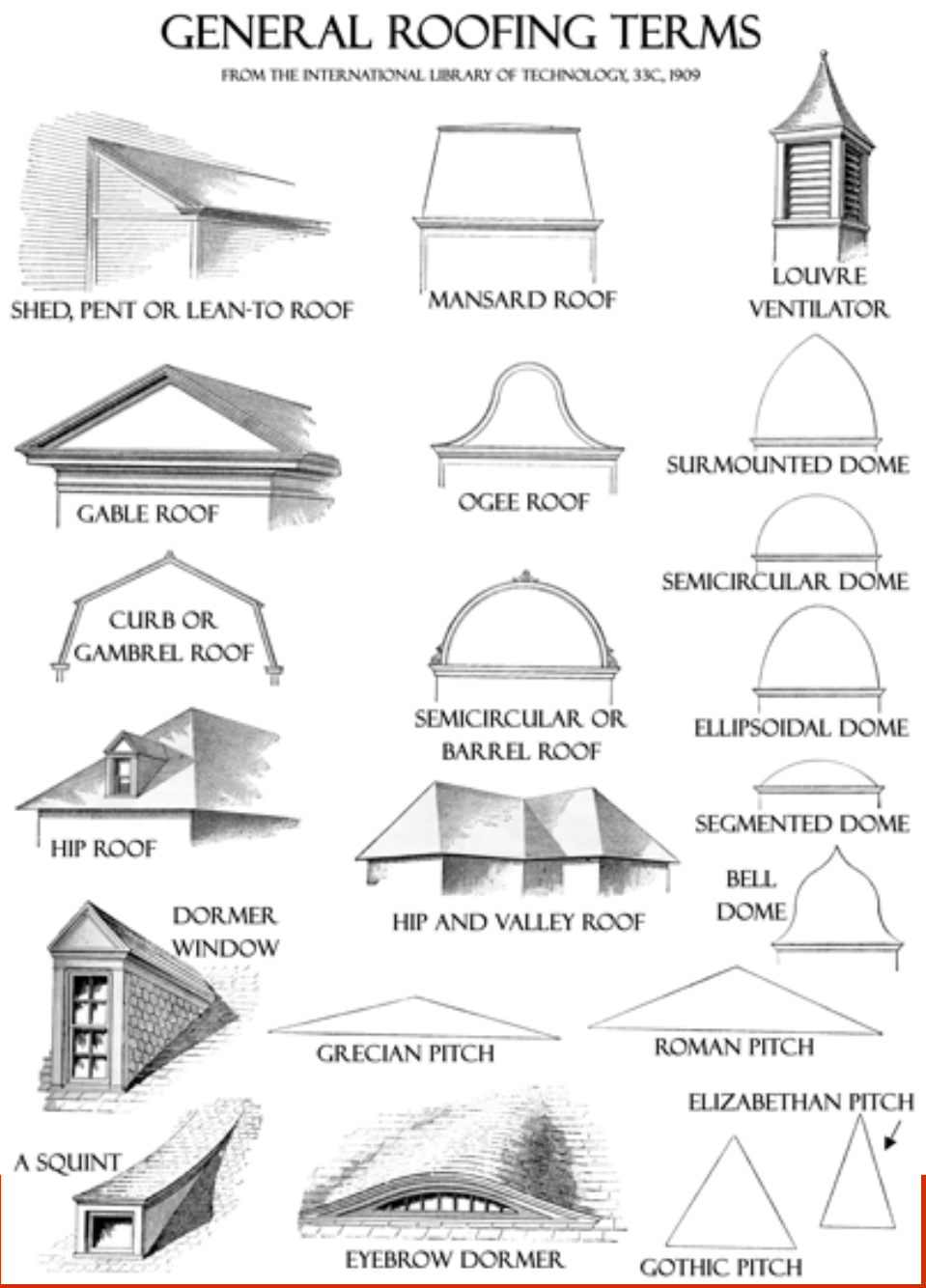
ROOFING TECHNOLOGY

Arch 173: Building Construction 2

Why do we need to be concerned about roofs?

- Roof and membrane failures are the most often litigated parts of a building
- good detailing is paramount
- never use materials or systems that have not been “approved” or tested by a reputable agency



It is important to be familiar with the general roofing terms regarding their general shape and configuration.

ROOFING TYPES:

THE TWO PRIMARY TYPES OF ROOFING WE MUST CONSIDER ARE FLAT AND PITCHED:

Flat roofs are those slope is LESS THAN 1 in 4 and use waterproof membranes (also called Low Slope)

Pitched roofs have slopes of 1 in 4 or GREATER and generally use shingles

Roof Type Selection

- Depends on building use
- Span
- Structural materials
- Need to shed water or snow
- Need to provide overhangs for shading
- Need to provide overhangs to protect the wall materials
- Need for insulation (and type of insulation to be used – batt vs foam/rigid)
- Incorporation of skylights or roof glazing

Common Fact

- Flat roofs are prone to leaking
- Leaks are difficult to find as the entry point for the leaking water is usually not near the point of apparent leakage

- Sloped roofs tend to stay watertight if properly built (pay attention to ice dams…)

Pitched Roof Materials:

SHINGLES:

- asphalt, sawn wood, shakes, slate, clay tiles or concrete tiles

THATCH:

- bundles of leaves, reeds or grasses

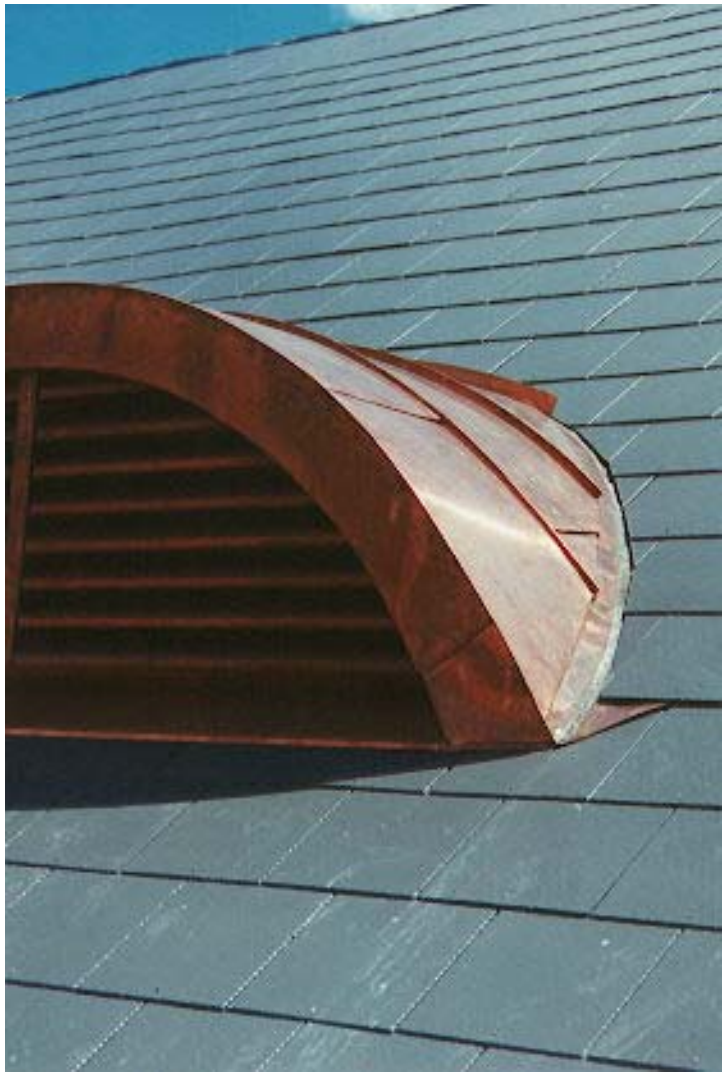
ARCHITECTURAL SHEET METAL:

- lead, copper and terne (stainless steel or sheet steel) with flat or standing seams

Terne is an alloy coating that was historically made of lead and tin used to cover steel, in the ratio of 20% tin and 80% lead. Currently, lead has been replaced with the metal zinc and is used in the ratio of 50% tin and 50% zinc.

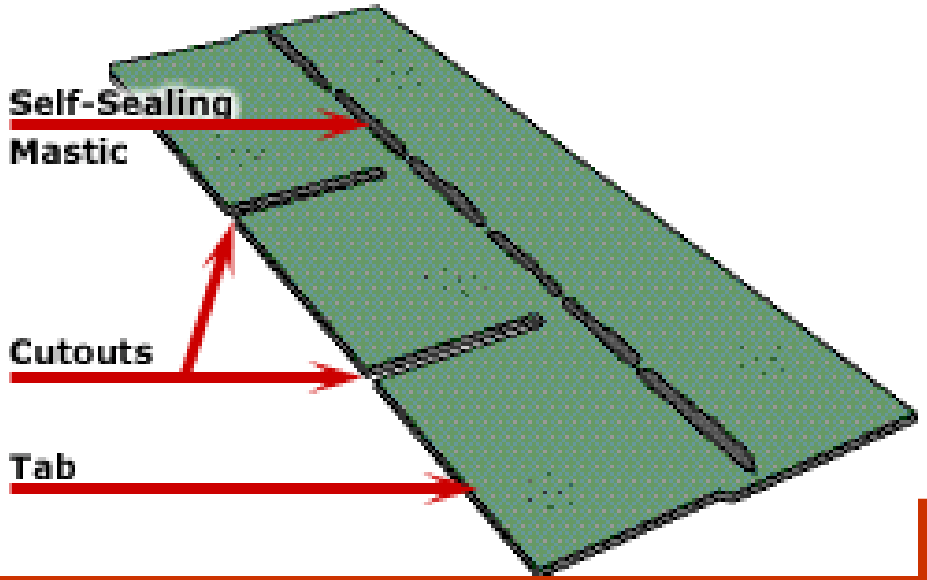
Traditional roofing types

Traditional thatched roof



“old” vs. “new” slate

Slate is typically installed over wood slats rather than plywood sheathing.



The life span of an asphalt-shingle roof shingles is somewhere between 15 and 30 years, depending on the quality of the roofing shingles and the climate in your region. Wind can often cause as much damage as water, cold temperatures and sun.

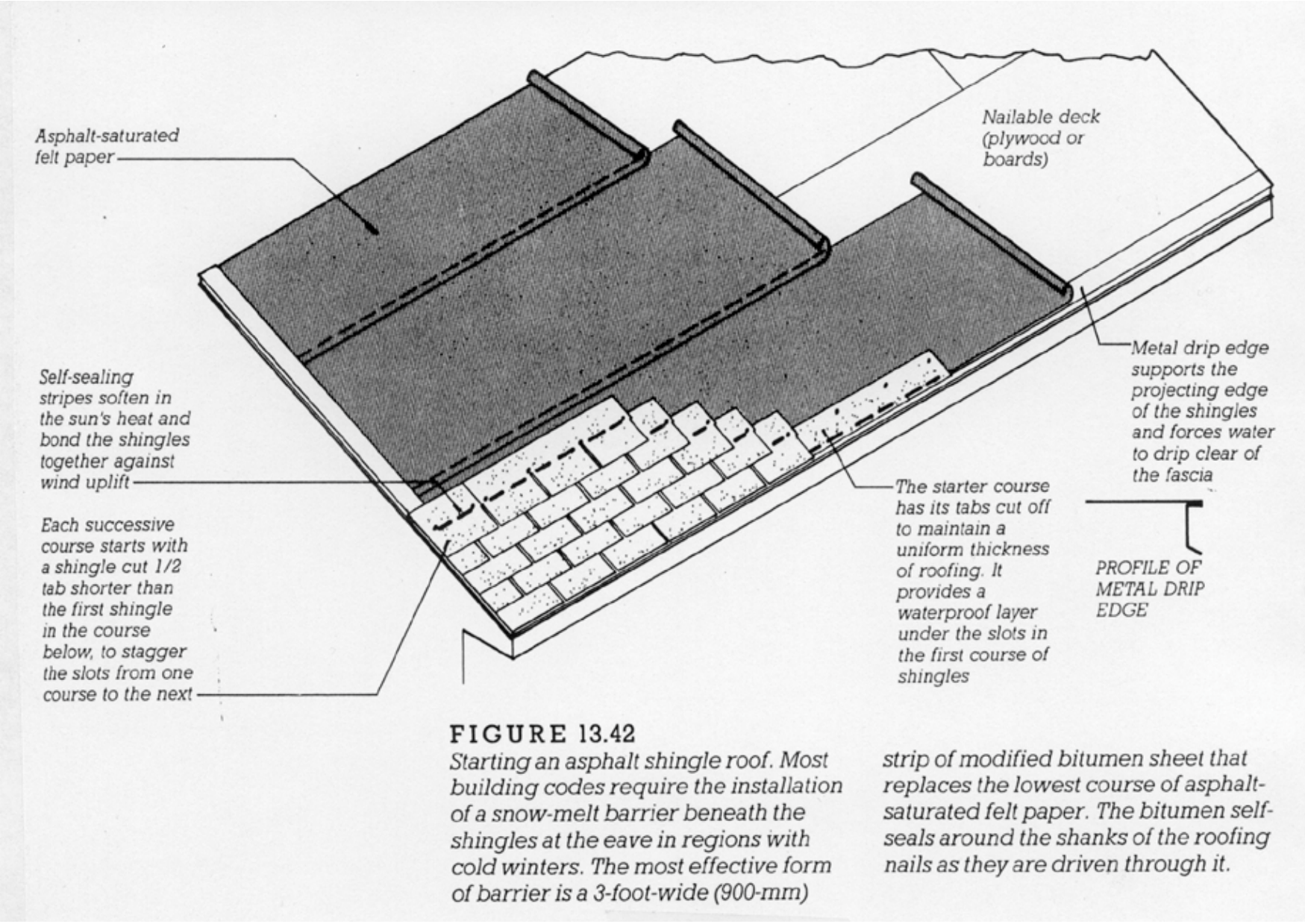


FIGURE 13.42
Starting an asphalt shingle roof. Most building codes require the installation of a snow-melt barrier beneath the shingles at the eave in regions with cold winters. The most effective form of barrier is a 3-foot-wide (900-mm) strip of modified bitumen sheet that replaces the lowest course of asphalt-saturated felt paper. The bitumen self-seals around the shanks of the roofing nails as they are driven through it.

