribution: ☑ Hot water ☑ Radiator
Circulator: ☑ Pump ☐ Gravity ☐ Multiple zones

Controls: Temp/pressure gauge exist: ☑ Yes ☐ No ***Operable:*** ☑ Yes ☐ No
Oil Fired Units: Disconnect: ☑ Yes ☐ No ***Combustion Air Venting Present:*** ☑ Yes ☐ No

Relief valve: ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ Missing Extension proper: ☑ Yes ☐ No

Operated: **When turned on by thermostat:** ☑ Fired ☐ Did not fire
Operation: Satisfactory: ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ ***Recommend HVAC technician examine Before closing***

OTHER SYSTEMS

System Type: ☑ Electric baseboard
Proper Operation: ☑ Yes ☐ No
System Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

A/C UNIT

☑ Central system Location: In the basement and on the exterior Age: 2021

Energy Source: ☑ Electric
Unit Type: ☑ Air cooled
Evaporator Coil: ☑ Not visible
Refrigerant lines: ☑ Not visible
Condensate Line/Drain: ☑ Disappears under the air handler in the 3rd floor closet

Operation: Differential 17-19° F
Difference in temperature (split) should be 14-22° Fahrenheit ***(See remarks)***

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor ☐ ***Recommend HVAC technician examine/clean/service***
☐ ***Not operated due to exterior temperature***

GENERAL COMMENTS

- HVAC items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - The radiators in the 2nd floor east bedroom and at the bottom of the 3rd floor steps were not getting heat on the day of inspection

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ELECTRIC/COOLING SYSTEM

MAIN PANEL

Location: Basement **Condition:** ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Marginal ☐ Poor

Adequate Clearance To Panel: ☑ Yes ☐ No Amperage: 100 Volts 120/240 ☑ Breakers

Appears Grounded: ☑ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not visible

GFCI Breaker: ☐ Yes ☑ No

AFCI Breaker: ☐ Yes ☑ No

MAIN WIRE: ☑ Copper ☐ Not visible ☐ ***Double tapping of the main wire***

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Poor ☐ **Federal Pacific Panel Stab Lok®** ***(See remarks)****

BRANCH WIRE: ☑ Copper ☐ Not visible

Condition: ☑ Satisfactory ☐ Poor ☐ ***Recommend electrician evaluate/repair****

☑ Romex ☐ BX cable ☑ Conduit ☐ ***Knob & tube*****

☐ ***Double tapping*** ☐ ***Wires undersized/oversized breaker/fuse***

SUB PANEL(S)

Location 1: Basement

Branch Wire: ☑ Copper ☐ Aluminum

Neutral/ground separated: ☐ Yes ☑ No Neutral isolated: ☐ Yes ☑ No ☑ ***Safety Hazard***

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor ☑ ***Recommend separating/isolating neutrals***

ELECTRICAL FIXTURES

A representative number of installed lighting fixtures, switches, and receptacles located inside the house, garage, and exterior walls were tested and found to be:

Condition: ☐ Satisfactory ☑ Marginal ☐ Poor

☑ Open grounds ☑ Reverse polarity ☐ GFCI's not operating

☐ ***Solid conductor aluminum branch wiring circuits* (See remarks)***

☐ Ungrounded 3-prong receptacles ***(See remarks)***

☑ ***Recommend electrician evaluate/repair****

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Electrical items recommended to be repaired as necessary by a qualified contractor:
  - There is an open junction box in the 3rd floor closet and on the west exterior of the house
  - There is an open junction box on the south wall of the closet at the bottom of the basement steps
  - There is an ungrounded 2 prong outlet in the front entry hallway next to the steps
  - The outlet to the right of the basement laundry sink has reverse polarity
  - There is uncapped electrical wiring in the ceiling in foot of the laundry area
  - There are uncapped electrical wires on the ceiling (light fixture not installed) in the right closet on the west master bedroom wall
  - There is loose, unsheathed electrical wiring to the left of the main electrical panel
  - The ground and neutral wires in the basement sub panel are not separated and isolated

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AN INSPECTION VERSUS A WARRANTY

A home inspection is just what the name indicates, an inspection of a home...usually a home that is being purchased. The purpose of the inspection is to determine the condition of the various systems and structures of the home. While an inspection performed by a competent inspection company will determine the condition of the major components of the home, no inspection will pick up every minute latent defect. The inspector's ability to find all defects is limited by access to various parts of the property, lack of information about the property and many other factors. A good inspector will do his or her level best to determine the condition of the home and to report it accurately. The report that is issued is an opinion as to the condition of the home. This opinion is arrived at by the best technical methods available to the home inspection industry. It is still only an opinion.

A warranty is a policy sold to the buyer that warrants that specific items in the home are in sound condition and will remain in sound condition for a specified period of time. Typically, the warranty company never inspects the home. The warranty company uses actuarial tables to determine the expected life of the warranted items and charges the customer a fee for the warranty that will hopefully cover any projected loss and make a profit for the warranty seller. It is essentially an insurance policy.

