

WALL: BRICK VENEER DESIGN C

BRICK VENEER- CAVITY- R-3 CONTINUOUS INSULATION
15# FELT- GYPSUM SHEATHING AIR BARRIER- R-11/R-13 IN STUD CAVITY
VAPOR BARRIER- GYPSUM WALL BOARD

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**Boston Society of Architects
Building Envelope Committee
52 Broad Street
Boston, MA 02109**

**Building Envelope Designs meeting the requirements of the new Massachusetts
Energy Code 780 CMR 13
*For Educational Purposes Only***

Acknowledgments:

Process: The BSA Building Envelope Committee was approached by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards to develop building envelope details demonstrating compliance with the new energy code. Richard Keleher AIA, chairman and founder of the BSA building envelope committee appointed a task force to develop a narrative and details to demonstrate compliance with the new energy code. The task force developed the details and narrative below, which were then reviewed by the building envelope committee members.

The BSA was under contract with the Peregrine Energy Group, a contractor to the Board of Building Regulations and Standards to deliver pdf format drawings and a narrative of the system alternatives. Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott, Architects, Boston, acted as prime consultant to the BSA to develop the deliverables.

The task force decided to select, review, verify and edit some of the designs from the “Architects Guide to The New Energy Code”, by Mark Kalin, available in hard copy and in electronic form as publication No. 263 from the BSA.

The following task force members contributed their time and knowledge in the development of these designs:

Wagdy Anis AIA	Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott, Task force chair.
Mark Kalin FAIA, FCSI	Kalin Associates Inc.
Jeff Wade AIA, CSI	ADD Inc
Lance Robson AIA	Building Envelope Technologies Inc.
Steven Rigione	HKT Architects Inc.

In addition to reviews by the subcommittee members, the following members of the BSA's Building Envelope Committee performed very helpful reviews of the details before publishing:

Len Anastasi, CSI	Lennel Specialties
Vince Camalleri AIA	Simpson Gumpertz and Heger
Ken Crocco AIA	ArchiTech Consulting Inc., Chicago Chapter AIA
Richard Keleher AIA, CSI	Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott
Don Klema AIA	Kallmann McKinnell and Wood Architects
Joseph Lstiburek, PhD. P. Eng.	Building Science Corporation
Ned Lyon P.E.	Simpson Gumpertz and Heger
Fred Nashed AIA	Architectural Consulting Services
Oscar Padjen AIA	Padjen Architects, Inc.
Allan Schmaltz	Unerectors Inc.

The designs must be reviewed by a design professional before applying them for applicability to a specific project, including the limitations imposed by the interior and exterior environment of a building. Some designs are more durable than others, and cost is also a variable. The designs are based on a maximum of 35% interior relative humidity in the winter and normal exterior conditions in Massachusetts. Some of the designs fail if the interior RH is higher, and should be modified. Any misapplication or misinterpretation of these designs is the sole responsibility of the user.

In all of the designs below, continuity of the air barrier from foundations to roof is a focus, including closure of all penetrations. None of the designs have been reviewed by a structural engineer. The structural support of the air barrier is taken into consideration to withstand positive and negative air pressures, but should be reviewed by a structural engineer for transfer to the backup wall and structure. The systems and anchorages normally designed by specialty engineers such as light-gage steel studs, stone and precast concrete connections have also not been engineered. Alternatives within each design are discussed below.

Roof:

No attempts to vary the low-slope roofing design were made. Remember that the new energy code establishes a relationship of 10 times less permeable for the roof membrane than the vapor barrier in the roof assembly. Roof membranes vary from 2 to 0.03 perms, therefore the vapor barrier should be from 0.1 to 0.003, based on the roof membrane permeability.

Design A shows a pitched shingle roof and a metal roof. The concept of tying the roof air barrier to the wall air barrier is demonstrated. The shingle roof is ventilated due to the shingle manufacturer's warranty requirements. If the metal roofing standing seams are sealed, then it too should be ventilated. Otherwise the metal roof assembly is non-ventilated roof and takes advantage of the code roof ventilation exception for air-tight roof assemblies.

Design A also shows a penetration conceptually. The concept of air-tightening all penetrations should carry through all the designs.