Pitched Roof: Shingle Detail

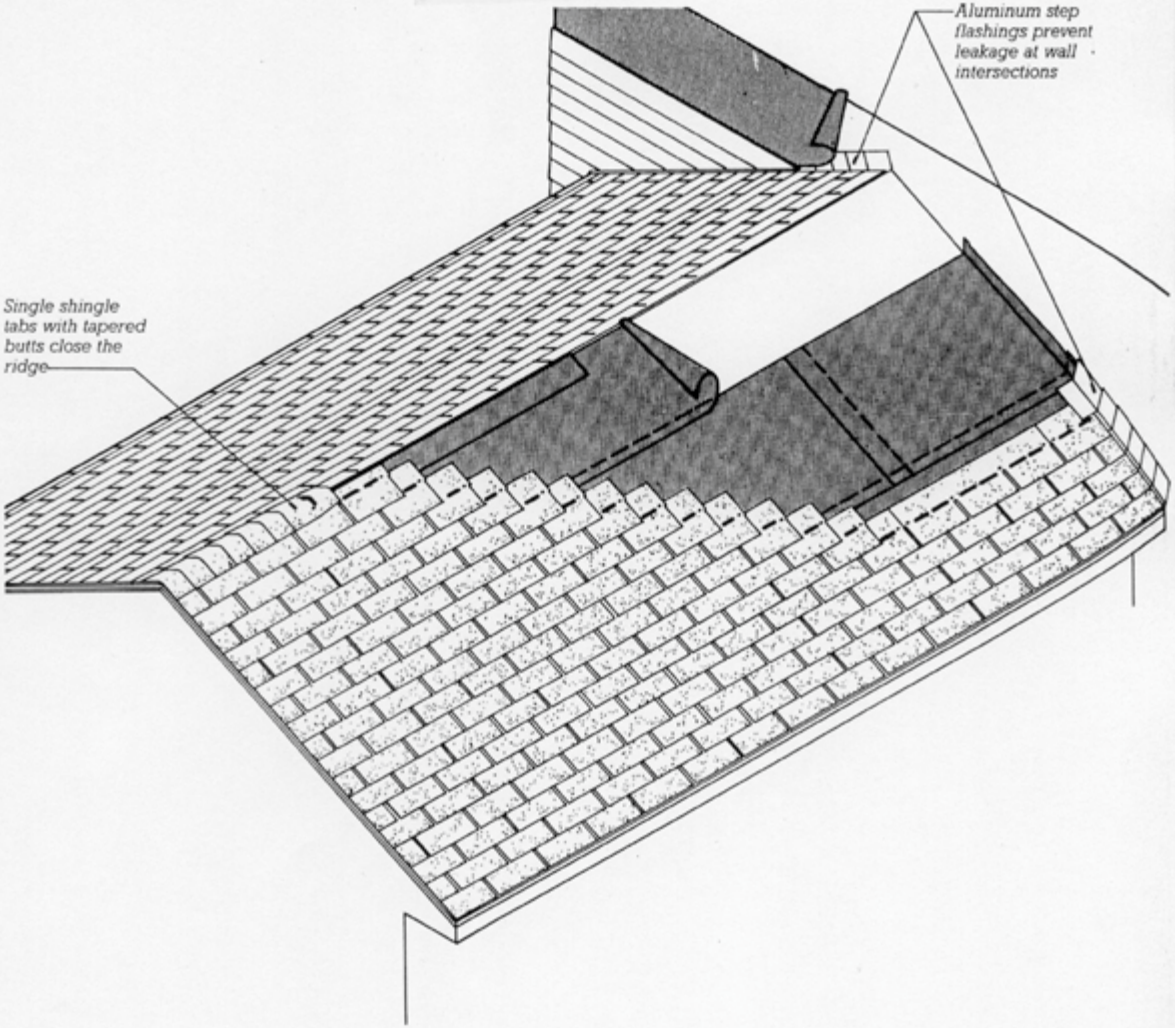
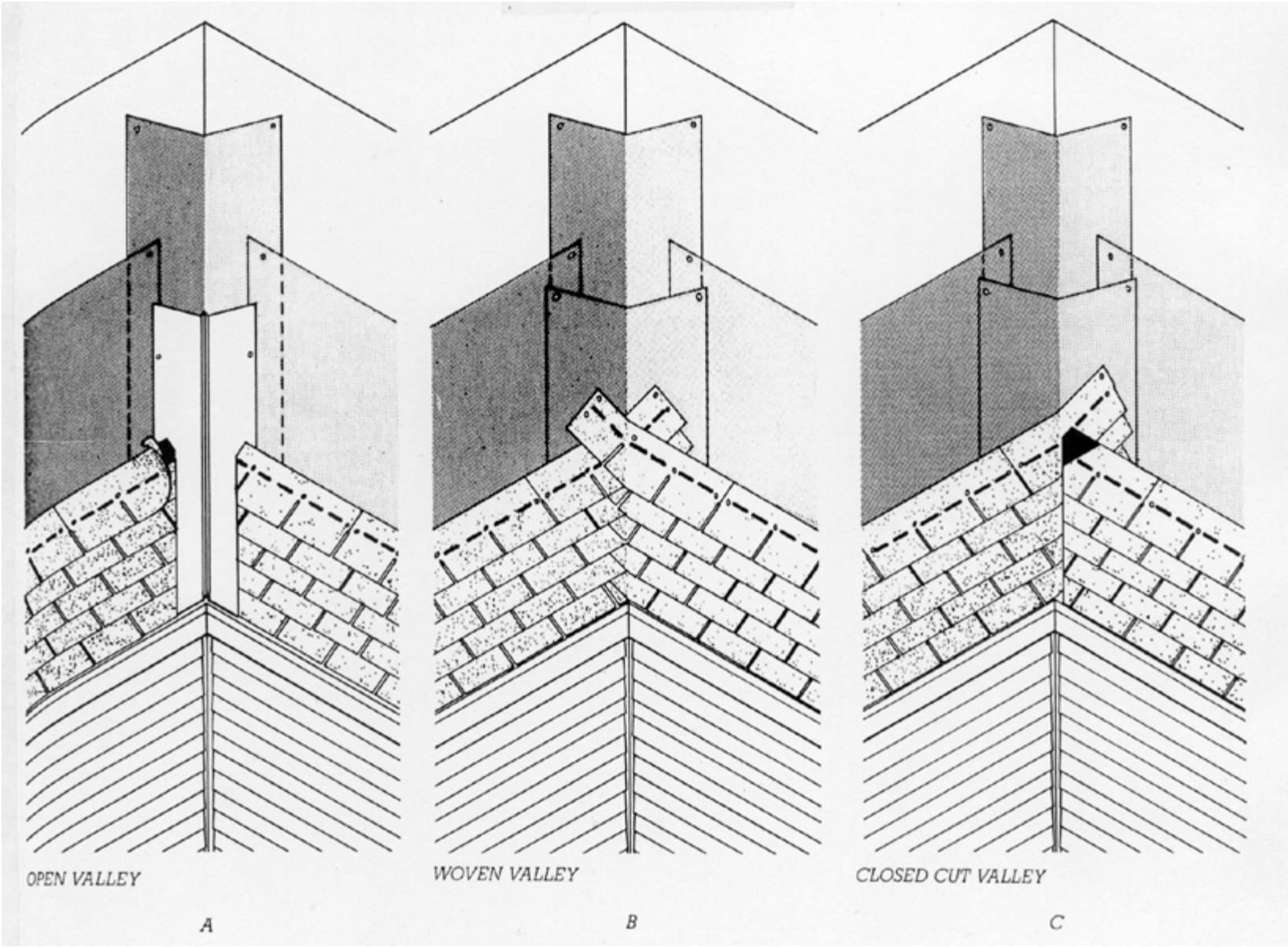


FIGURE 13.43
Completing an asphalt shingle roof. A metal attic-ventilation strip is often substituted for the single-tab shingles on the ridge.

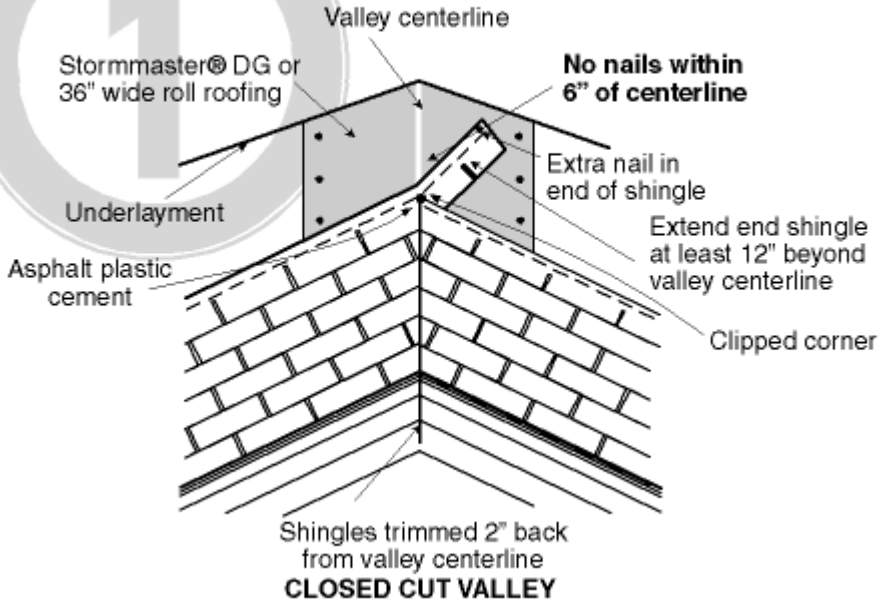
Pitched Roof: Shingle Ridge Detail



Pitched Roof: Shingle Valley Detail

DIAGRAM 1

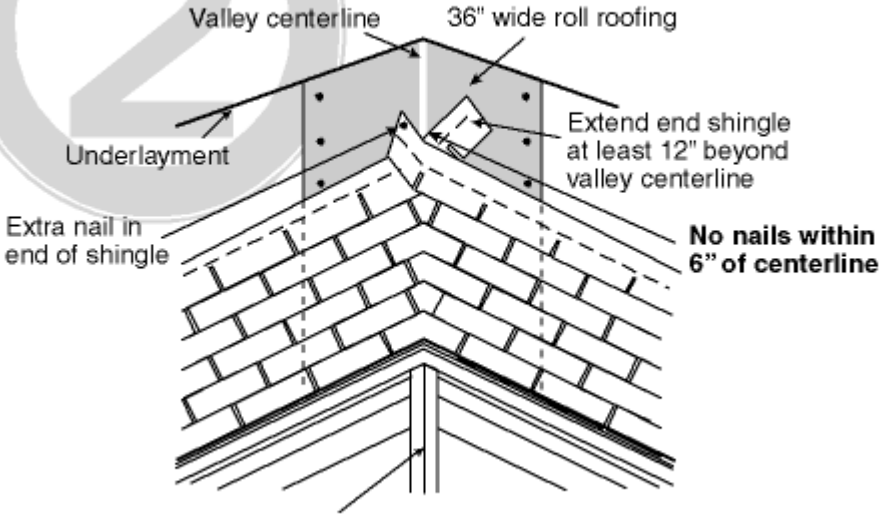
CLOSED CUT VALLEY



CLOSED CUT VALLEY

DIAGRAM 2

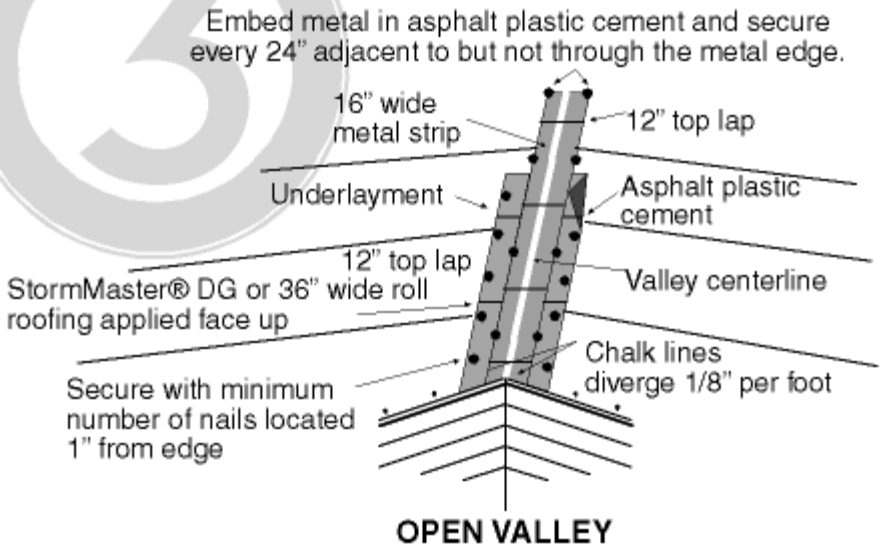
WOVEN VALLEY



WOVEN VALLEY

DIAGRAM 3

OPEN VALLEY



OPEN VALLEY

DIAGRAM 5

STARTER COURSE

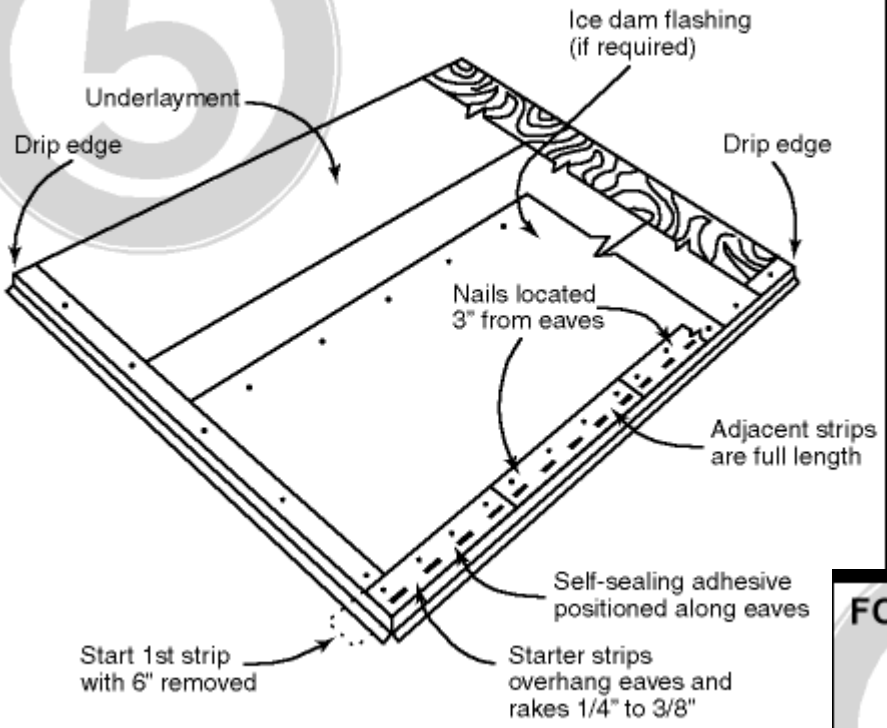
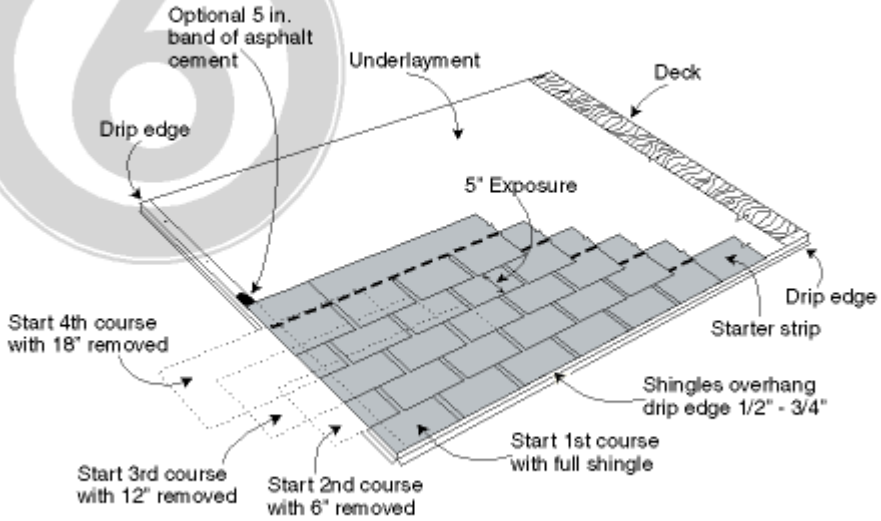