The service that we have provided you is an inspection. We make no warranty of this property. If you desire warranty coverage, please see your real estate agent for details about any warranty plan to which their firm may have access.

MECHANICAL DEVICES MAY OPERATE AT ONE MOMENT AND LATER MALFUNCTION; THEREFORE, LIABILITY IS SPECIFICALLY LIMITED TO THOSE SITUATIONS WHERE IT CAN BE CONCLUSIVELY SHOWN THAT THE MECHANICAL DEVICE INSPECTED WAS INOPERABLE OR IN THE IMMEDIATE NEED OF REPAIR OR NOT PERFORMING THE FUNCTION FOR WHICH IS IT WAS INTENDED AT THE TIME OF INSPECTION.

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GENERAL REMARKS/INFORMATION

SERVICE WALKS/DRIVEWAYS
Spalling concrete cannot be patched with concrete because the new will not bond with the old. Water will freeze between the two layers, or the concrete will break up from movement or wear. Replacement of the damaged section is recommended. Walks or driveways that are close to the property should be properly pitched away to direct water away from the foundation. Asphalt driveways should be kept sealed and larger cracks filled so as to prevent damage from frost.

PATIOS
that have settled towards the structure should be mud jacked or replaced to assure proper pitch. Improperly pitched patios are one source of wet basements/crawlspaces.

All surfaces of untreated wood need regular applications of paint or special chemicals to resist damage. Porch or deck columns and fence posts which are buried in the ground and made of untreated wood will become damaged within a year or two.

Decks should always be nailed with galvanized, stainless steal or aluminum nails. Decks that are not painted or stained should be treated with a water sealer.

GRADING AND DRAINAGE
Any system of grading or landscaping that creates positive drainage (moving water away from the foundation walls) will help to keep a basement and crawlspace dry. Where negative grade exists and additional backfill is suggested, it may require digging out around the property to get a proper pitch. Dirt shall be approximately 6” below the bottom sill and should not touch wood surfaces.

Flower beds, loose mulched areas, railroad ties and other such landscaping items close to the foundation trap moisture and contribute to wet basements. To establish a positive grade, a proper slope away from the house is 1” per foot for approximately 5-6 feet. Recommend ground cover planting or grass up to foundation.

ROOF AND SURFACE WATER CONTROL
Roof and surface water must be controlled to maintain a dry basement and crawlspace. This means keeping gutters cleaned out and aligned, extending downspouts, installing splash blocks, and building up the grade so that roof and surface water is diverted away from the building.

WINDOW WELLS
The amount of water which enters a window well from falling rain is generally slight, but water will accumulate in window wells if the yard is improperly graded. Plastic window well covers are useful in keeping out leaves and debris.

RETAINING WALLS
Retaining walls deteriorate because of excessive pressure buildup behind them, generally due to water accumulation. Conditions can often be improved by excavating a trench behind the retaining wall and filling it with coarse gravel. Drain holes through the wall will then be able to relieve the water pressure.

Retaining walls sometime suffer from tree root pressure or from general movement of topsoil down the slope. Normally, these conditions require rebuilding the retaining wall.

RAILINGS
It is recommended that railings be installed for any stairway over 3 steps and porches over 30” for safety reasons. Balusters for porches, balconies, and stairs should be close enough to assure children cannot squeeze through.

DEFINITIONS

SATISFACTORY (Sat.) - Indicates the component is functionally consistent with its original purpose but may show signs of normal wear and tear and deterioration.

MARGINAL (Marg.) - Indicates the component will probably require repair or replacement anytime within five years.

POOR - Indicates the component will need repair or replacement now or in the very near future.

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Valleys and Flashings that are covered with shingles and/or tar or any other material are considered not visible and are not part of the inspection.

Tar and Gravel Roofs - This type of covering on a pitched roof requires ongoing annual maintenance. We recommend that a roofing contractor evaluate this type of roof. Infra-red photography is best used to determine areas of potential leaks.

Flat roofs are very vulnerable to leaking. It is very important to maintain proper drainage to prevent the ponding of water. We recommend that a roofing contractor evaluate this type of roof.

ROOF TYPE	LIFE EXPECTANCY	SPECIAL REMARKS
Asphalt Shingles	15-20 years	Used on nearly 80% of all residential roofs; requires little maintenance.
*Asphalt Multi-Thickness Shingles**	20-30 years	Heavier and more durable than regular asphalt shingles.
*Asphalt Interlocking. Shingles**	15-25 years	Especially good in high-wind areas.
Asphalt Rolls	10 years	Used on low slope roofs.
Built-up Roofing	10-20 years	Used on low slope roofs; 2 to 3 times as costly as asphalt shingles.
*Wood Shingles**	10-40 years[1]	Treat with preservative every 5 years to prevent decay.
*Clay Tiles**, *Cement Tiles**	20 + years 20 + years	Durable, fireproof, but not watertight, * requiring a good subsurface base.
*Slate Shingles**	30-100 years [2]	Extremely durable, but brittle and expensive.
*Asbestos Cement Shingles**	30-75 years	Durable, but brittle and difficult to repair.
Metal Roofing	15-40 + years	Comes in sheets & shingles; should be well grounded for protection from lightning; certain metals must be painted.
Single Ply	15-25 years	New material; not yet passed test of time.
Membrane (mfgr's claim) *Polyurethane* *with Elastomenic* Coating	5-10 years [1]	Used on low slope roofs.