Also in design A is an enlarged detail of a window connection, as an example of connecting a window-frame to the wall air-barrier. This is applicable to all the designs. Window crack perimeter sealants should be used that are compatible with polyethylene, such as low or ultra-low-modulus silicone. For small windows up to 5' or 6', one-part spray polyurethane foam may be used. A membrane, properly connected with compatible sealants and termination bars to window and membrane may also be used. The same tie-in location is true of louvers, metal door frames and store fronts. Curtain wall is tied in at the tube face of the glazing pocket.

- **Design C:**

Description:

Brick, air cavity, R-3 continuous rigid insulation, 15# felt, sheathing air barrier, stud back-up, vapor barrier and gypsum drywall interior finish.

This design has a basic wall system described in the prescriptive tables of the code, with R-3 rigid continuous insulation and R-11 or R-13 batts in the stud cavity (dependent on climate zone). This wall needs a vapor barrier to work. It is interesting to note that increasing the rigid insulation to R-5 eliminates the need for a vapor barrier up to a maximum interior relative humidity of 35%, which makes for a better wall system, since it can dry out to the inside if incidental wetting occurs. The insulation in the cavity needs to be extruded polystyrene or polyisocyanurate, since the wall is subject to reverse vapor drive and those kinds of insulation help reduce the effect. It also is important to vent the brick cavity for that same reason. The air barrier is shown to be the gypsum sheathing, but can also be a vapor permeable liquid applied spray-on or trowel-on air barrier, which would eliminate the need for the 15# felt.

Continuous insulation alternatives, R-3 required:

- extruded polystyrene
- polyisocyanurate.
- medium density spray polyurethane foam

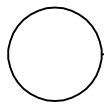
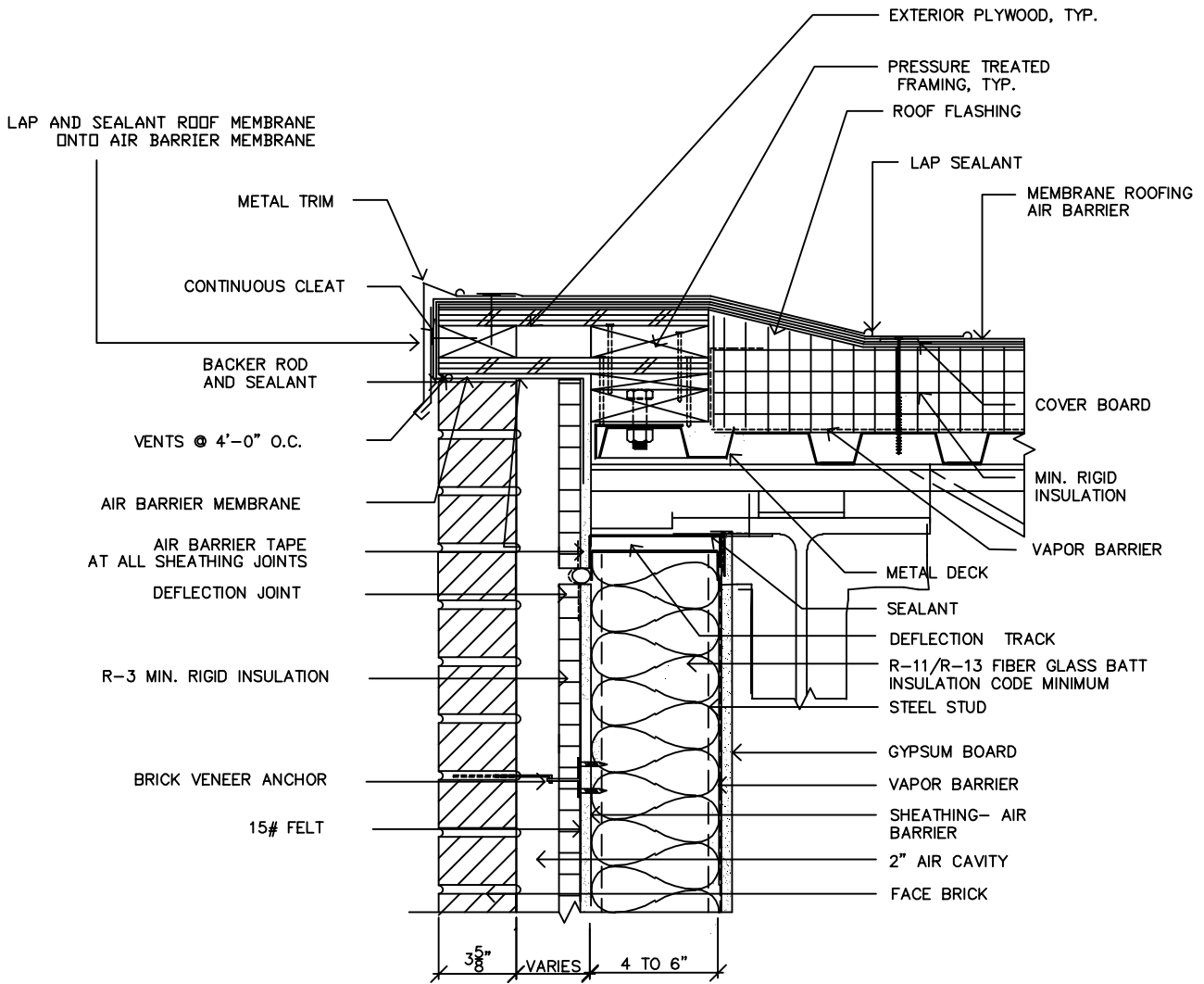
Air Barrier alternatives:

