



HomeTeam[®]
INSPECTION SERVICE

441 Butler St. Springdale, PA 15144

412-461-8273 Fax: 412-461-0814

www.hometeam.com/southpittsburgh

E-mail: southpittsburgh@hometeam.com

306 Fourth Ave

RE: Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Inspection #: 527-092024-5903

Dear Derek Luke,

On 9/18/2024 HomeTeam Inspection Service made a visual inspection of the property referenced above. Enclosed please find a written, narrative report of our findings in accordance with the terms of our Home Inspection Agreement. Although maintenance items may have been addressed verbally at the time of the inspection, they may not be included in the enclosed report.

I trust the enclosed information is helpful and I hope you enjoy every aspect of your new home. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to call me at the above telephone number.

Sincerely,

HomeTeam Inspection Service
Mike Pucci

PA Radon Firm Certification #2915





HomeTeam[®]

INSPECTION SERVICE

HOME INSPECTION REPORT



Home. Safe. Home.



HomeTeam[®]
INSPECTION SERVICE



CONVENIENT | EFFICIENT &
BOOKINGS | INSPECTIONS
FAST REPORTS

WHAT IS A HOME INSPECTION?

The purpose of a home inspection is to visually examine the readily accessible systems and components of the home. The inspectors are not required to move personal property, materials or any other objects that may impede access or limit visibility. Items that are unsafe or not functioning, in the opinion of the inspector, will be described in accordance with the standards of practice by which inspectors abide.

WHAT DOES THIS REPORT MEAN TO YOU?

This inspection report is not intended as a guarantee, warranty or an insurance policy. Because your home is one of the largest investments you will ever make, use the information provided in this report and discuss the findings with your real estate agent and family to understand the current condition of the home.

OUR INSPECTIONS EXCEED THE HIGHEST INDUSTRY STANDARDS.

Because we use a team of inspectors, each an expert in his or her field, our inspections are performed with greater efficiency and more expertise and therefore exceed the highest industry standards. We are pleased to provide this detailed report as a service to you, our client.

WE BELIEVE IN YOUR DREAM OF HOME OWNERSHIP.

We want to help you get into your dream home. Therefore, we take great pride in assisting you with this decision making process. This is certainly a major achievement in your life. We are happy to be part of this important occasion and we appreciate the opportunity to help you realize your dream.

WE EXCEED YOUR EXPECTATIONS.

Buying your new home is a major decision. Much hinges on the current condition of the home you have chosen. That is why we have developed the HomeTeam Inspection Report. Backed by HomeTeam's experience with hundreds of thousands of home inspections over the years, the report in your hand has been uniquely designed to meet and exceed the expectations of today's homebuyers. We are proud to deliver this high-quality document for your peace of mind. If you have any questions while reviewing this report, please contact us immediately.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve you.



FAST



TRUSTED



ACCURATE

PREFACE:

This report is intended for the sole, confidential, and exclusive use and benefit of the Client(s) under a written HomeTeam Inspection Agreement. This report is not intended for the benefit of, and may not be relied upon by, any other party. The disclosure or distribution of this report to the current owner(s) of the property inspected or to any real estate agent will not make those persons intended beneficiaries of this report. HomeTeam Inspection Service has no liability to any party (other than the HomeTeam client named above, for whom this report was expressly prepared) for any loss, damage or expense (including, without limitation, attorney fees) arising from any claim relating to this report.

A home inspection is intended to assist in evaluation of the overall condition of the dwelling. The inspection is based on observation of the visible and apparent condition of the structure and its components on the date of the inspection. We will not render an opinion as to the condition of any systems or components of the structure that are concealed by walls, floors, drywall, paneling, suspended ceiling tiles, insulation, carpeting, furniture or any other items stored in or on the property at the time of the inspection.

The results of this home inspection are not intended to make any representation regarding the presence or absence of latent or concealed defects that are not reasonably ascertainable in a competently performed home inspection. No warranty or guaranty is expressed or implied.

If the person conducting your home inspection is not a licensed structural engineer or other professional whose license authorizes the rendering of an opinion as to the structural integrity of a building or its other component parts, you may be advised to seek professional opinion as to any defects or concerns mentioned in the report. If the age, condition or operation of any system, structure or component of the property is of a concern to you, it is recommended that a specialist in the respective field be consulted for a more technically exhaustive evaluation.

This home inspection report is not to be construed as an appraisal and may not be used as such for any purpose.