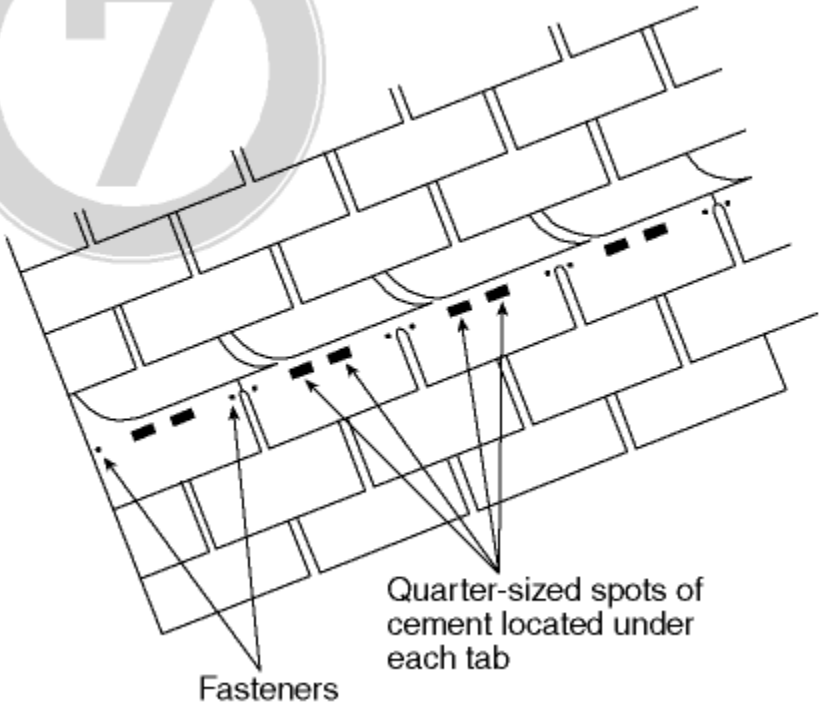
DIAGRAM 6

FOURTH COURSE



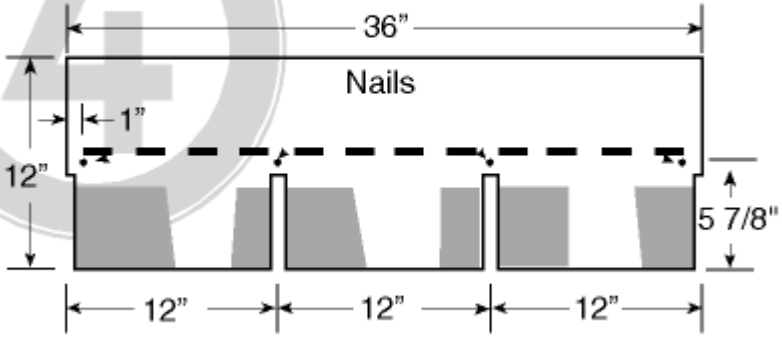
CEMENT APPLICATION

DIAGRAM 7



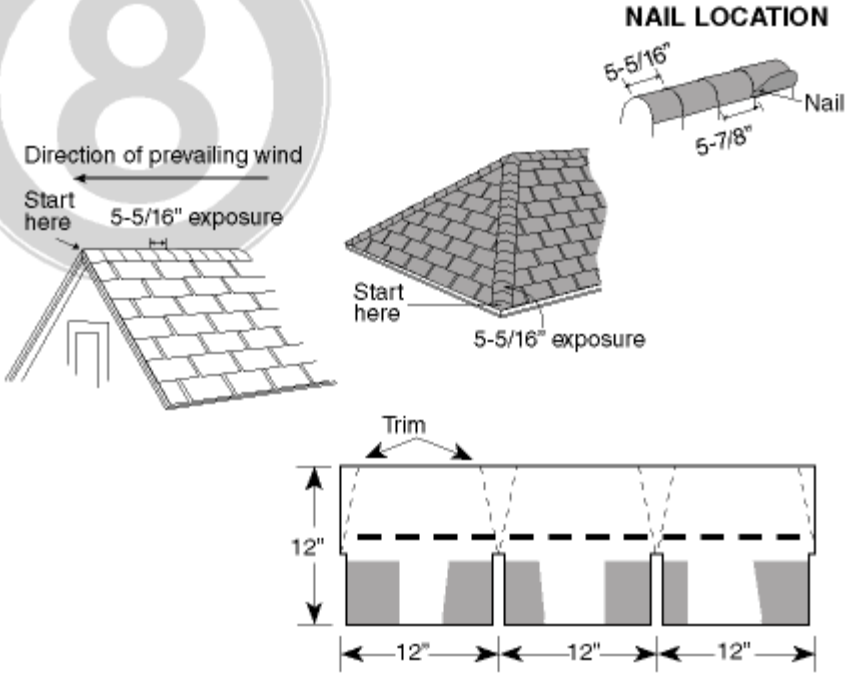
FASTENER LOCATIONS

DIAGRAM 4



HIP & RIDGE

DIAGRAM 8




Ice & Water Shield
Roof Deck Protection
High Quality Shingles
Effective Attic Ventilation
Ridge Vent
Rubber Membrane
We Install Replacement Windows And Skylights!
We Install Wood & Fiber Cement Siding!

Ice and water shield being installed at the bottom meter of a shingled roof. Note that it is lapped UNDER the roofing paper to promote drainage. This extra membrane is thicker and more durable than roofing paper and is meant to prevent water leakage due to "ice dams" at the end of the roof.

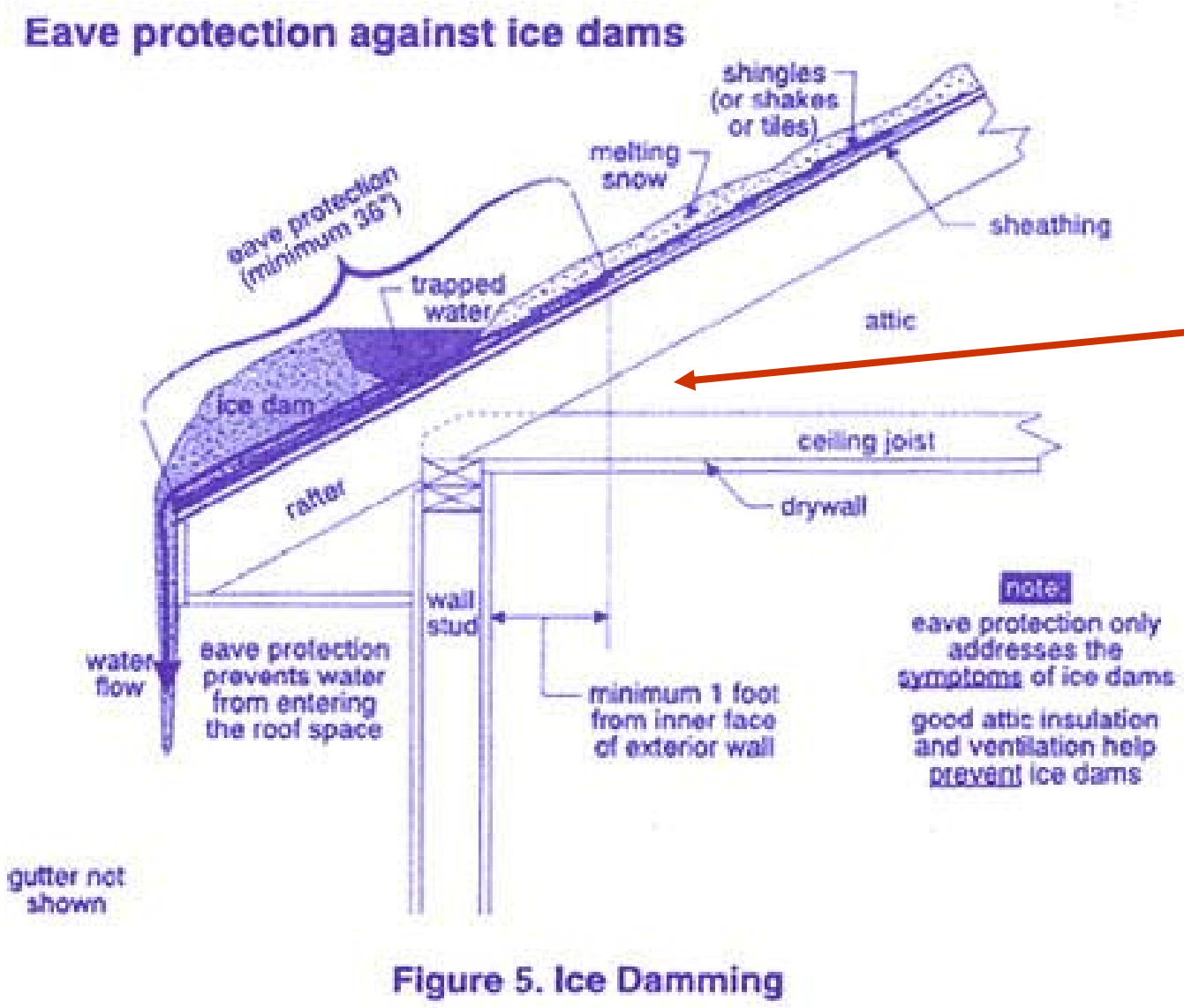
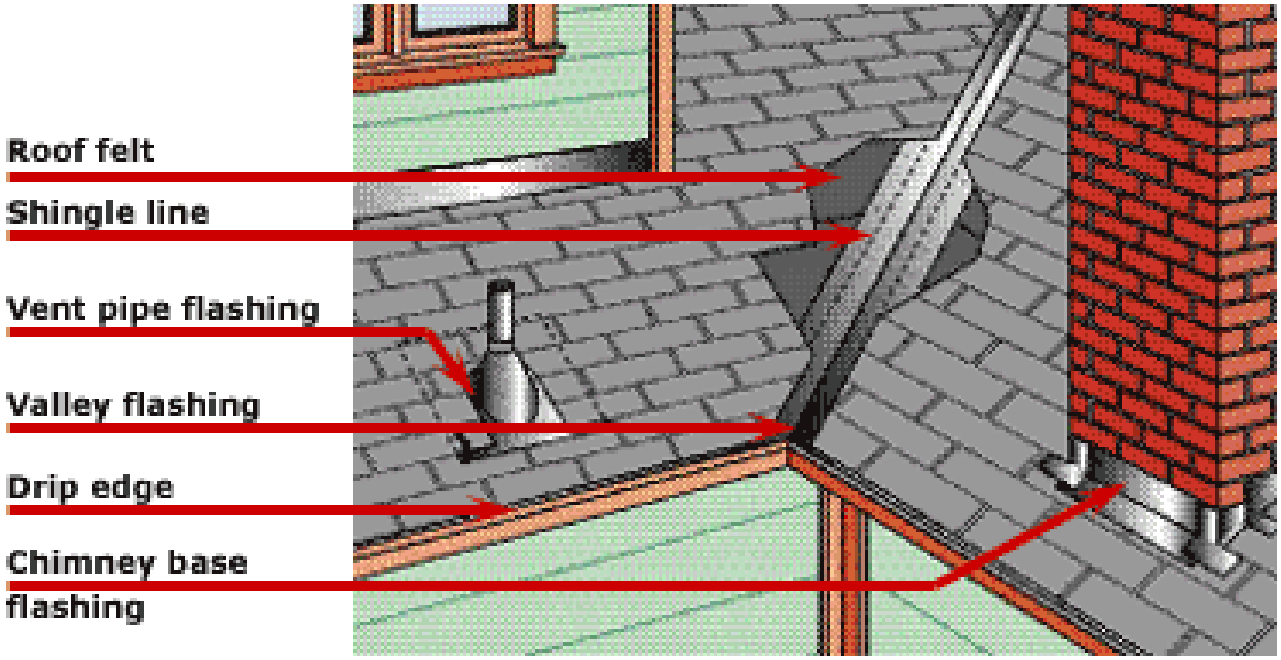
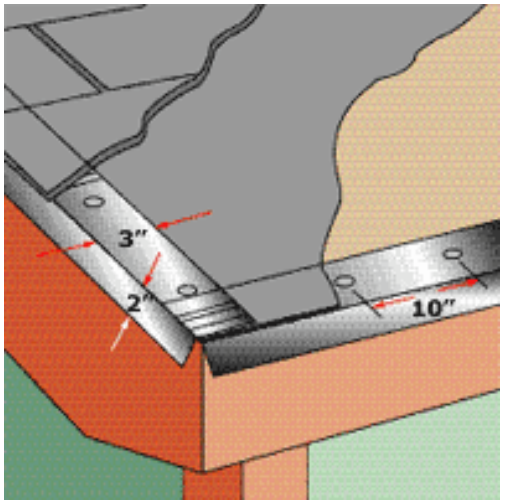


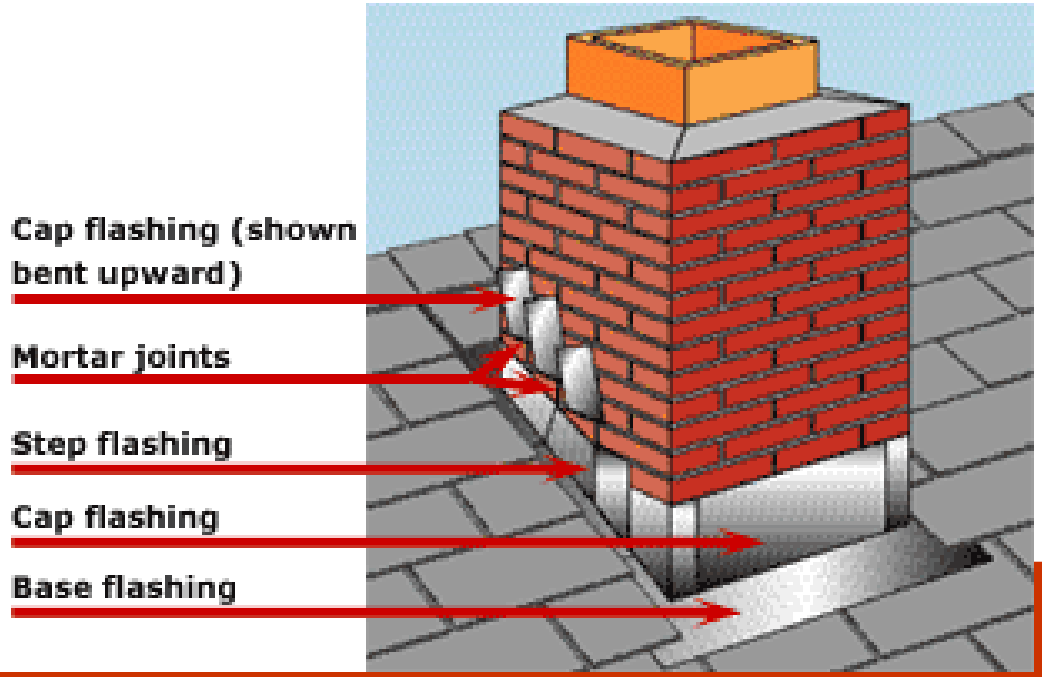
Figure 5. Ice Damming

Note: insulation missing in this diagram!!