- Taped gypsum sheathing and screws.
- Commercial grade spun-bonded polyolefin
- Liquid-applied vapor permeable air barrier.
- If medium density polyurethane foam is used on the sheathing, then it should be increased to 1", whereupon it will work as air barrier and eliminate the need for a vapor barrier. The 15# felt must also be omitted

At 3/4", the rigid insulation does not meet the minimum air permeance criteria and cannot be used as the air barrier. Durable asphalt peel and stick tapes and membrane peel and stick transitions are required. In the case of spray foam insulation, the spray foam is the air barrier and.

Vapor Barrier alternatives:

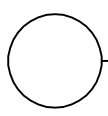
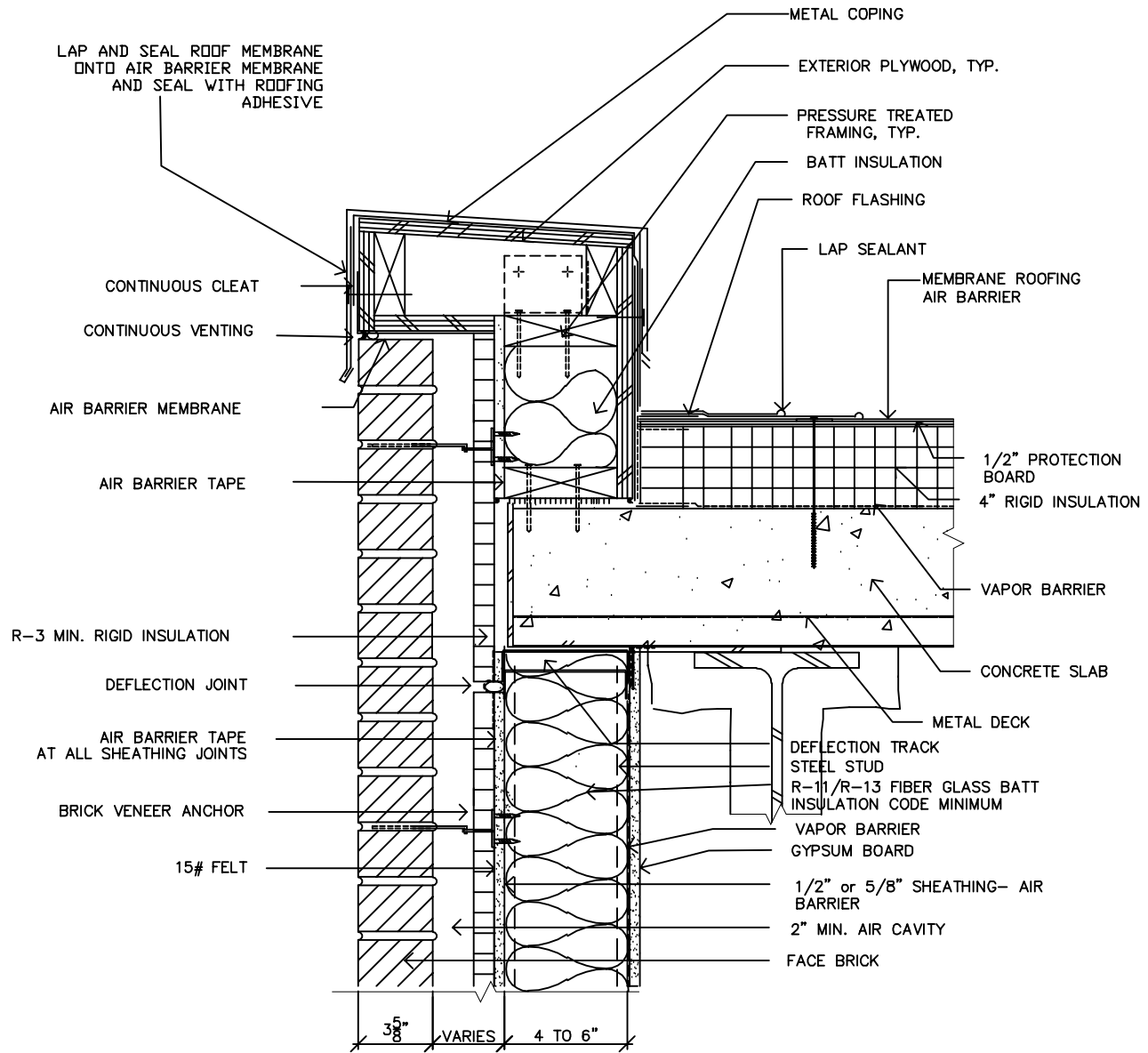
- 6 mil polyethylene
- foil-backed drywall
- reinforced foil-faced batts
- Any other 0.1 perm or less vapor barrier.