This inspection report includes a description of any material defects (*) noted during the inspection, along with any recommendation that certain experts be retained to determine the extent of the defects and any corrective action that should be taken. Any material defect that poses an unreasonable risk to people on the property will be conspicuously defined as such. Any recommendations made to consult with other specialists for further evaluation as a result of our findings should be complete prior to the conclusion of the inspection contingency period. The Client warrants they will read the entire Inspection Report when received and shall promptly contact HomeTeam regarding any questions or concerns the Client may have regarding the inspection or the Inspection Report.

The majority of home inspections are performed on pre-existing structures. The age of these structures vary from just a few years to over 99 years old. Building techniques have changed dramatically over the years. These changes are what bring character to the neighborhoods of Western Pennsylvania, and affect a buyer's decision to purchase one home over another. Therefore, the age and method of construction will affect the individual character of a home.

We will not determine the cause of any condition or deficiency, determine future conditions that may occur including the failure of systems and components or consequential damage or components or determine the operating costs of systems or components.

It is not uncommon to observe cracks or for cracks to occur in concrete slabs or exterior and interior walls. Cracks may be caused by curing of building materials, temperature variations and soil movement such as: settlement, uneven moisture content in the soil, shock waves, vibrations, etc. While cracks may not necessarily affect the structural integrity of a building, cracks should be monitored so that appropriate maintenance can be performed if movement continues at an abnormal rate. Proper foundation maintenance is key to the prevention of initial cracks or cracks enlarging. This includes, but not limited to proper watering, foundation drainage and removal of vegetation growth near the foundation.

* Material Defect: A problem with a residential real property or any portion of it that would have a significant adverse impact on the value of the property or that involves an unreasonable risk to the people on the property. The fact that a structural element, system or subsystem is near, at or beyond the end of the normal useful life of such a structural element, system or subsystem is not by itself a material defect.

SUMMARY: The purpose of this summary is to provide a "quick view" of the results of the home inspection. Please be sure to read the full body of the inspection report, as it contains much more detail about your new home. Any recommendations for additional evaluation must be performed prior to the conclusion of the inspection contingency period. You should ask the seller to provide receipts or other suitable documentation as evidence that items requested as part of the reply to home inspection were complete by qualified individuals.

The following notable items were observed during the inspection performed at 306 Fourth Ave Apt 501, Pittsburgh, PA 15222:

PLEASE NOTE each summary bullet point is a link. Simple click on the bullet point to drop down into that section of the report.

Plumbing

- Minor plumbing issues were noted during the inspection.
- The kitchen sink base cabinet is water damaged.
- The water heater base is rusted. This could lead to failure. Consult with a qualified contractor for repair.

Living Area

- The cladding on the refrigerator was damaged.
- A leaky ice maker fitting was noted on the refrigerator in the kitchen.
- The microwave surface light would not light. Consult with an appliance repair service.

Heating & Air Conditioning

- The furnace was not tested due to concerns of water damage from ice build up on coil.
- The cooling system was inspected and found to be iced. Consult with a qualified heating and cooling contractor to further evaluate and repair the cooling system as required.
- We recommend a pan and secondary condensate drain be installed under the heating unit. Efforts should be made to ensure the condensation is directed into a proper drain.
- The insulation on the exterior air conditioning line set is damaged.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Throughout this report, the terms "right" and "left" are used to describe the home as viewed from the street. A system or component has a material defect if it has a significant impact on the value or safety of the property. The HomeTeam inspects for evidence of structural failure and safety concerns only. The cosmetic condition of the paint, wall covering, carpeting, window coverings, etc., are not addressed. All conditions are reported as they existed at the time of the inspection. Routine maintenance and safety items are not within the scope of this inspection unless they otherwise constitute material visually observable defects. Although some maintenance and/or safety items may be disclosed, this report does not include all maintenance or safety items, and should not be relied upon for such items.

The inspected property consisted of a condominium in a multi unit building that was vacant at the time of the inspection. There were no material defects on the visible portions of the siding.

The approximate temperature at the time of the inspection was 65 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit, and the weather was sunny and clear. The buyer was present at the time of the inspection. All of the utilities were on at the time of the inspection.