* Not recommended for use on low slope roof
[1] Depending on local conditions and proper installation
[2] Depending on quality of slate

Roof coverings should be visually checked in the spring and fall for any visible missing shingles, damaged coverings or other defects. Before re-roofing, the underside of the roof structure and roof sheathing should be inspected to determine that the roof structure can support the additional weight of the shingles.

Wood shakes and shingles will vary in aging, due to the quality of the material, installation, maintenance, and surrounding shade trees. Ventilation and drying of the wood material is critical in extending the life expectancy of the wood. Commercial preservatives are available on the market, which could be applied to wood to impede deterioration.

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CHIMNEYS
Chimneys built of masonry will eventually need tuckpointing. A cracked chimney top that allows water and carbonic acid to get behind the surface brick/stone will accelerate the deterioration. Moisture will also deteriorate the clay flue liner. Periodic chimney cleaning will keep you apprised of the chimney's condition. The flashing around the chimney may need resealing and should be inspected every year or two. Fireplace chimneys should be inspected and evaluated by a chimney professional before using. Chimneys must be adequate height for proper drafting. Spark arrestors are recommended for a wood burning chimney, and chimney caps for fossil fuels. **Unlined Chimney** - should be re-evaluated by a chimney technician. Have flue cleaned and re-evaluated. The flue lining is covered with soot or creosote and no representation can be made as to the condition.

NOT EVALUATED
The flue was not evaluated due to inaccessibility such as roof pitch, cap, cleanout not accessible, etc.

CRICKET FLASHING
Small, sloped structure made of metal and designed to drain moisture away from a chimney. Usually placed at the back of a chimney.

GUTTERS AND DO
This is an extremely important element in basement/crawlspace dampness control. Keep gutters clean and downspout extensions in place (4' or more). Paint the inside of galvanized gutters, which will extend the life. Shortly after a rain or thaw in winter, look for leaks at seams in the gutters. These can be recaulked before they cause damage to fascia or soffit boards. If no gutters exist, it is recommended that they be added.

SIDING
Wood siding should not come in contact with the ground. The moisture will cause rotting to take place and can attract carpenter ants. See page 34 for siding that have known problems, but are not always recognizable. Brick and stone veneer must be monitored for loose or missing mortar. Some brick and stone are susceptible to spalling. This can be caused when moisture is trapped and a freeze/thaw situation occurs. There are products on the market that can be used to seal out the moisture. This holds true for brick and stone chimneys also. Metal siding will dent and scratch. Oxidation is a normal reaction in aluminum. There are good cleaners on the market and it is recommended that they be used occasionally. Metal siding can be painted.

EIFS This type of siding is a synthetic stucco and has experienced serious problems. It requires a certified EIFS inspector to determine condition.

DOORS AND WINDOWS
These can waste an enormous amount of energy. Maintain the caulking around the frames on the exterior. Check for drafts in the winter and improve the worst offenders first. Windows that have leaky storm windows will usually have a lot of sweating. Likewise, well-sealed storms that sweat indicate a leaky window. It is the tighter unit that will sweat (unless the home has excess humidity to begin with).

Wood that exhibits blistering or peeling paint should be examined for possible moisture sources: roof leaks, bad gutters, interior moisture from baths or laundry or from a poorly vented crawl space. Some paint problems have no logical explanation, but many are a symptom of an underlying problem. A freshly painted house may mask these symptoms, but after you have lived in the home for a year or two, look for localized paint blistering (peeling). It may be a clue.
New glazing will last longer if the raw wood is treated with boiled linseed oil prior to glazing. It prevents the wood from drawing the moisture out of the new glazing.

CAULKING
Many different types of caulk are available on the market today. Check with a paint or hardware store for the kind of application you need.

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OVERHEAD DOOR OPENERS
We recommend that a separate electrical outlet be provided. Openers that do not have a **safety reverse** are considered a safety hazard. Small children and pets are especially vulnerable. We recommend the operating switches be set high enough so children cannot reach them. If an electric sensor is present, it should be tested occasionally to ensure it is working.

GARAGE SILL PLATES should be elevated or treated lumber should be used. If this is not the case, try to direct water away to prevent rotting.