DETAIL AT ROOF EDGE

REFERENCE DETAIL: REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL TO REVIEW PRIOR TO USE

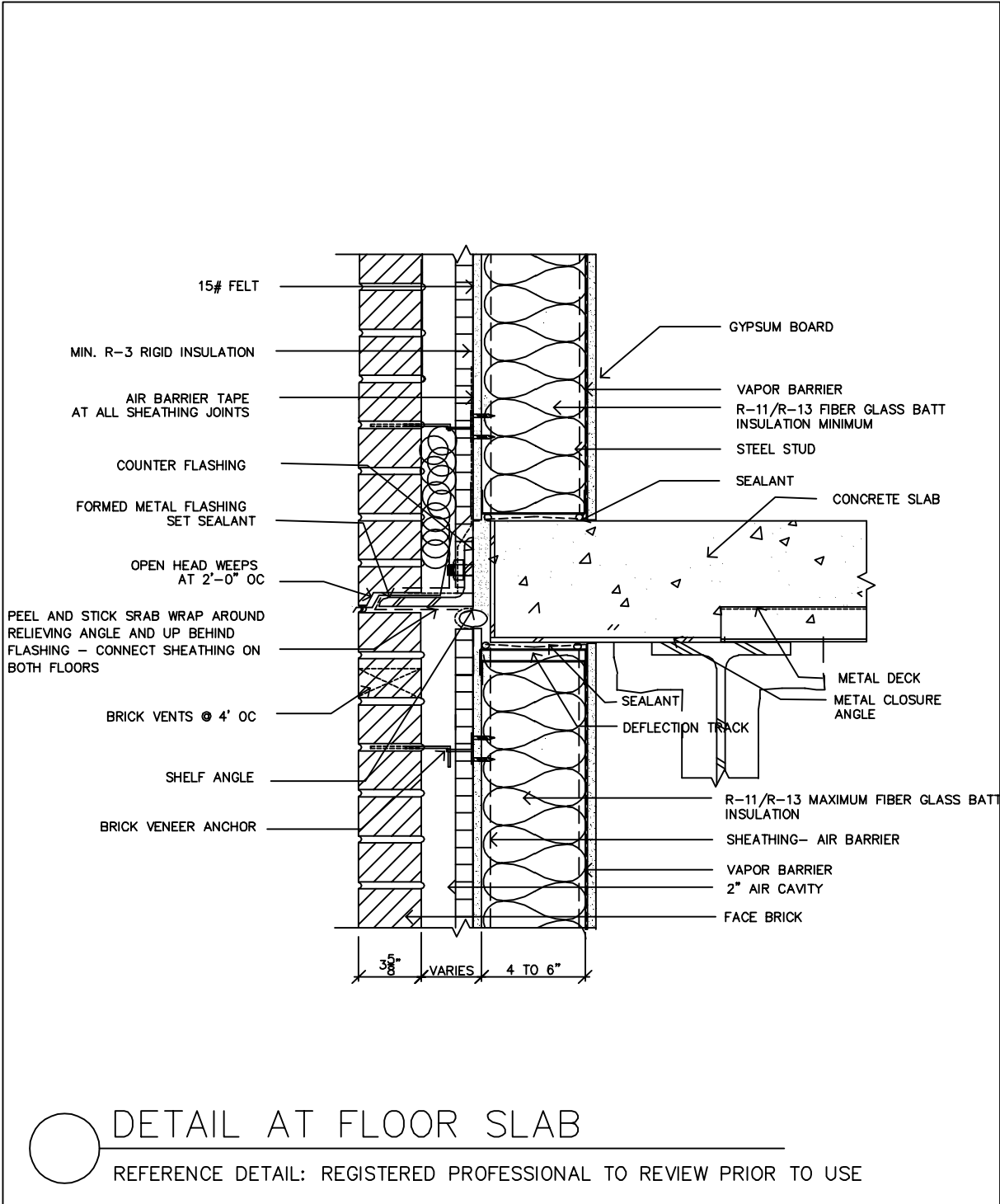
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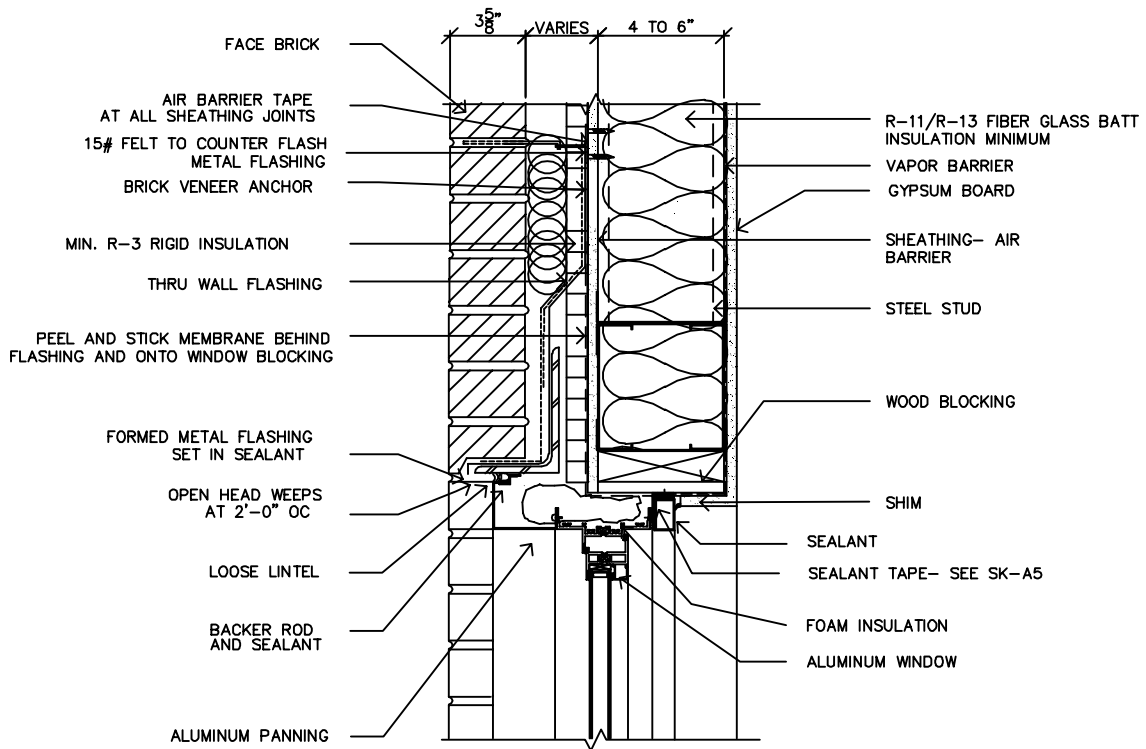
DETAIL AT ROOF PARAPET