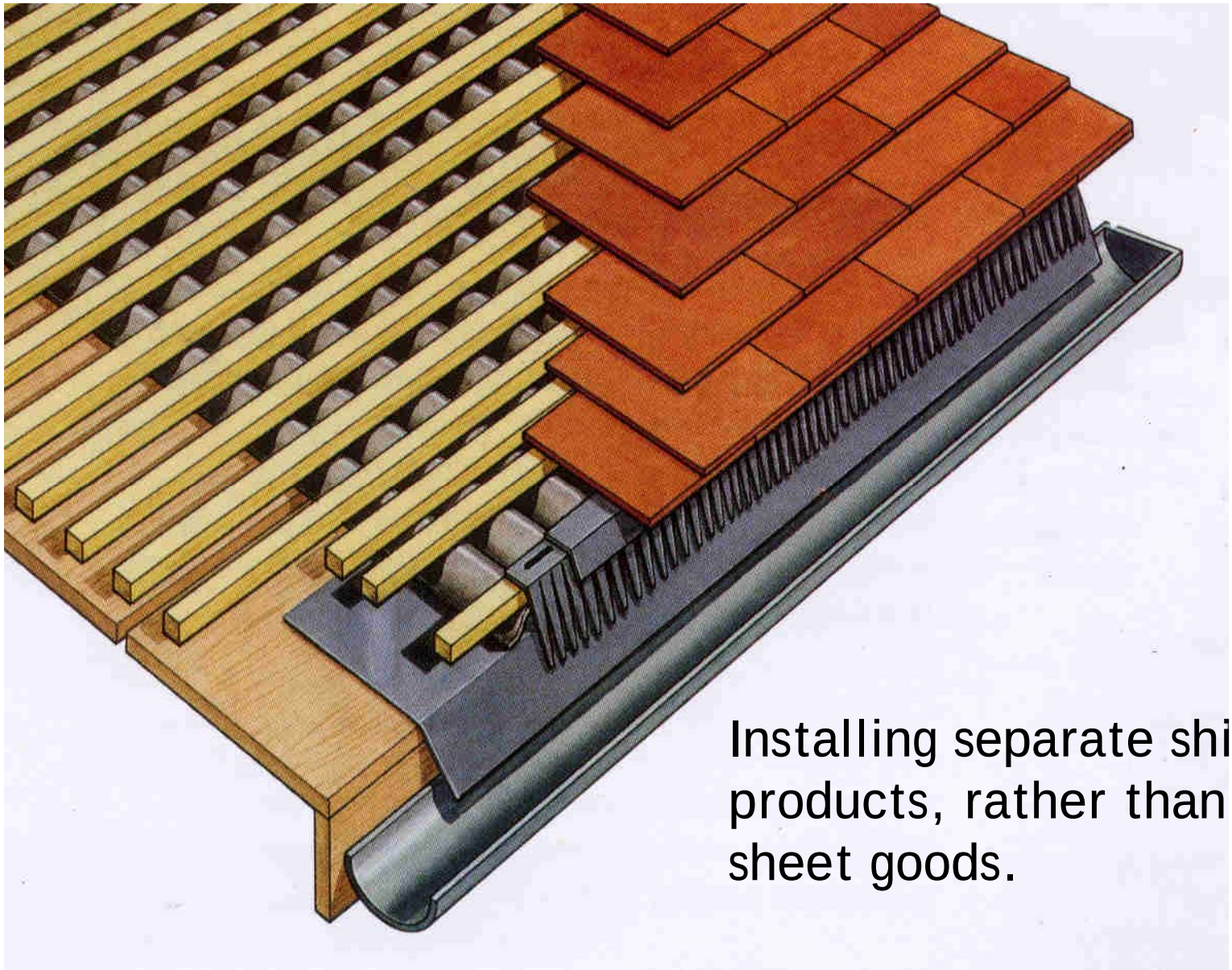
So important to watch for technical mistakes on diagrams in books!



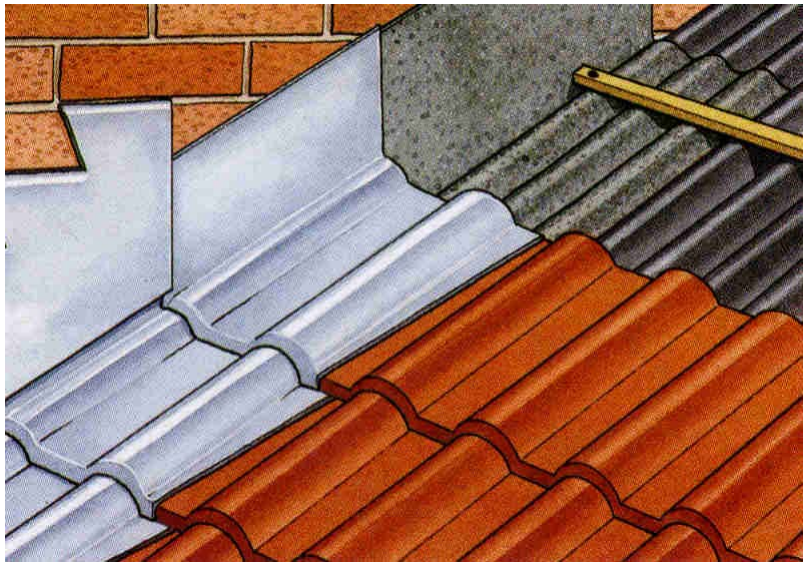


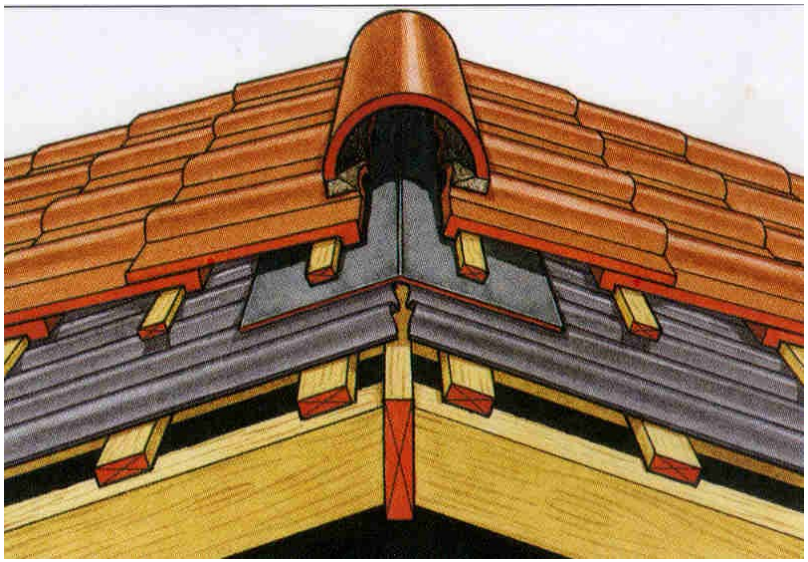


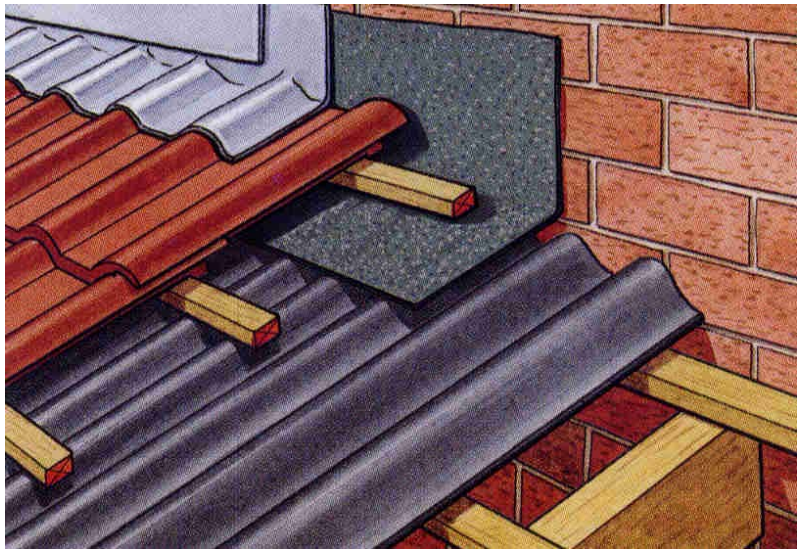
Ashphalt flashing details

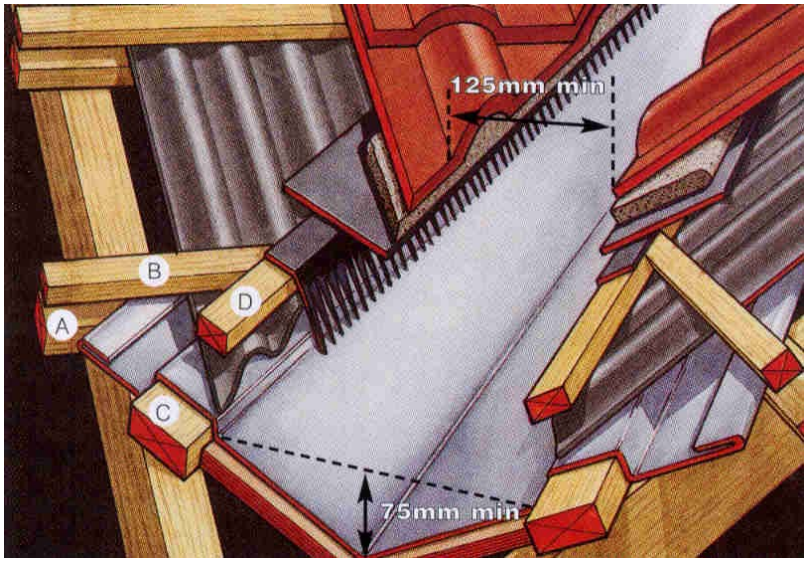


Installing separate shingle products, rather than sheet goods.

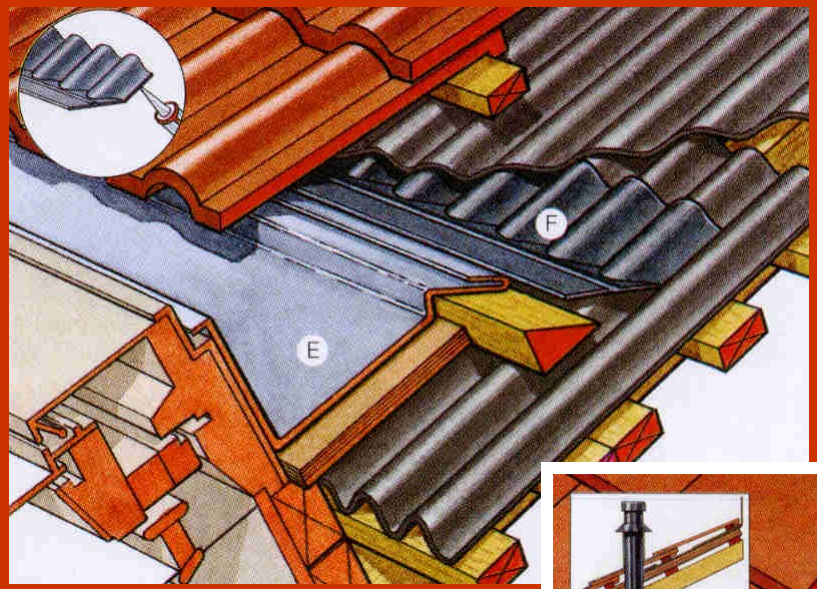








Installation details for tile products.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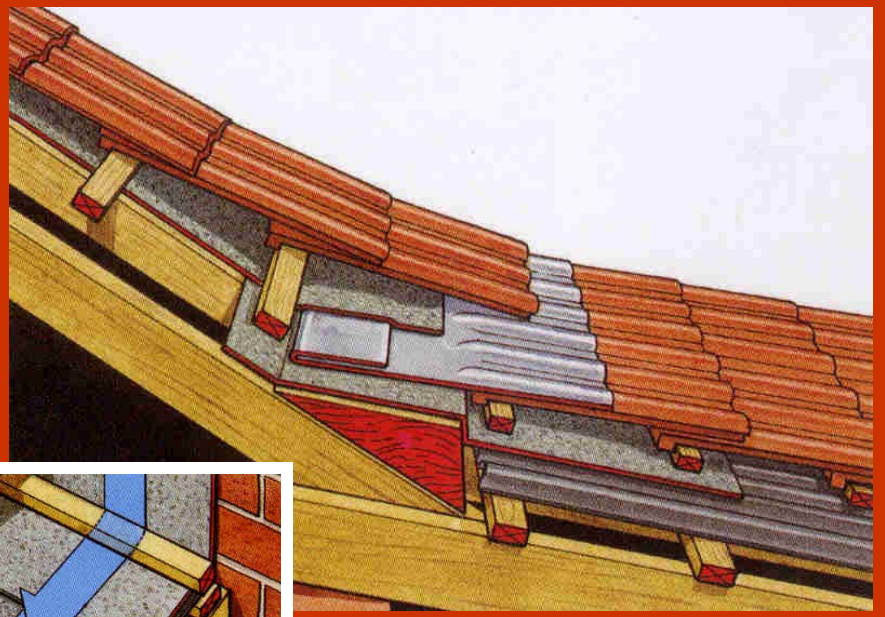