BURNERS
Any appliance such as a water heater, furnace, etc. should have the flame a minimum of 18" above the floor. Any open flame less

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PLASTER ON WOOD LATH
Plaster on wood lath is an old technique and is no longer in general use. Wood lath shrinks with time and the nails rust and loosen. As a result, the plaster may become fragile and caution is needed in working with this type of plastering system. Sagging ceilings are best repaired by laminating drywall over the existing plaster and screwing it to the ceiling joists.

PLASTER ON GYPSUM LATH (ROCK LATH)
Plaster on gypsum lath will sometimes show the seams of the 16” wide gypsum lath, but this does not indicate a structural fault. The scalloping appearance can be leveled with drywall joint compound and fiberglass mesh joint tape or drywall can be laminated over the existing plaster on the ceiling.

WOOD FLOORING
Always attempt to clean wood floors first before making the decision to refinish the floor. Wax removers and other mild stripping agents plus a good waxing and buffing will usually produce satisfactory results. Mild bleaching agents help remove deep stains. Sanding removes some of the wood in the floor and can usually be done safely only once or twice in the life of the floor.

NAIL POPS
Drywall nail pops are due to normal expansion and contraction of the wood members to which the drywall is nailed and are usually of no structural significance.

CARPETING
Where carpeting has been installed, the materials and condition of the floor underneath cannot be determined.

APPLIANCES (If report indicated appliances were operated, the following applies) Dishwashers are tested to see if the motor operates and water sprays properly. Stoves are tested to see that burners are working and oven and broiler get hot. Timer and controls are not tested. Refrigerators are not tested. Most new Dishwashers have the drain line looped automatically and may not be visible on the day of inspection. It is essential for the dishwasher drain line to have an anti-siphon break to prevent backflow. A drain line loop or Dishwasher air gap should be installed if found to be missing. No representation is made to continued life expectancy of any appliance.

ASBESTOS AND OTHER HAZARDS
Asbestos fibers in some form are present in many homes, but are often not visible and cannot be identified without testing.

If there is reason to suspect that asbestos may be present and if it is of particular concern, a sample of the material in question may be removed and analyzed in a laboratory. However, detecting or inspecting for the presence or absence of asbestos is not a part of our inspection.

Also excluded from this inspection and report are the possible presence of, or danger from, radon gas, lead-based paint, urea formaldehyde, toxic or flammable chemicals and all other similar or potentially harmful substances and environmental hazards.

WINDOWS
A representative number of windows are inspected.

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STALL SHOWER

The metal shower pan in a stall shower has a potential or probable life of 10-20 years depending on quality of the pan installed. Although a visible inspection is made to determine whether a shower pan is currently leaking, it cannot be stated with certainty that no defect is present or that one may not soon develop. Shower pan leaks often do not show except when the shower is in actual use.

CERAMIC TILE

Bathroom tile installed in a mortar bed is excellent. It is still necessary to keep the joint between the tile and the tub/shower caulked or sealed to prevent water spillage from leaking through and damaging the ceilings below.

Ceramic tile is often installed in mastic. It is important to keep the tile caulked or water will seep behind the tile and cause deterioration in the wallboard. Special attention should be paid to the area around faucets and other tile penetrations.

EXHAUST FANS

Bathrooms with a shower should have exhaust fans when possible. This helps to remove excess moisture from the room, preventing damage to the ceiling and walls and wood finishes. The exhaust fan should not be vented into the attic. The proper way to vent the fan(s) is to the outside. Running the vent pipe horizontally and venting into a gable end or soffit is preferred. Running the vent pipe vertically through the roof may cause condensation to run down the vent pipe, rusting the fan and damaging the wallboard. Insulating the vent pipe in the attic will help to reduce this problem.

SLOW DRAINS on sinks, tubs, and showers are usually due to build up of hair and soap scum. Most sink popups can be easily removed for cleaning. Some tubs have a spring attached to the closing lever that acts as a catch for hair. It may require removing a couple of screws to disassemble. If you cannot mechanically remove the obstruction, be kind to your pipes. ***Don't use a caustic cleaner***. There are several bacteria drain cleaners available. They are available at hardware stores in areas where septic tanks are used. These drain cleaners take a little longer to work, but are safe for you and your pipes.

SAFETY HAZARDS

Typical safety hazards found in bathrooms are open grounds or reverse polarity by water. Replacing these outlets with G.F.C.I.'s are recommended. (See page 28)

WHIRLPOOL TUBS

This relates to interior tubs hooked up to interior plumbing. Where possible, the motor will be operated to see that the jets are working. Hot tubs and spas are not inspected.

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DOOR STOPS
All swinging doors should be checked for door stops. Broken or missing door stops can result in door knobs breaking through drywall or plaster.

CLOSET GUIDES
Sliding closet doors should be checked to see that closet guides are in place. Missing or broken closet guides can cause scratches and damage to doors.

COLD AIR RETURNS
Bedrooms that do not have cold air returns in them should have a 3/4” gap under the doors to allow cold air to be drawn into the hall return.