REFERENCE DETAIL: REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL TO REVIEW PRIOR TO USE

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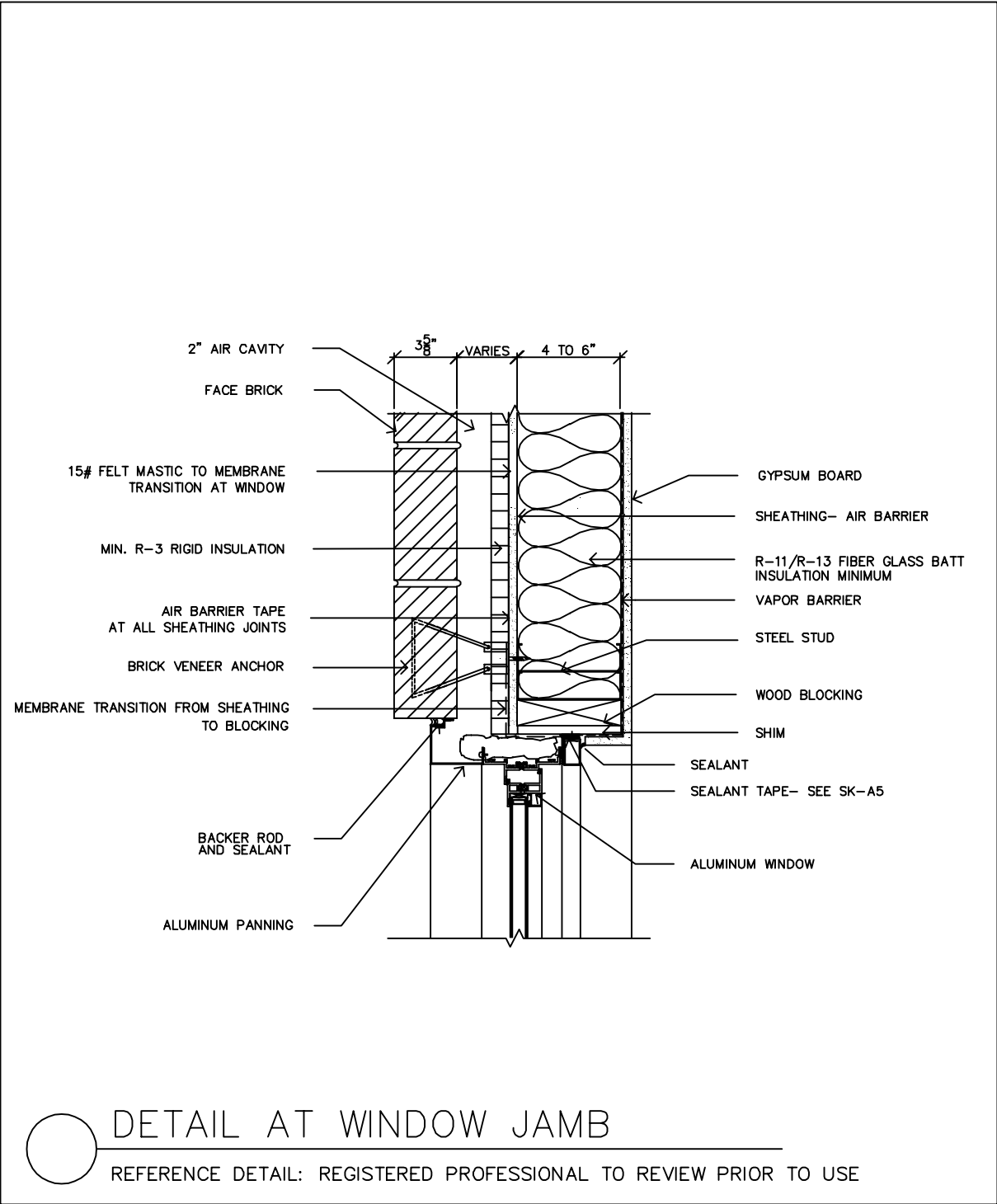
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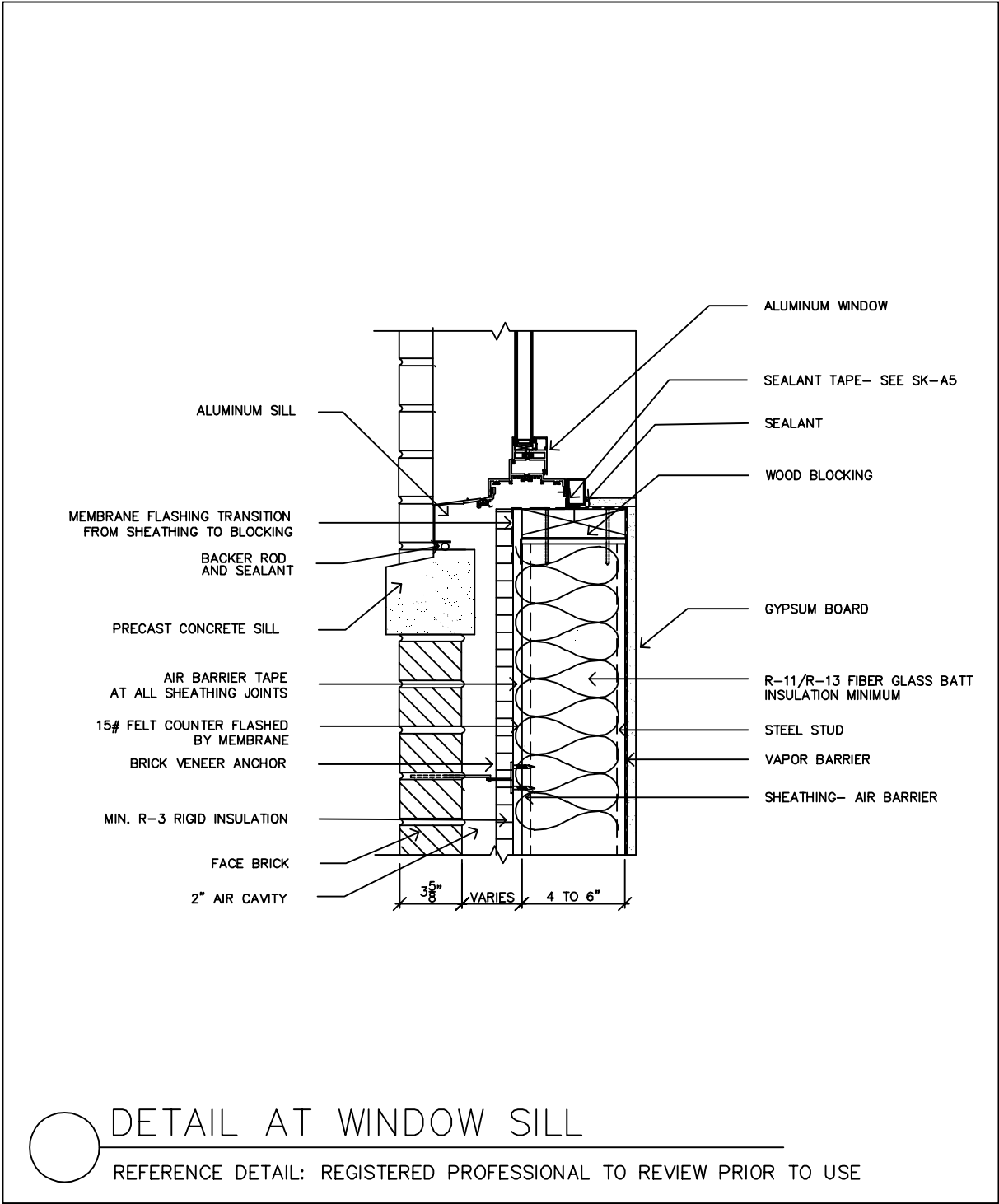
DETAIL AT WINDOW HEAD