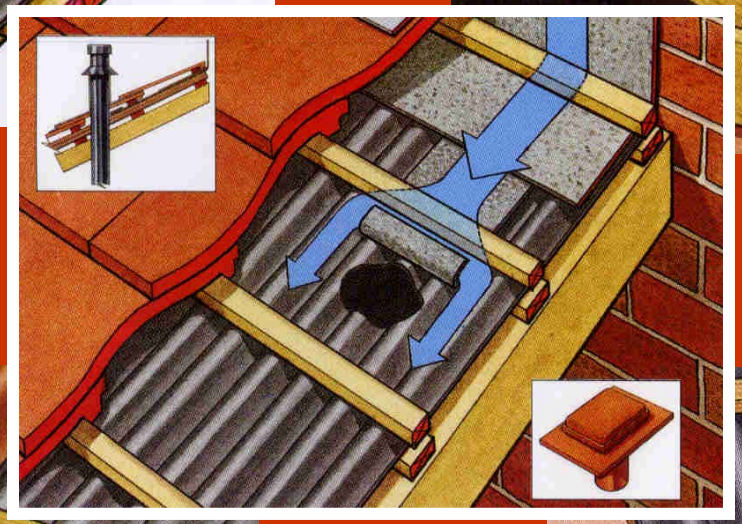

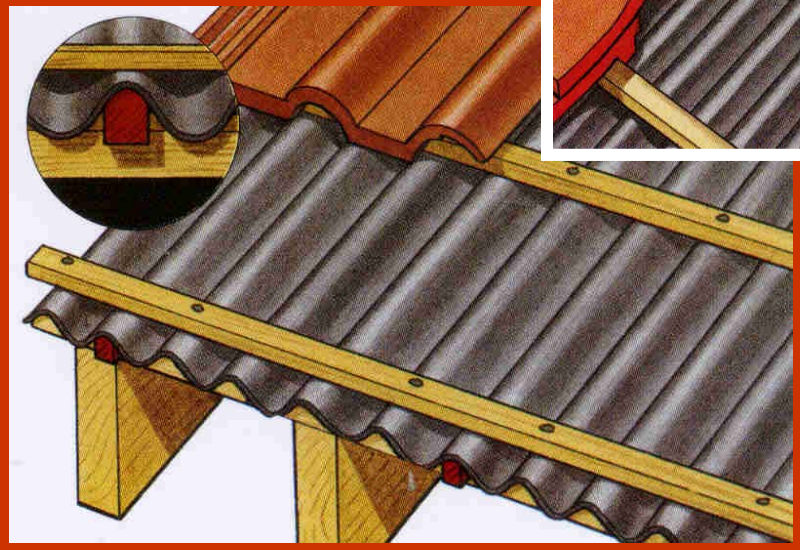

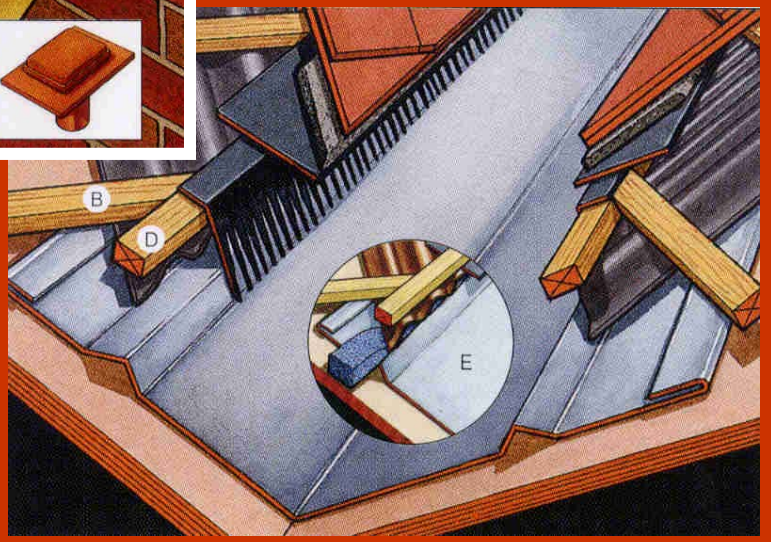
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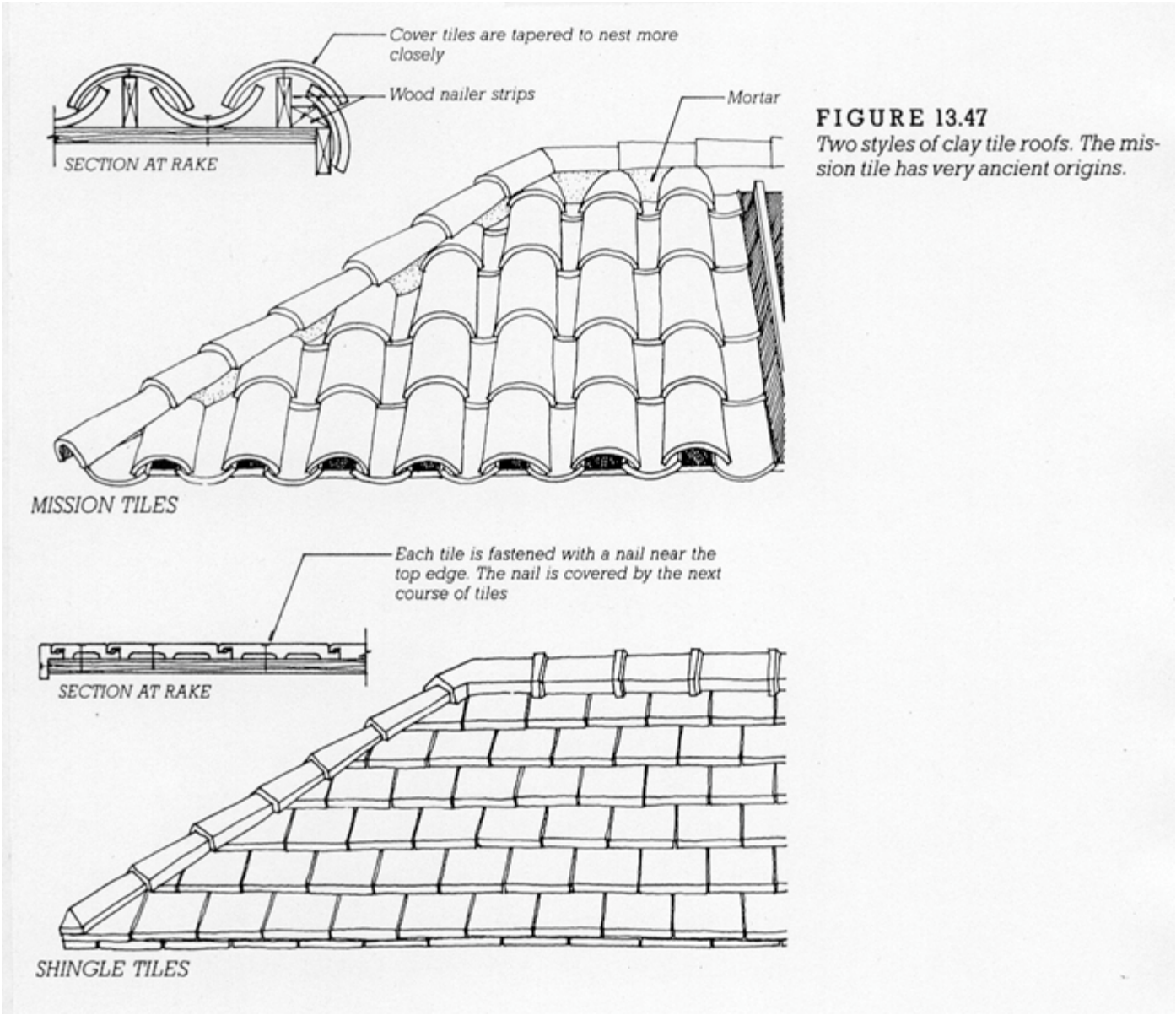


FIGURE 13.47
Two styles of clay tile roofs. The mission tile has very ancient origins.

Pitched Roof: Clay Tiles

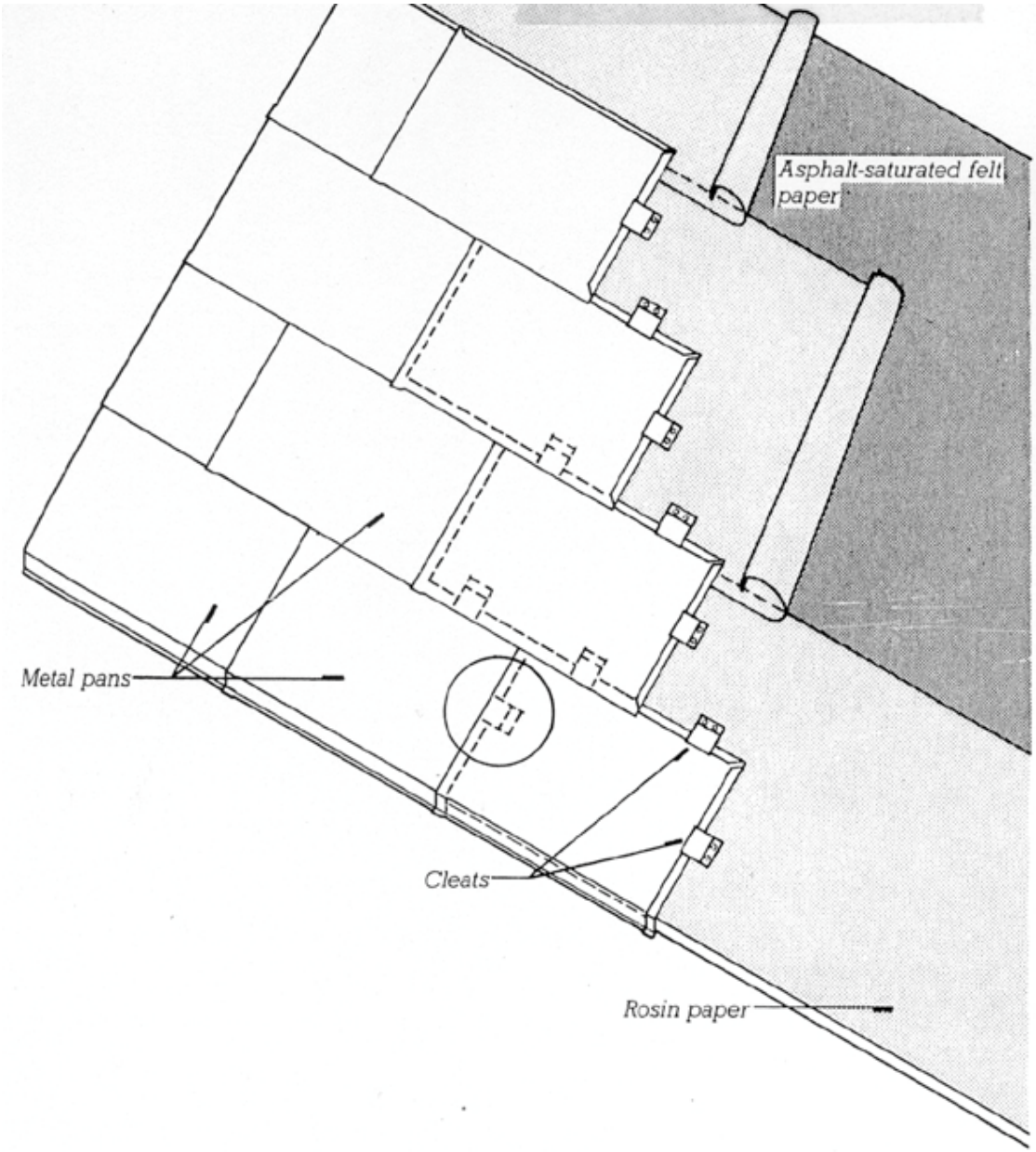
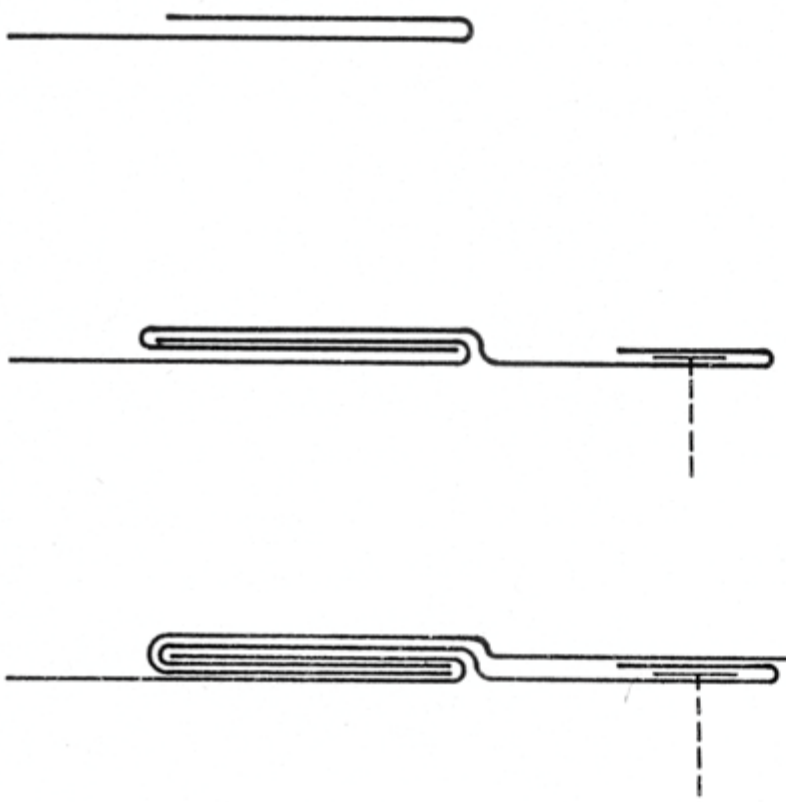


FIGURE 13.50
Installing a flat-seam metal roof. The three diagrams at the bottom of the illustration show the three steps in creating the seam, viewed in cross section. The cleats, which fasten the roofing to the deck, are completely concealed when the roof is finished.

Metal Roof: Flat Seam



Step 1: *Each pan is formed in the sheetmetal shop with folded edges.*

Step 2: *Sheet metal cleats interlock with the folded edges and are nailed to the deck. The cleat is folded back over the nail head to protect the pan.*

Step 3: *The next pan is interlocked with the first. When all pans are in place, the edges are beaten flat and soldered or sealed.*

Metal Roof: Flat Seam

In projects such as Gehry's EMP in Seattle, the use of metal cladding blurs the distinction between what is the wall and what is the roof.

The Gehry Weisman Art Museum in Minneapolis used similar techniques for the stainless steel cladding panels.

The Gehry Weisman Art Museum in Minneapolis used similar techniques for the stainless steel cladding panels.