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WINDOW FRAMES AND SILLS
Window frames and sills are often found to have surface deterioration due to condensation that has run off the window and damaged the varnish. Usually this can be repaired with a solvent style refinisher and fine steel wool. This is sometimes a sign of excess humidity in the house. See comments regarding caulking doors and windows, page 8.

FIREPLACES
It is important that a fireplace be cleaned on a routine basis to prevent the buildup of creosote in the flue, which can cause a chimney fire. Masonry fireplace chimneys are normally required to have a terra cotta flue liner or 8 inches of masonry surrounding each flue in order to be considered safe and to conform with most building codes. During visual inspections, it is not uncommon to be unable to detect the absence of a flue liner either because of stoppage at the firebox, a defective damper or lack of access from the roof.

WOODBURNERS
Once installed, it can be difficult to determine proper clearances for woodburning stoves. Manufacturer specifications, which are not usually available to the inspector, determine the proper installation. We recommend you ask the owner for paperwork, verifying that it was installed by a professional contractor.

VENTILATION
Ventilation is recommended at the rate of one square foot of vent area to 300 square feet of attic floor space, this being divided between soffit and rooftop. Power vents should ideally have both a humidistat and a thermostat, since ventilation is needed to remove winter moisture as well as summer heat. Evidence of condensation such as blackened roof sheathing, frost on nail heads, etc. is an indication that ventilation may have been or is blocked or inadequate.

INSULATION
The recommended insulation in the attic area is R-38, approximately 12”. If insulation is added, it is important that the ventilation is proper.

SMOKE DETECTORS
Smoke detectors should be tested monthly. At least one detector should be on each level. CO detectors are not required by most states, but for safety reasons, are highly recommended.

VAPOR BARRIERS
The vapor barrier should be on the warm side of the surface. Most older homes were built without vapor barriers. If the vapor barrier is towards the cold side of the surface, it should be sliced or removed. Most vapor barriers in the attic are covered by insulation and therefore, not visible.

SAFETY GLAZING
Safety glazing requirements vary depending on the age of the home. Every attempt is made to identify areas where the lack of safety glazing presents an immediate safety hazard, such as a shower door. In some older homes it is difficult to determine if safety glazing is present, since the glass is not marked. Therefore, no representation is made that safety glazing exists in all appropriate areas.

INSULATED GLASS
Broken seal in thermopane/insulated windows are not always visible nor detectible due to humidity and temperature changes during the day. Other factors such as window covering, dirty windows, and lack of accessibility, personal property placed in front of the windows all affect the view of the windows at the time of the inspection.

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BASEMENT/CRAWLSPACE
Any basement/crawlspace that has cracks or leaks is technically considered to have failed. Most block basements/crawlspace have step cracks in various areas. If little or no movement has occurred and the step cracks are uniform, this is considered acceptable. Horizontal cracks in the third or fourth block down indicate the block has moved due to outside pressure. They can be attributed to many factors such as improper grading, improperly functioning gutter and downspout system, etc. Normally if little or no movement has taken place and proper grading and downspouts exist, this is considered acceptable. If the wall containing the stress crack(s) has moved considerably, this will require some method of reinforcement. Basements/crawlspace that have been freshly painted or tuckpointed should be monitored for movement. This will be indicated by cracks reopening. If cracks reappear, reinforcement may be necessary. Reinforcing a basement/crawlspace wall can become expensive.

FOUNDATION (COVERED WALLS)
Although an effort has been made to note any major inflections or weaknesses, it is difficult at best to detect these areas when walls are finished off, or basement/crawlspace storage makes areas inaccessible. **No representation is made as to the condition of these walls.**

INSULATED CONCRETE FORMS (ICF'S) are formwork for concrete that stays in place as permanent building insulation for energy-efficient, cast-in-place, reinforced concrete walls, floors and roofs.

MONITOR indicates that the walls have stress cracks, but little movement has occurred. In our opinion, the cracks should be filled with mortar and the walls monitored for further movement and cracking. If additional movement or cracking occurs, reinforcement may be necessary.

HAVE EVALUATED We recommend that the walls be re-evaluated by a structural engineer or basement/crawlspace repair company and estimates be obtained if work is required.

VAPOR BARRIER
Floors that are dirt or gravel should be covered with a vapor barrier.

MOISTURE PRESENT
Basement/crawlspace dampness is frequently noted in houses and in most cases the stains, moisture or efflorescence present is a symptom denoting that a problem exists outside the home. Usual causes are improper downspout extensions or leaking gutters and/or low or improper grade (including concrete surfaces) at the perimeter of the house. A proper slope away from the house is one inch per foot for four to six feet. Expensive solutions to basement/crawlspace dampness are frequently offered. It is possible to spend thousands of dollars on solutions such as pumping out water that has already entered or pumping of chemical preparations into the ground around the house, when all that may be necessary are a few common sense solutions at the exterior perimeter. However, this is not intended to be an exhaustive list of causes and solutions to the presence of moisture.
No repre-sentation is made to future moisture that may appear.