LOT AND GRADE

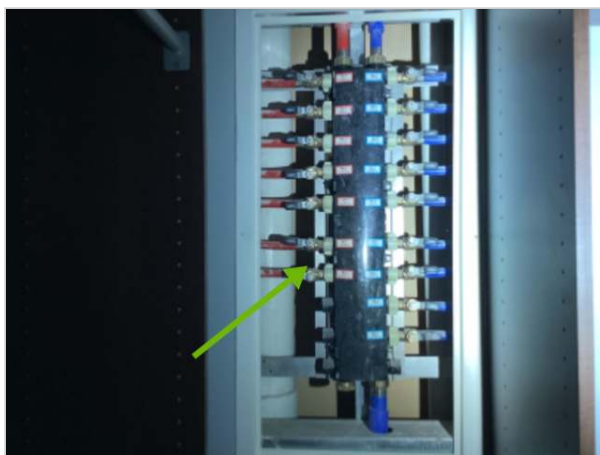
The building was situated on a level street. The age of the building as reported by the MLS sheet was said to be over one hundred years old. The age of the unit was not reported. The inspection does not include any geological surveys, soil compaction surveys, ground testing, or evaluation of the effects of, or potential for earth movement such as earthquakes, landslides, sinking, rising or shifting for any reason. Information on local soil conditions and issues should be obtained from local officials and/or a qualified specialist. Additionally, the inspection does not include evaluation of elements such as underground drainage systems, site lighting, irrigation systems, barbecues, sheds, detached structures, fencing, privacy walls, pools, spas and other recreational items.

WALKWAY AND PORCHES

There was a concrete sidewalk leading to a secure entrance in front of the of the building . There were no material defects observed on the sidewalk or the secured entrance.

WATER-METER

The water service is provided by the building supply. The shut offs are in the main bedroom closet. Since it is the buyers right to have all utilities operable for the home inspection, we will attempt to turn the main water valve on for the inspection. The HomeTeam is not responsible for leaks caused by operating the valve.



Shutoff manifold

PLUMBING

The visible water supply lines throughout the unit were PEX pipe. The water was supplied by a public water supply. Water valves are not tested as part of the home inspection. Water valves that have not been operated for an extended period of time often leak after being operated. We would not be able to repair a leaking valve during the home inspection. The waste lines were concealed. The functional drainage of the drain waste lines appeared to be adequate at the time of the inspection. The home was connected to a public sewer system. The under-floor drain lines are

considered underground utilities and are specifically excluded from the inspection. The lines are not visible or accessible and their condition cannot be verified during a visual home inspection. Simply running water into plumbing fixtures or floor drains will not verify the condition of the waste line infrastructure under the home. Consult with a qualified plumber for a video camera inspection of the sewer laterals if there is any concern as to the condition of the waste lines under the home. A video scan is the only way to confirm the condition of the drain system. Our inspection of the plumbing system is a functional inspection only. We make no attempt to validate that the plumbing system complies with any codes. Additionally, we cannot validate the workmanship of the plumbing system to be up to standard. We are generalists and do not claim to know everything about any trade. Any concern about the quality or adequacy of the plumbing system should be referred to a qualified, reputable plumber. All plumbing fixtures not permanently attached to a household appliance were operated and inspected for visible leaks. Water flow throughout the home was not tested.. There were no material defects observed in the visible portions of the plumbing system.

NOTE: MINOR PLUMBING ISSUES:

Minor plumbing issues were noted during the inspection. This is not intended to be an all inclusive list. Concealed, latent or intermittent plumbing issues may not be apparent during the testing period. Consult with a qualified plumber for further evaluation and repairs as required.

- Full bath tub stop and waste valve is inoperable.



INFORMATIONAL NOTE: FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM:

The unit is protected by a fire suppression / sprinkler system. These systems require special knowledge to test and are not tested as part of the home inspection. Consult with the property management for information on operation, maintenance and testing of the system.

WATER HEATER

There was a 40 gallon capacity, electric water heater located in the closet. The water heater was manufactured by Bradford White, model number M240L6DSINCWW and serial number EH11015609. Information on the water heater indicated that it was manufactured approximately 16 years ago. A temperature and pressure relief valve (T & P) was present. Because of the lime build-up typical of T & P valves, we do not test them. An overflow leg was present. It did terminate close to the floor. Your safety depends on the presence of a T & P valve and an overflow leg terminating close to the floor. The water heater was on and functional. In cases where the water heater is not on at the time of the inspection, it is not possible for us to verify that hot water is present at all plumbing fixtures, nor can we ensure that mixing hot and cold water to achieve a comfortable water temperature works at the fixtures.

SAFETY NOTE: RUSTED BASE:

The water heater base is rusted. This could lead to failure. Consult with a qualified contractor for repair.