Although here you can see for the flat window ledge detail that a sealant has been used to prevent water penetration. NOT the best solution! Slope to drain is ALWAYS more reliable

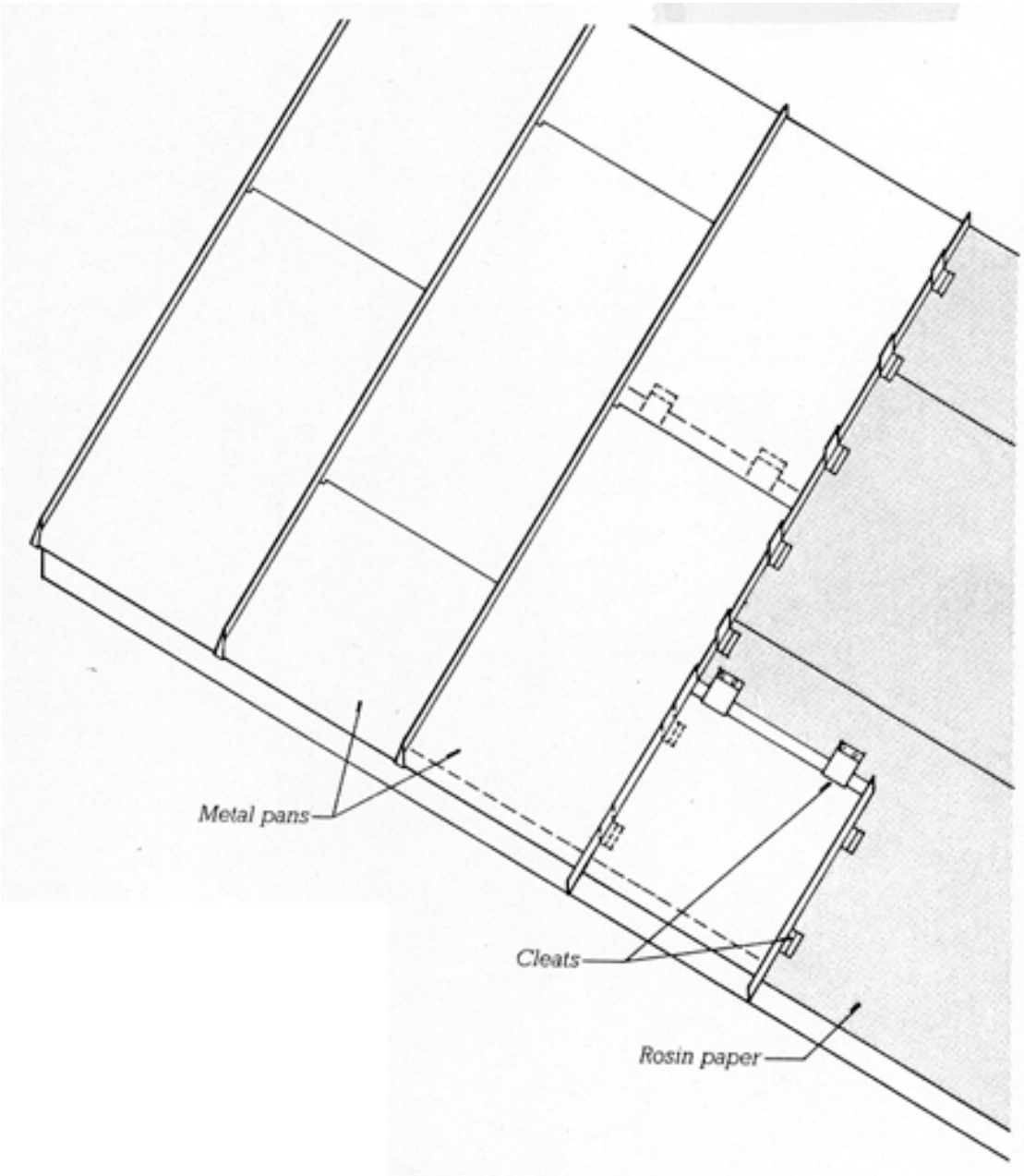
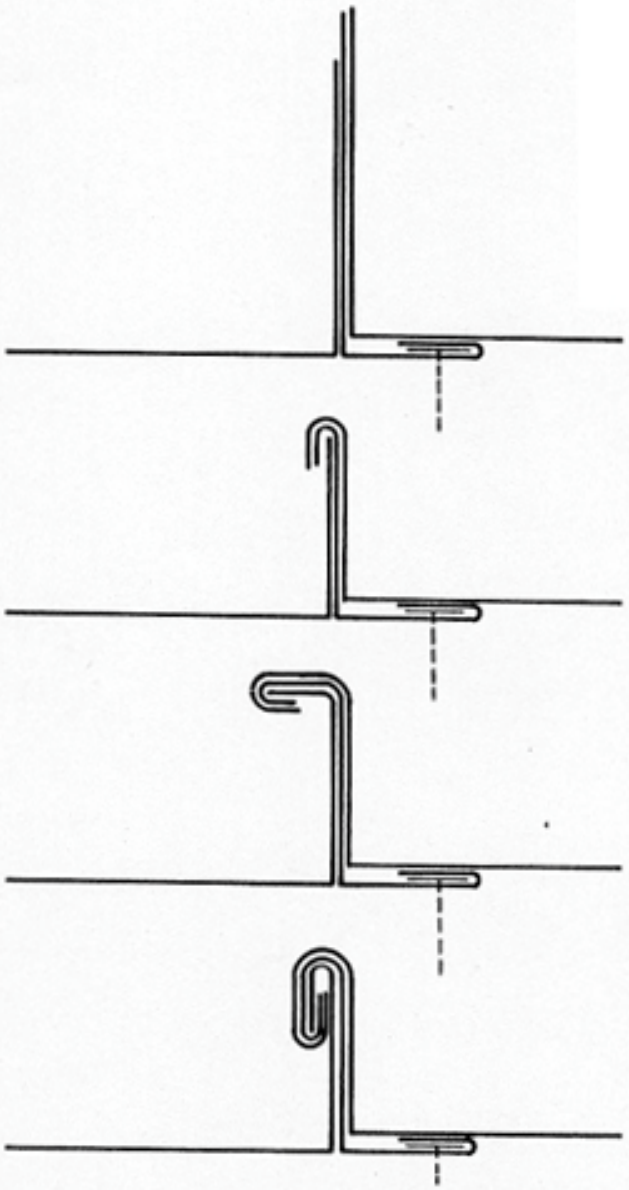


FIGURE 13.51
Installing an architectural standing-seam metal roof.

Metal Roof: Standing Seam



Step 1: *The nailed cleat and pans are aligned.*

Step 2: *The edges of the pans and the cleats are rolled together into a standing seam.*

Step 3

Step 4

Metal Roof: Standing Seam

Traditional Quebec roofs (don’t use shingles)

Standing seam metal roof

Contemporary terne-look roof in standing seam

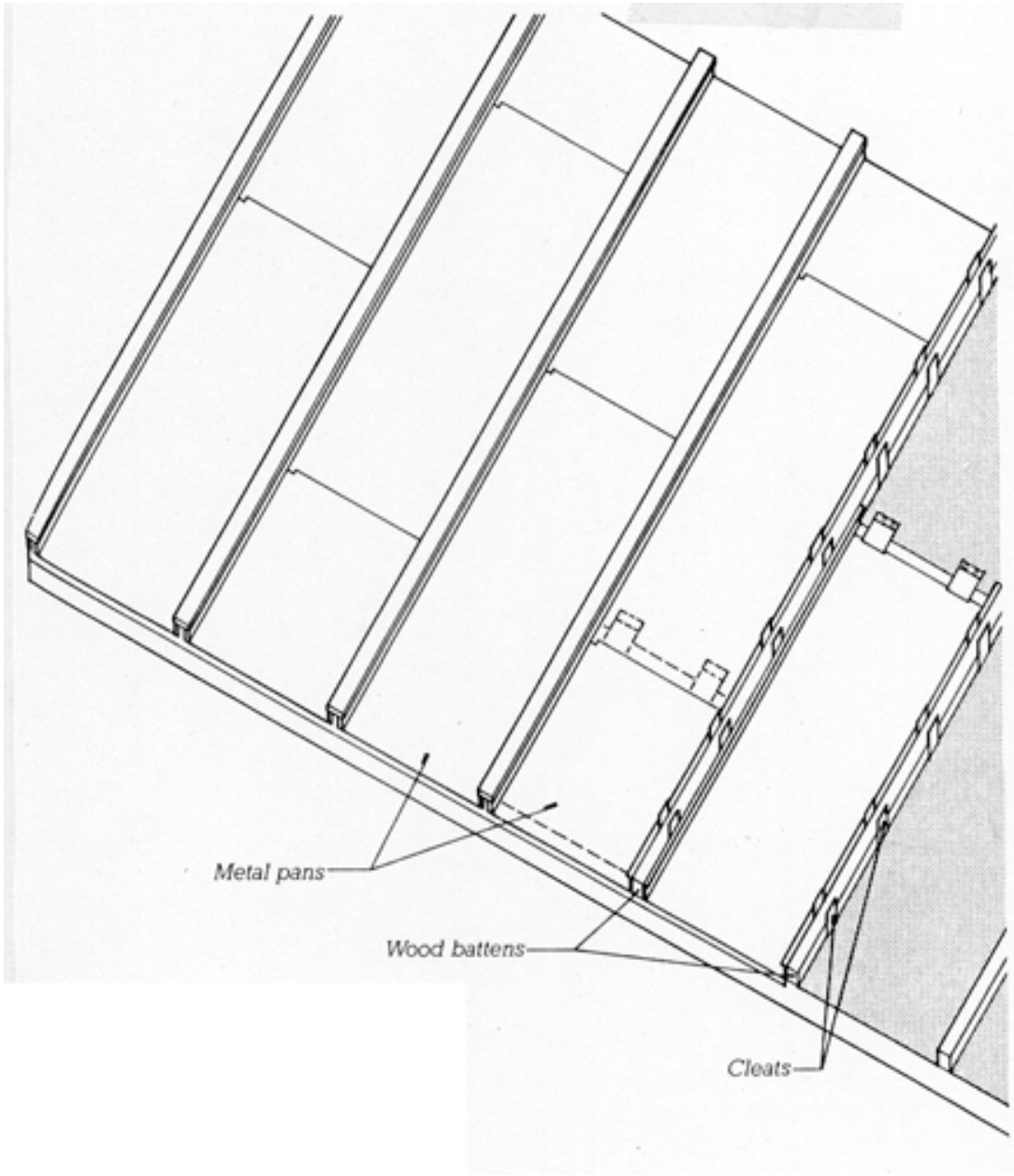
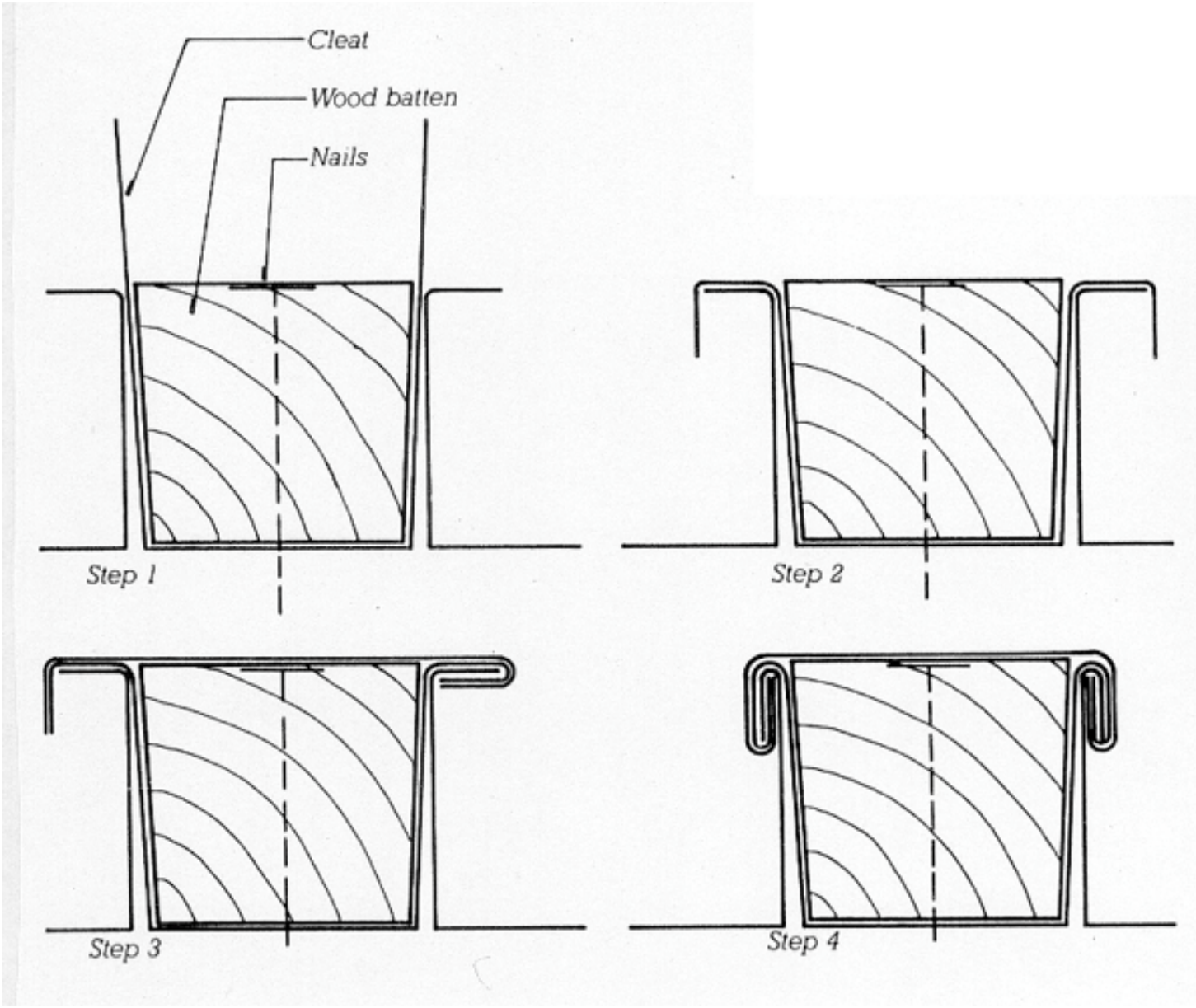


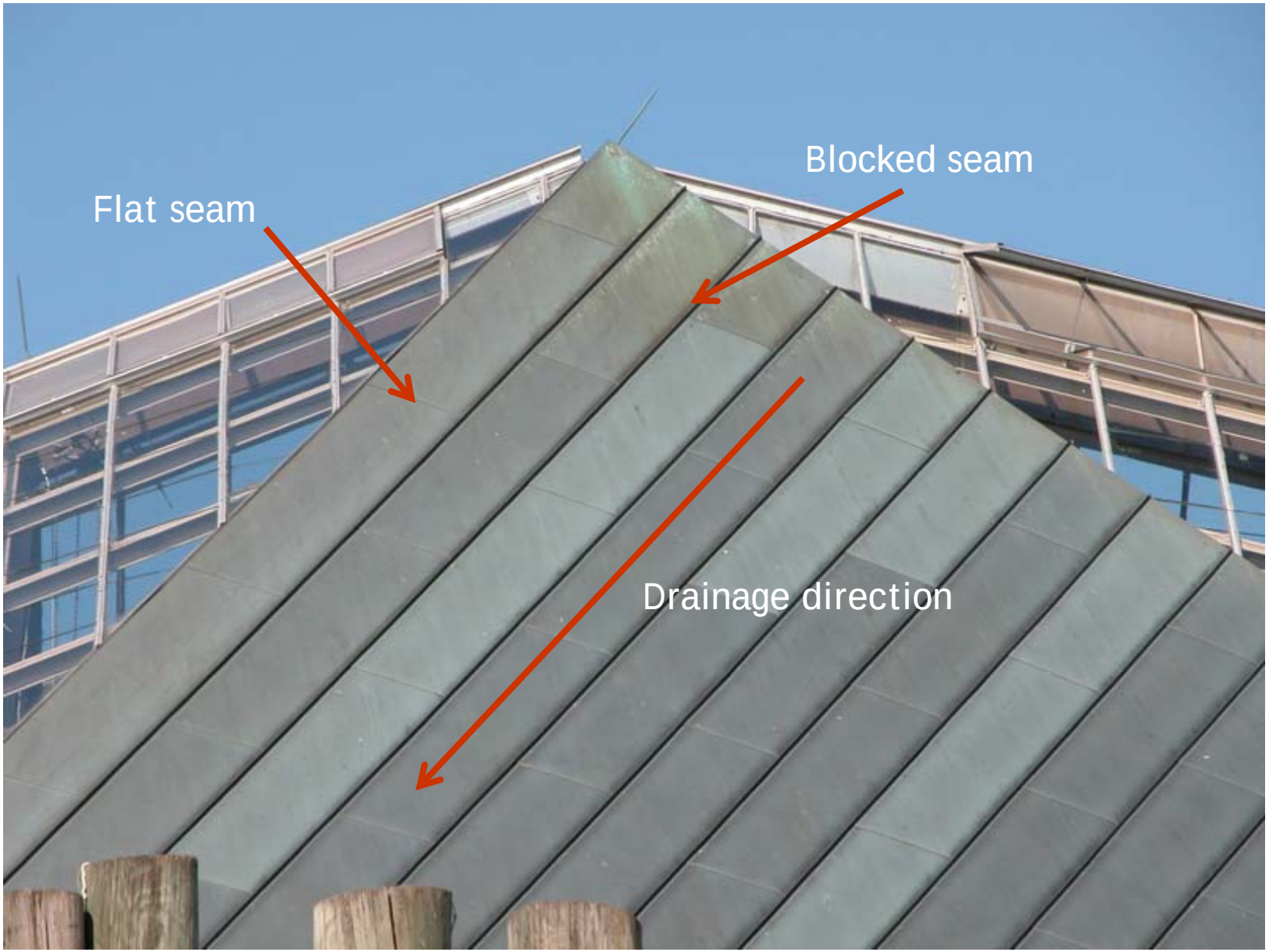
FIGURE 13.52
Installing a batten-seam metal roof. The battens are tapered in cross section to allow for expansion of the roofing metal.