PALMER VALVE
Many older homes have a valve in the floor drain. This drain needs to remain operational.

DRAIN TILE
We offer no opinion about the existence or condition of the drain tile, as it cannot be visibly inspected.

BASEMENT ELECTRICAL OUTLETS
We recommend that you have an outlet within 6' of each appliance. The appliance you plan to install may be different than what exists, therefore the inspection includes testing a representative number of receptacles that exist. It is also recommended to have ground fault circuit interrupts for any outlet in the unfinished part of the basement and crawl spaces.

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CRAWL SPACES

Crawl spaces are shallow spaces between the first level floor joist and the ground. Access to this area may be from the inside, outside or not accessible at all. Ductwork, plumbing, and electrical may be installed in the space in which access may be necessary. The floor of the crawl space may be covered with concrete, gravel, or may be the original soil. A vapor barrier may be a sheet of plastic or tar paper and installed over or under this material. The vapor barrier will deter the moisture from the earth from escaping into the crawl space and causing a musty smell. Ventilation is also important to control excess moisture buildup. Vents may be located on the outside of the house and are normally kept open in the summer and closed for the winter (where freezing may occur). The basement/crawl space diagram indicates areas that are covered and not part of a visual inspection. Every attempt is made to determine if paneling is warped, moisture stains are bleeding through, etc. Storage that blocks the visibility of a wall is not removed to examine that area. Therefore, it is important that on your walk-through before closing, you closely examine these areas. Closed crawl spaces that have vents to the outside should have insulation under the floor above the crawl space.

HAVE EVALUATED

We recommend that the walls be re-evaluated by a structural engineer or basement repair company and estimates be obtained if work is required.

MONITOR

Indicates that the walls have stress cracks, but little movement has occurred. In our opinion, the cracks should be filled with mortar and the walls monitored for further movement and cracking. If additional movement or cracking occurs, reinforcement may be necessary.

FOUNDATION (COVERED WALLS)

Although an effort has been made to note any major inflections or weaknesses, it is difficult at best to detect these areas when walls are finished off, or basement/crawlspace storage makes areas inaccessible. **No representation is made as to the condition of these walls.**

MOISTURE PRESENT

Basement/crawlspace dampness is frequently noted in houses and in most cases the stains, moisture or efflorescence present is a symptom denoting that a problem exists outside the home. Usual causes are improper downspout extensions or leaking gutters and/or low or improper grade (including concrete surfaces) at the perimeter of the house. A proper slope away from the house is one inch per foot for four to six feet. Expensive solutions to basement/crawlspace dampness are frequently offered. It is possible to spend thousands of dollars on solutions such as pumping out water that has already entered or pumping of chemical preparations into the ground around the house, when all that may be necessary are a few common sense solutions at the exterior perimeter. However, this is not intended to be an exhaustive list of causes and solutions to the presence of moisture.
No repre-sentation is made to future moisture that may appear.

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WELLS
Examination of wells is not included in this visual inspection. It is recommended that you have well water checked for purity by the local health authorities and, if possible, a check on the flow of the well in periods of drought. A well pit should have a locked cover on it to prevent anyone from falling into the pit.

SEPTIC SYSTEMS
The check of septic systems is not included in our visual inspection. You should have the local health authorities or other qualified experts check the condition of the septic system. In order for the septic system to be checked, the house must have been occupied within the last 30 days.

WATER PIPES
Galvanized water pipes rust from the inside out and may have to be replaced within 20 to 30 years. This is usually done in two stages: horizontal piping in the basement first, and vertical pipes throughout the house later as needed. Copper pipes usually have more life expectancy and may last as long as 60 years before needing to be replaced.

HOSE BIBS
During the winter months it is necessary to make sure the outside faucets are winterized. This can be done by means of a valve located in the basement. Leave the outside faucets open to allow any water standing in the pipes to drain, preventing them from freezing. Hose bibs cannot be tested when winterized.

WATER HEATER
The life expectancy of a water heater is 5-10 years. Water heaters generally need not be replaced unless they leak. It is a good maintenance practice to drain 5-10 gallons from the heater several times a year. Missing relief valves or improper extension present a safety hazard.

WATER SOFTENERS
During a visual inspection it is not possible to determine if water is being properly softened.

PLUMBING
The temperature/pressure valve should be tested several times a year by lifting the valve’s handle. Caution: very hot water will be discharged. If no water comes out, the valve is defective and must be replaced.

SHUT-OFF VALVES
Most shut-off valves have not been operated for long periods of time. We recommend operating each shut-off valve to: toilet bowl, water heater, under sinks, main shut-off, hose faucets, and all others. We recommend you have a plumber do this, as some of the valves may need to be repacked or replaced. Once the valves are in proper operating order, we recommend opening and closing these valves several times a year.