REFERENCE DETAIL: REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL TO REVIEW PRIOR TO USE

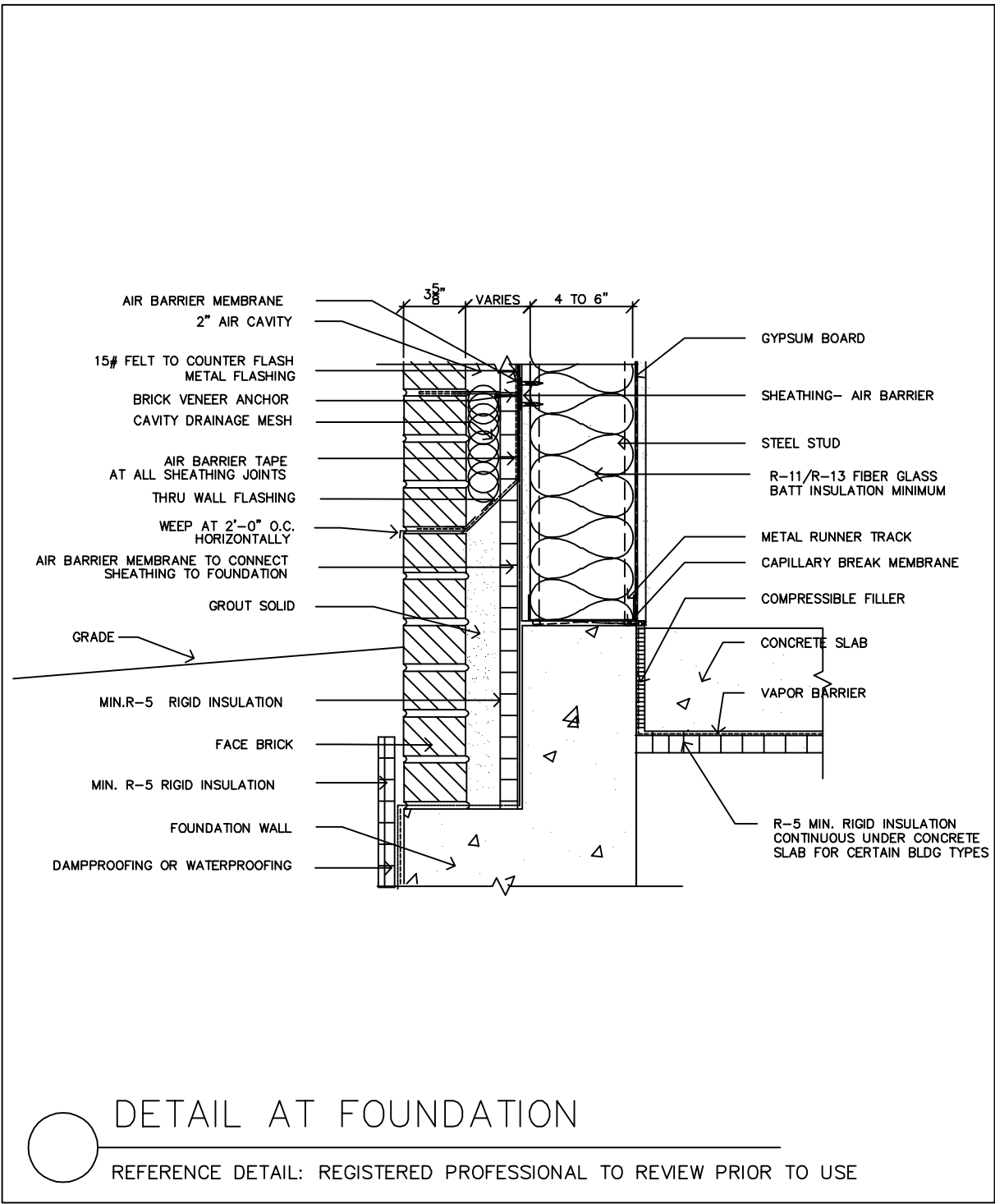
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