Aluminum
Zinc and galvanized steel
Chromium
Steel
Stainless steel
Cadmium
Nickel
Tin
Lead
Brass
Bronze
Copper

Metal Roof: Blocked Seam



Metal Roof: Block Seam



Toronto Zoo

This is a metal roof with a snow dam at the edge. This is required to stop snow from sliding off the roof and on to the people below.

Snow guards at the edge of roofs


LOADING AREA
LOADING AREA
TOOL RENTAL CENTRE
KMK
Propane


HOME D
ONTARIO'S HOME IMPROVEM
APPLY
CHARGE CARD
TODAY!
Blinds
HARVEY'S
YOU F IND

Flat or Low Slope Roofs:

PRIMARY COMPONENTS:

- structural roof deck
- thermal insulation
- vapour retarder (and air barrier)
- waterproof membrane

Structural Roof Deck:

- must be designed to *minimize deflection* to reduce ponding and minimize drainage
- either slope the roof deck or taper the insulation to drain roof
- usual materials are:
  - plywood
  - wood decking
  - cast or hollow core concrete
  - steel decking

  (choice depends on building type, fire rating and primary structural system)

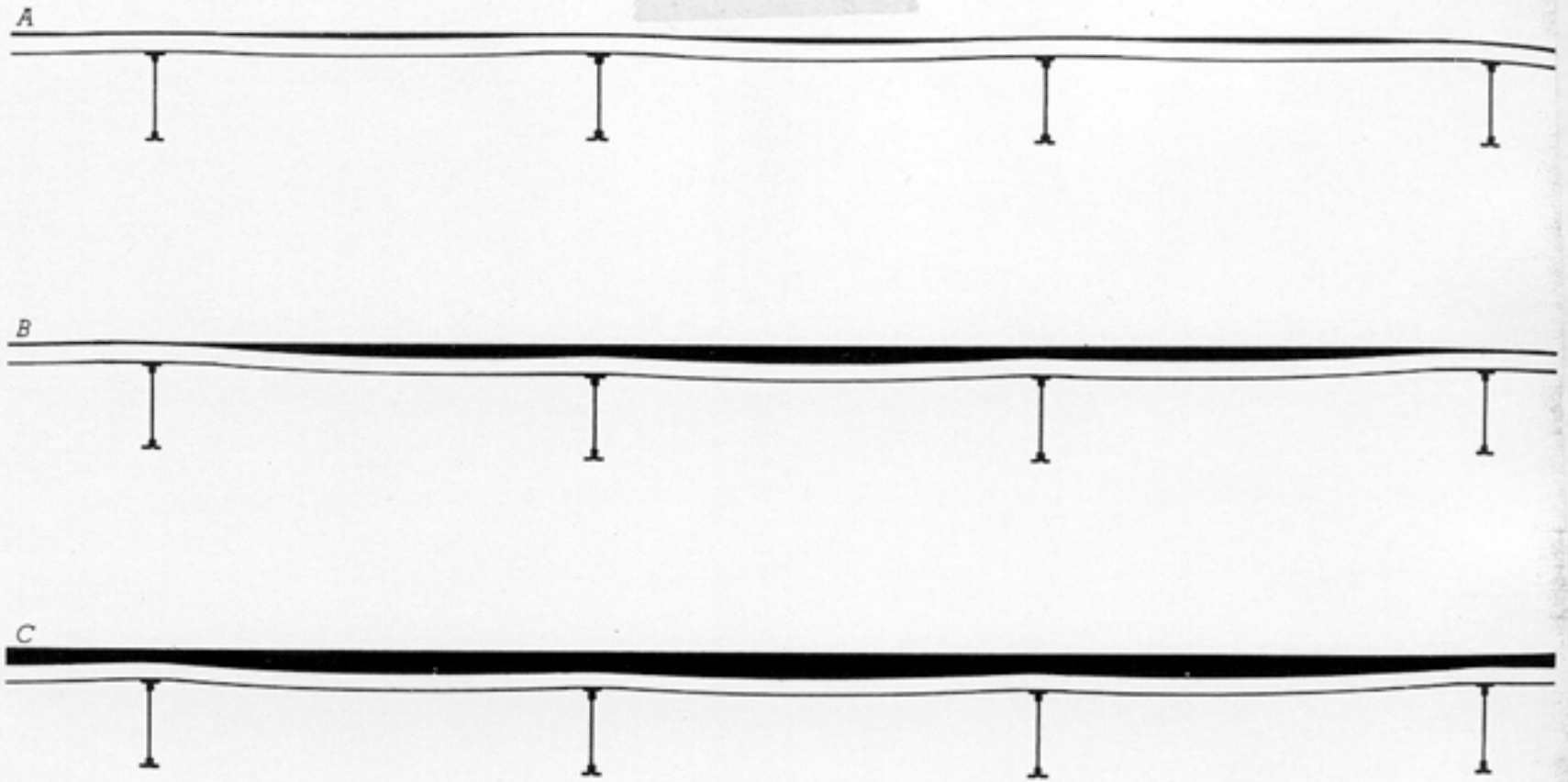


FIGURE 13.3

A low-slope roof with insufficient pitch to drain is subject to structural failure through progressive collapse, as demonstrated in this sequence of cross sections: (a) *Water stands on the roof in puddles, causing slight deflections of the roof deck between supporting beams or joists.* (b) *If heavy rainfall continues, the puddles grow and join, and the accumulating weight of the water begins to cause serious deflections in the supporting structural elements. The deflections encourage water from a broader area of the roof to run into the puddle.* (c) *As structural deflections increase, the depth of the puddle increases more and more rapidly, until the overloaded structure collapses.*

Roof collapse in Poland due to excessive snow loading

Thermal Insulation:

Can be installed in THREE positions:

- BELOW the deck
- BETWEEN the deck and the membrane
- ABOVE the membrane

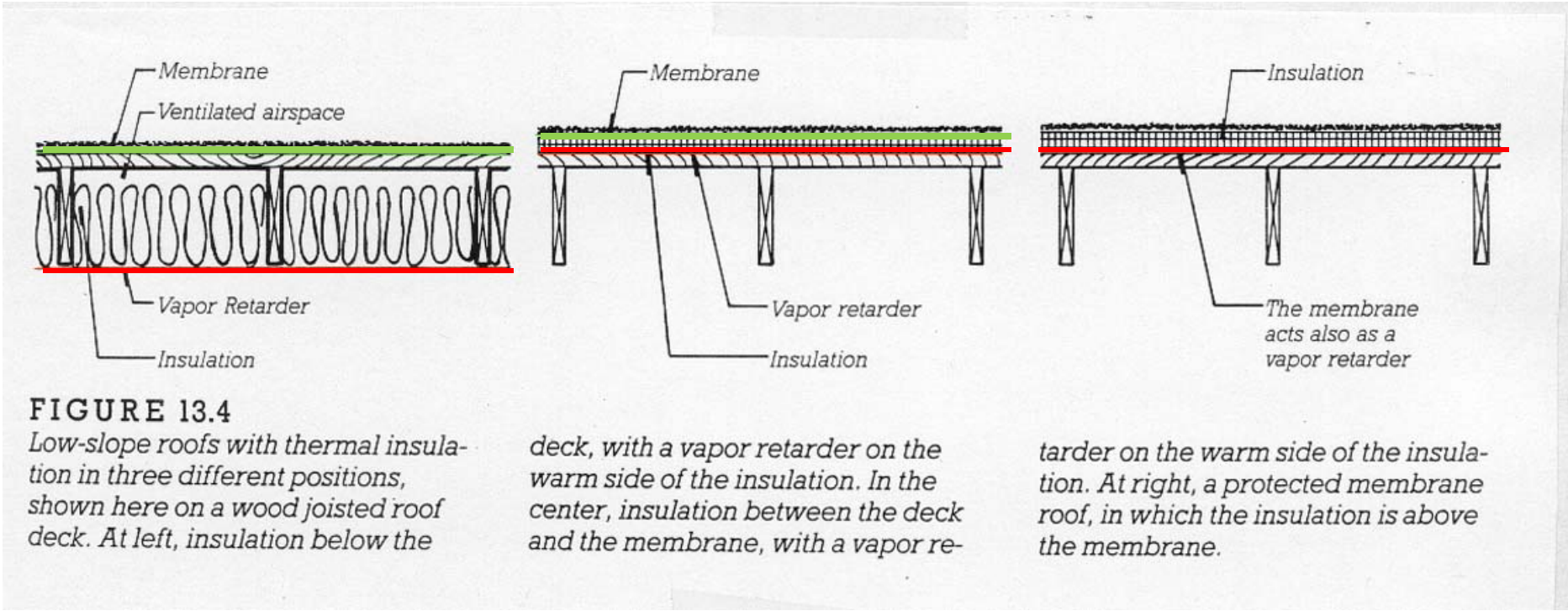


FIGURE 13.4
Low-slope roofs with thermal insulation in three different positions, shown here on a wood joisted roof deck. At left, insulation below the deck, with a vapor retarder on the warm side of the insulation. In the center, insulation between the deck and the membrane, with a vapor retarder on the warm side of the insulation. At right, a protected membrane roof, in which the insulation is above the membrane.

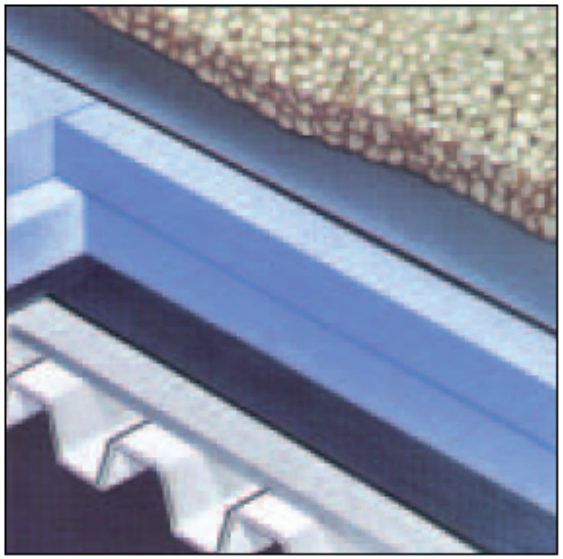
A vented air space is mandatory when using batt insulation in a flat roof!!

If you use rigid polystyrene insulation (the blue kind) or a foamed in place closed cell type, no air space is necessary as it is waterproof.

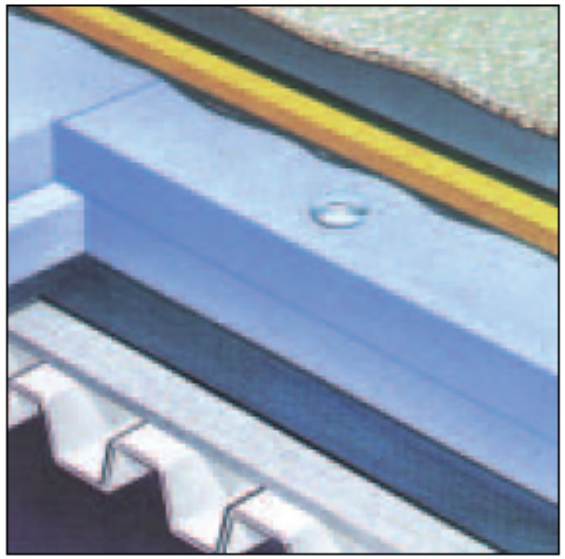
Flat Roof: Insulation and Membrane Position

Insulation BELOW the Membrane:

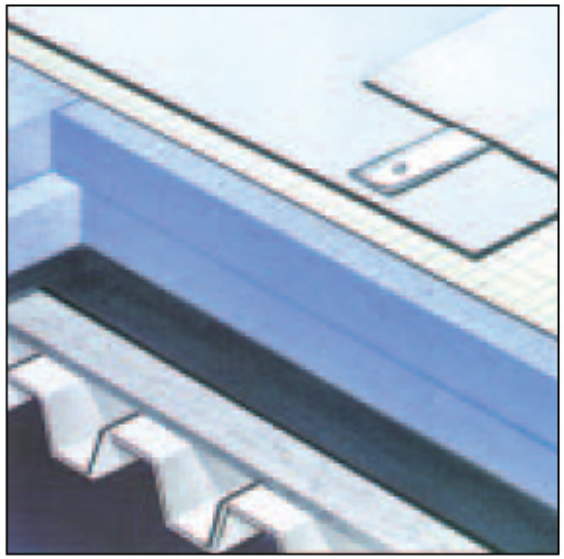
Extruded polystyrene insulation is used on roofs (often blue in colour) as it is not penetrable by water so cannot deteriorate due to water logging. It is sensitive to UV radiation so must be protected.