POLYBUTYLENE PIPING
This type of piping has a history of problems and should be examined by a licensed plumber and repaired or replaced as necessary.

CSST
Corrugated Stainless Steel Tubing is an alternative to traditional black iron gas piping. It is a continuous, flexible, stainless steel pipe with an exterior PVC covering.

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HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING units have limited lives. Normal lives are:

GAS-FIRED HOT AIR . . . . . .15-25 years
OIL-FIRED HOT AIR . . . . . .20-30 years
CAST IRON BOILER . . . . . .30-50 years
(Hot water or steam) or more
STEEL BOILER . . . . . .30-40 years
(Hot water or steam) or more
COPPER BOILER . . . . . .10-20 years
(Hot water or steam)
CIRCULATING PUMP (Hot water) . . . . . .10-15 years
AIR CONDITIONING COMPRESSOR . . . .8-12 years
HEAT PUMP . . . .8-12 years

Gas-fired hot air units that are close to or beyond their normal lives have the potential of becoming a source of carbon monoxide in the home. You may want to have such a unit checked every year or so to assure yourself that it is still intact. Of course a unit of such an age is a good candidate for replacement with one of the new, high efficiency furnaces. The fuel savings alone can be very attractive.

Boilers and their systems may require annual attention. If you are not familiar with your system, have a heating contractor come out in the fall to show you how to do the necessary thing **Caution: do not add water to a hot boiler!**

Forced air systems should have filters changed every 30 to 60 days of the heating and cooling season. This is especially true if you have central air conditioning. A dirty air system can lead to premature failure of your compressor - a $1,500 machine.

Oil-fired furnaces and boilers should be serviced by a professional each year. Most experts agree you will pay for the service cost in fuel saved by having a properly tuned burner.

Read the instructions for maintaining the humidifier on your furnace. A malfunctioning humidifier can rust out a furnace rather quickly. It is recommended that the humidifier be serviced at the same time as the furnace, and be cleaned regularly. **During a visual inspection it is not possible to determine if the humidifier is working.**

Have HVAC technician examine - A condition was found that suggests a heating contractor should do a further analysis. We suggest doing this before closing.

Heat exchangers cannot be examined nor their condition determined without being disassembled. Since this is not possible during a visual, non-technically exhaustive inspection, you may want to obtain a service contract on the unit or contact a furnace technician regarding a more thorough examination.

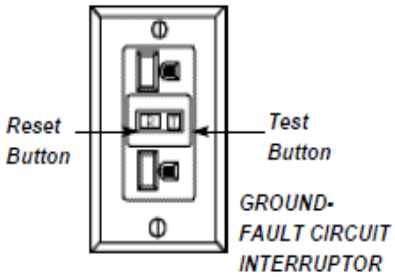
Testing pilot safety switch requires blowing out the pilot light. Checking safety limit controls requires disconnecting blower motor or using other means beyond the scope of this inspection. If the furnace has not been serviced in last 12 months you may want to have a furnace technician examine.

CO Test - This is not part of a non-technical inspection. If a test was performed, the type of tester is indicated on page 27.

Combustible Gas Detector - If a gas detector was used during the inspection of the furnace and evidence of possible combustible gases was noted, we caution you that our test instrument is sensitive to many gases and not a foolproof test. None-the-less, this presents the possibility that a hazard exists and could indicate that the heat exchanger is, or will soon be, defective.

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Every effort has been made to evaluate the size of the service. Three wires going into the home indicate 240 volts. The total amperage can be difficult to determine. We highly recommend that ground fault circuit interrupters (G.F.C.I.) be connected to all outlets around water. This device automatically shuts the circuit off when it senses a current leak to ground. This device can be purchased in most hardware stores. G.F.C.I.'s are recommended by all outlets located near water, outside outlets, or garage outlets. Pool outlets should also be protected with a G.F.C.I.
See diagram below:
If you do have G.F.C.I.'s, it is recommended that you test (and reset) them monthly. When you push the test button, the reset button should pop out, shutting off the circuit. If it doesn't, the breaker is not working properly. If you don't test them once a month, the breakers have a tendency to stick and may not protect you when eeded.



Knob and tube wiring found in older homes should be checked by an electrician to insure that the wire cover is in good condition. Under no circumstances should this wire be covered with insulation. Recess light fixtures should have a baffle around them so that they are not covered with insulation. The newer recessed fixtures will shut off if they overheat. (no representation is made as to proper recess lighting fixtures).

Federal Pacific Stab-Lok® Electrical panels may be unsafe. See www.google.com (Federal Pacific)

Aluminum wiring in general lighting circuits has a history of over heating, with the potential of a fire. If this type of wiring exists, a licensed electrical contractor should examine the whole system.