Loose Laid Ballasted
Single-Ply Membrane



Fully Adhered
Single-Ply Membrane

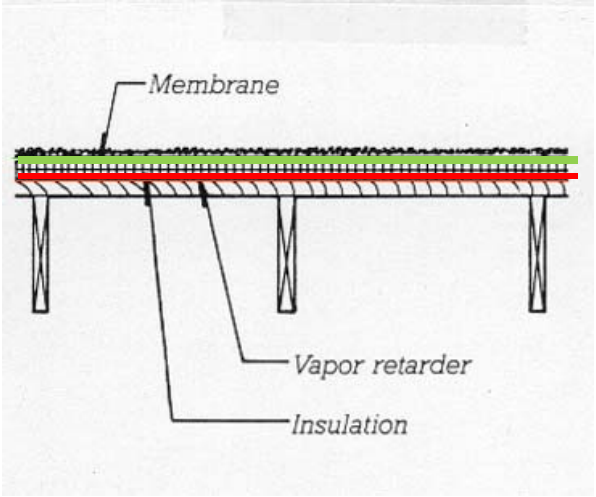


Mechanically Fastened
Single-Ply Membrane

Insulation BETWEEN the Deck and the Membrane:

Traditional location for insulation:

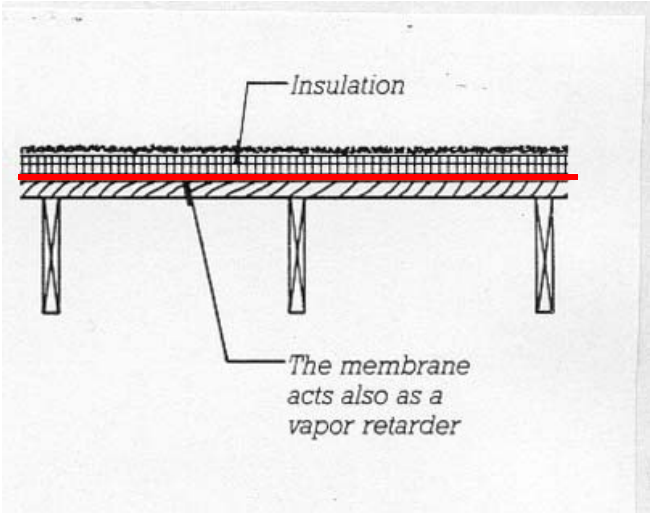
- use low density rigid panels to support the loads on the roof membrane without allowing puncture of membrane
- any water vapour trapped in insulation will cause deck to rot so use topside vents to relieve pressure

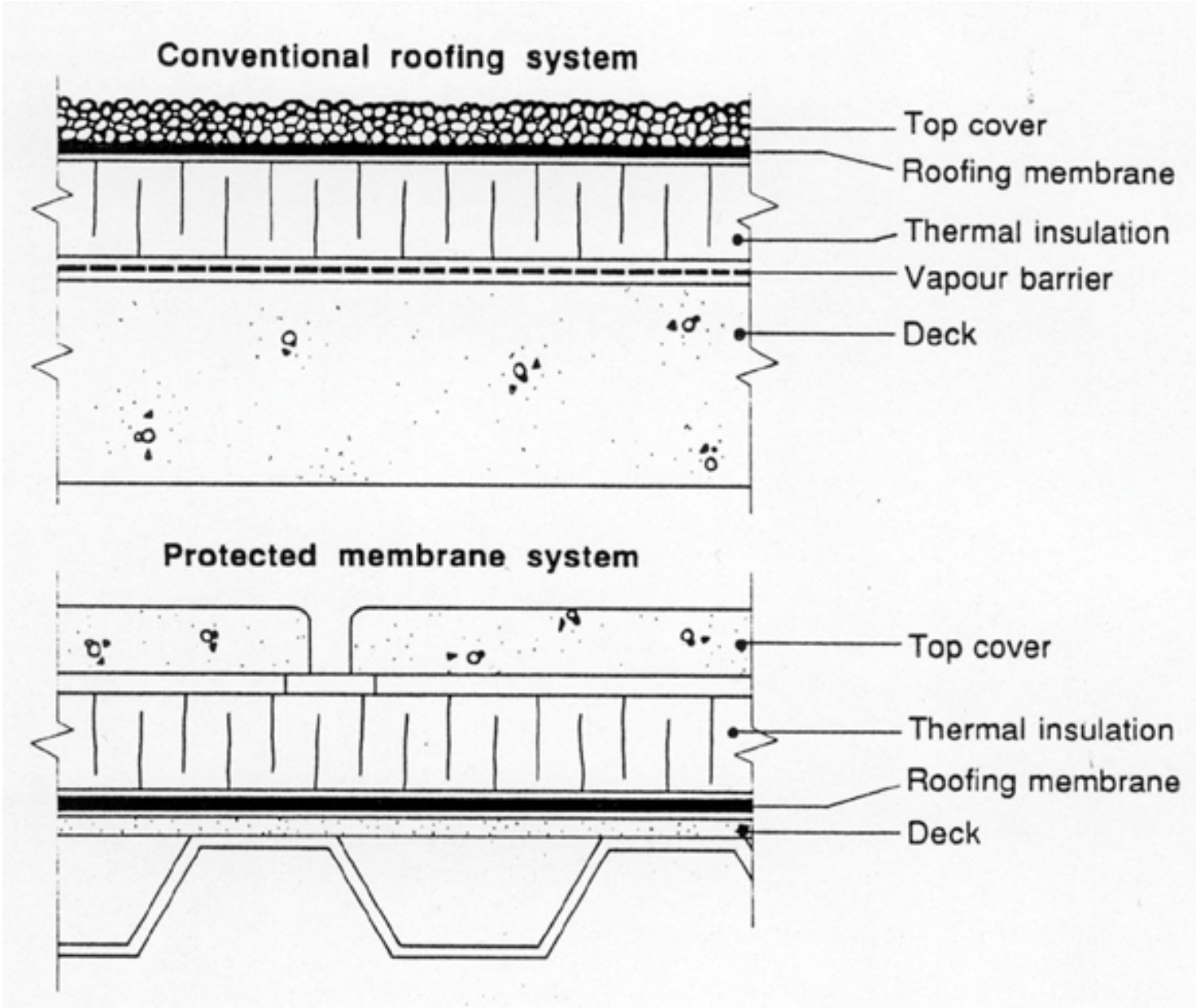


Insulation ABOVE the Membrane:

New concept offering major advantages:

- membrane protected from extremes of heat and cold, is on the warm side of the insulation
- membrane protected from UV radiation
- membrane protected from puncture
- insulation must be extruded polystryrene foam board which is water resistant and covered with a filter layer to prevent migration of ballast





Flat Roof: BUR (traditional) vs. Inverted (newer methodology)

Vapour Retarders for Low Slope Roofs:

- membrane in a protected membrane roof is also the vapour/air barrier
- other types of low slope roofs use two layers of asphalt saturated roofing felt bonded together and to the roof with hot asphalt
- polyethylene film not used as it melts
- situated on the warm side of the insulation

ROOFING MEMBRANES:

THREE PRIMARY TYPES:

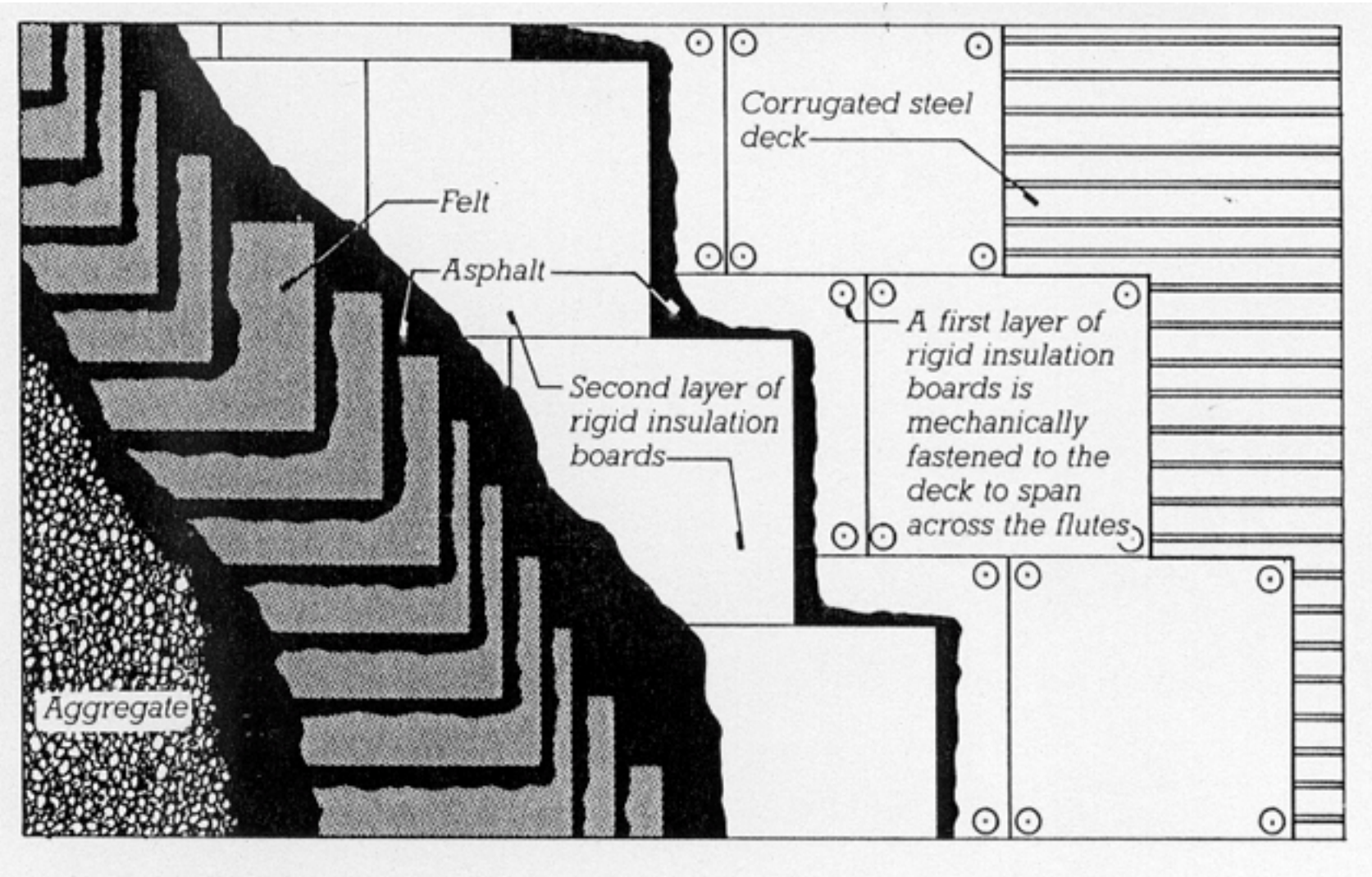
- conventional (bituminous built up roofing or BUR)
- prefabricated sheets (single ply)
- cast in situ

Very likely most of these flat roofs use traditional roofing methods.

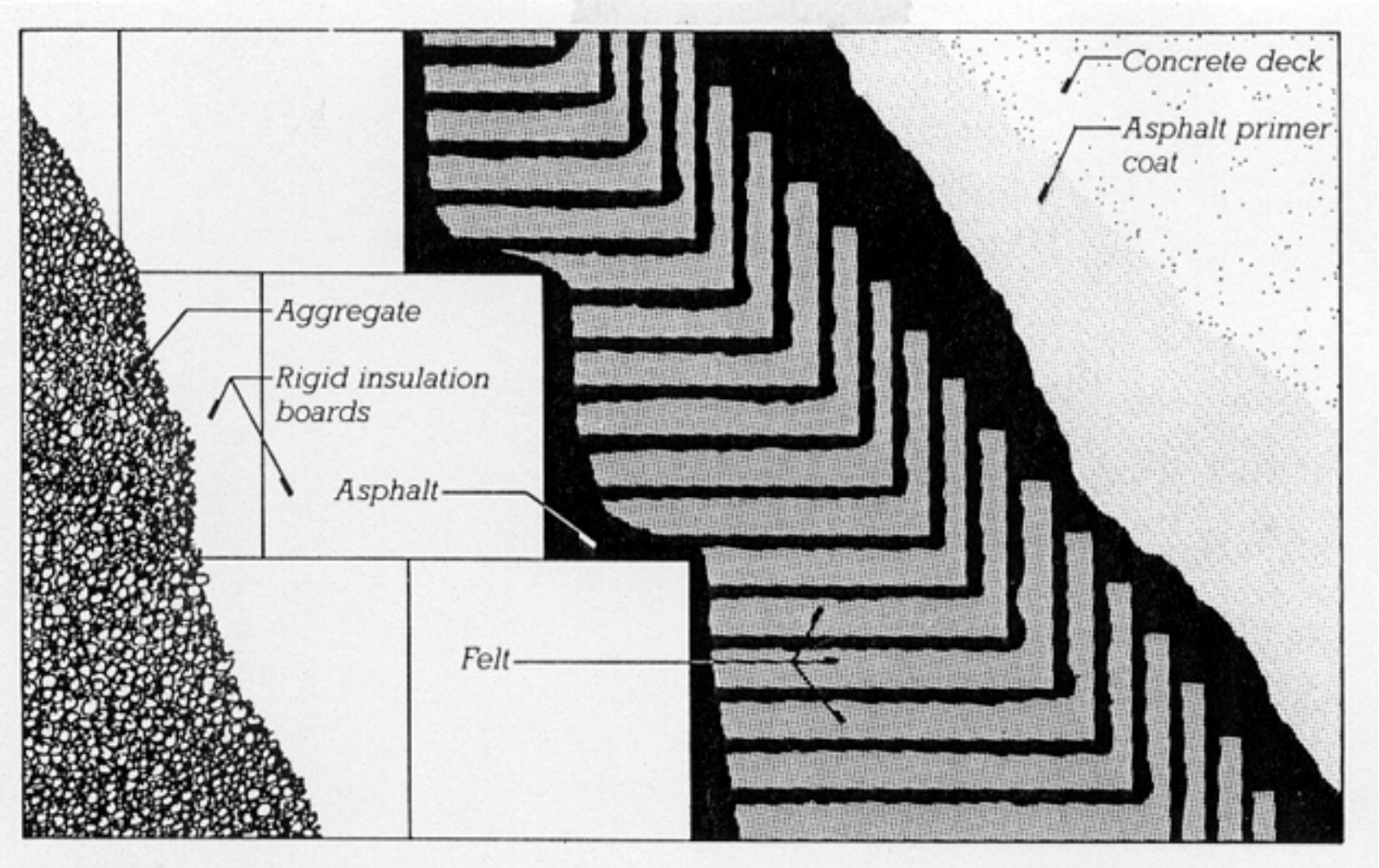

WESTIN
Pizza

Conventional: The Built Up Roof (BUR)

- constructed of 3 to 5 layers of bitumen impregnated felts, layered on the roof deck with heated asphalt
- may be located either over or under the rigid insulation
- top layer of gravel ballast to protect asphaltic materials or insulation from UV rays, and to weight roofing materials against wind uplift forces



BUR on steel decking: insulation below the membrane



BUR on concrete roof deck: insulation above the membrane

Built up Roof (BUR)

Built up Roof (BUR)

BUR being installed over rigid polystyrene insulation (right)

Prefabricated Sheets: Single Ply

THERMOPLASTIC SHEETS:

- PVC and blends
- EP (ethylene interpolymer)
- CPA (copolymer alloys)

ELASTOMERIC (SYNTHETIC) RUBBER SHEETS:

- vulcanized, EPDM or neoprene
- non vulcanized

MODIFIED bituminous SHEETS:

- polymer modifiers

PREFABRICATED SHEETS: Installation and Attachment

- require less on site labour
- less prone to cracking
- affixed to roof by:
  - adhesives
  - the weight of ballast
  - fasteners concealed in seams between the sheets
  - with ingenious mechanical fasteners that do not penetrate the membrane (if it is flexible enough…)

THERMOPLASTIC SHEETS:
PVC:

- commonly known as vinyl
- seams are sealed either by solvent welding or hot air welding
- may be laid loose, mechanically attached, adhered or used as a protected membrane

PVC Roof at Pearson International Airport

THERMOPLASTIC SHEETS:
Neoprene:

- high performance synthetic rubber compound
- applied in sheets and joined with an adhesive
- vulnerable to UV rays so coated with a protective layer
- may be adhered, mechanically fastened or laid loose and ballasted
- can be used in a protected membrane roof

ELASTOMERIC (SYNTHETIC) RUBBER SHEETS: EPDM (**ethylene propylene dienemonomer**):

- the most widely used material for single ply roofs
- low in cost
- synthetic rubber made in large sheets
- joined with adhesive, laid loose, adhered, mechanically fastened or used in a protected membrane roof