ARC FAULTS
In some areas arc Faults are required for bedrooms in new homes starting in 2002. In some areas arc Faults are required for all 120 Volt circuits that are not GFCI protected in new homes starting in 2009. Updrade as desired forenhanced safely.

REVERSE POLARITY
A common problem that surfaces in many homes is reverse polarity. This is a potentially hazardous situation in which the hot and neutral wires of a circuit are reversed at the outlet, thereby allowing the appliance to incorrectly be connected. This is an inexpensive item to correct.

Each receptacle has a brass and silver screw. The black wire should be wired to the brass screw and the white wire should go to the silver screw. When these wires are switched, this is called "reverse polarity." Turning off the power and switching these wires will correct the problem.

Main service wiring for housing is typically 240 volts. The minimum capacity for newer homes is 100 amps though many older homes still have 60 amp service. Larger homes or all electric homes will likely have a 200 amp service.

Main service wiring may be protected by one or more circuit breakers or fuses. While most areas allow up to six main turnoffs, expanding from these panels is generally not allowed.

COOLING
Testing A/C System and Heat Pump- The circuit breakers to A/C should be on for a minimum of 24 hours and the outside temperature at least 60 degrees for the past 24 hours or an A/C system cannot be operated without possible damage to the compressor. Check the instructions in your A/C manual or on the outside compressor before starting up in the summer. Heat pump can only be tested in the mode it's running in. Outside temperature should be at least 65° for the past 24 hours to run in cooling mode.

Temperature differential, between 14°-22°, is usually acceptable. If out of this range, have an HVAC contractor examine it. It is not always feasible to do a differential test due to high humidity, low outside temperature, etc.

A/C CONDENSER COIL They should not become overgrown with foliage. Clearance requirements vary, but 2' on all sides should be considered minimal with up to 6' of air discharge desirable. If a clothes dryer vent is within five to ten feet, either relocate the vent or do not run when the A/C is running. The lint will quickly reduce the efficiency of the A/C unit.

Deferred Costs - It is impossible to determine how long these items will last before needing replacement. The report addresses most of these items from a "condition" standpoint.

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PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE TIPS

I. **FOUNDATION and MASONRY: Basements, Exterior Walls**: To prevent seepage and condensation problems.
a. Check basement for dampness and leakage after wet weather.
b. Check chimneys, deteriorated chimney caps, loose and missing mortar.
c. Maintain grading sloped away from foundation walls.

II. **ROOFS, GUTTERS, and EAVESTROUGH:** To prevent roof leaks, condensation, seepage, and decay problems.
a. Check for damaged, loose or missing shingles, blisters.
b. Clean gutters, leaders, strainers, window wells, drains. Be sure downspouts direct water away from foundation. Cut back tree limbs.
c. Check flashings around roof stacks, vents, skylights, chimneys, as sources of leakage. Check vents, louvers and chimneys for birds nests, squirrels, insects.
d. Check fascias and soffits for paint flaking, leakage and decay.

III. **EXTERIOR WALLS:** To prevent paint failure, decay, and moisture penetration problems.
a. Check painted surface for paint flaking or paint failure. Cut back shrubs.
b. Check exterior masonry walls for cracks, looseness, missing or broken mortar.

IV. **DOORS AND WINDOWS:** To prevent air and weather penetration problems.
a. Check caulking for decay around doors, windows, corner boards, joints. Recaulk and weatherstrip as needed. Check glazing, putty around windows.

V. **ELECTRICAL:** For safe electrical performance, mark and label each circuit.
a. Trip circuit breakers every six months and ground fault circuit interrupters (G.F.C.I.) monthly.
b. Check condition of lamp cords, extension cords and plugs. Replace at first sign of wear and damage.
c. Check exposed wiring and cable for wear or damage.
d. If you experience slight tingling shock from handling or touching any appliance, disconnect the appliance and have it repaired. If lights flicker or dim, or if appliances go on and off unnecessarily, call a licensed electrician.

VI. **PLUMBING:** For preventive maintenance.
a. Drain exterior water lines, hose bibs, sprinklers, pool equipment in the fall.
b. Draw off sediment in water heaters monthly or per manufacturer's instructions.
c. Have septic tank cleaned every 2 years.

VII. **HEATING and COOLING:** For comfort, efficiency, energy conservation and safety.
a. Change or clean furnace filters, air condition filters, electronic filters as needed.
b. Clean and service humidifier. Check periodically and annually.
c. Have oil burning equipment serviced annually.

VIII. **INTERIOR:** General house maintenance.
a. Check bathroom tile joints, tub grouting and caulking. Be sure all tile joints in bathrooms are kept well sealed with tile grout to prevent damage to walls, floors and ceilings below.
b. Close crawl vents in winter and open in summer.
c. Check underside of roof for water stains, leaks, dampness & condensation, particularly in attics and around chimneys.

IX. **Know the location of:**
• Main water shutoff valve.
• Main emergency shutoff switch for the heating system.
• Main electrical disconnect or breaker.

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