Rust

An electric service sub-panel was located on the bedroom wall, and was manufactured by General Electric. The service disconnect switch for this panel was located at the meter stack, and was rated at 200 amps. The branch circuits within the panel were copper. These branch circuits and the circuit breaker to which they were attached appeared to be appropriately matched. The visible wiring consisted primarily of the Romex type and appeared to be in good condition.



Disconnect



A representative number of installed lighting fixtures, switches, and receptacles located throughout the home were tested. Please note that it is not always possible for us to identify the purpose of every switch in the home. Switches may appear to be inoperable or serve no purpose for a variety of reasons, some of which include switches installed for future use, abandoned switches as part of renovation activities or those that operate a device under special conditions such as the heating of gutters in the winter. Specific questions about the purpose of unidentifiable switch uses should be directed to the current property owner. The grounding and polarity of receptacles within six feet of plumbing fixtures, and those attached to ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI), if present, were also tested. The installation of GFCI protected circuits and/or outlets located within six feet of water, in unfinished basement areas, garage and the exterior of the home is a commonly accepted practice and required by many municipalities. All GFCI receptacles and GFCI circuit breakers should be tested monthly. There were GFCI protected circuits in the home. The present and tested GFCIs were tested and found to be functional.

The electrical service appeared to be adequate. Alarms, electronic keypads, remote control devices, landscape lighting, telephone and television, and all electric company equipment were beyond the scope of this inspection. An electrical inspection sticker placed by an independent firm certified to do electrical inspections was present. Some jurisdictions require an independent electrical inspection and sticker within the last 5 years as a requirement to obtain an occupancy permit. While the requirement to obtain an occupancy permit is usually the sellers, HomeTeam is providing information on the presence of the electrical inspection sticker as a courtesy. There were no material defects observed in the electrical system.

SMOKE-ALARMS

There were smoke alarms found in the house. Property maintenance codes vary from area to area. Some municipalities require smoke alarms in every bedroom, while others only require them on each floor. Check with the local code enforcement officer for the requirements in your area. For safety reasons, the smoke alarms should be tested upon occupancy. The batteries (if any) should be replaced with new ones when you move into the house, and tested on a monthly basis thereafter.

CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR

HomeTeam recommends installing carbon monoxide detectors in the home. The detector will alert the occupants of the home to the presence of dangerous carbon monoxide caused by a malfunctioning gas appliance. Multi-function devices exist that provide protection for carbon monoxide, smoke and fire. We are not always able to determine if these types of devices are installed. Many carbon monoxide alarms plug into a standard outlet and can easily be removed by the previous owner. You should verify the types of devices installed in your home, replace the batteries and test immediately after closing.

WINDOWS, DOORS, WALLS AND CEILINGS

A representative number of accessible windows and doors were operated and found to be functional. The primary windows were constructed of wood, double hung style, with single pane glass. We test all operable windows with unobstructed access. We do not comment on the presence or condition of window screens or storm windows. Additionally, windows with access blocked by furniture or personal affects, or those covered with plastic or other stationary interior storm windows are not operated. All exterior doors were operated and found to be functional. The exterior door locks should be changed or rekeyed upon occupancy. Possible problem areas may not be identified if the windows or doors have been recently painted. We do not comment on the presence or condition of storm doors, weather stripping or door insulating materials unless their condition represents a safety concern. There were no material defects observed in the windows or doors.

INFORMATIONAL NOTE: WINDOWS COVERED WITH PLASTIC:

One or more of the windows were covered with plastic. This is generally done to prevent wind and draft intrusion. The plastic prevents opening of the windows. Consequently, we could not test any plastic covered windows for proper operation. Consult with the current property owner for information on the condition and operation of the windows.



The interior wall and ceiling surfaces were finished with drywall. The interior wall and ceiling structure consisted of wood framing. Possible problem areas may not be identified if the interior wall and ceiling surfaces have been recently painted. Since the finished wall material and framing are different materials, they expand and contract at different rates. As a result, it is common to see cracks on the finished surface especially around door and window openings and ceilings. These cracks are cosmetic and generally have no structural significance. There were no material defects observed in the interior walls or ceilings.

LIVING SPACE

The unit consisted of a living and dining room, 2 baths, kitchen. The HomeTeam inspects for evidence of structural failure and safety concerns only. The cosmetic condition of the paint, wall covering, carpeting, window coverings, etc.,

are not addressed. There were no material defects observed on the first level.

INFORMATIONAL NOTE: WALK-IN SHOWER:

A walk-in shower was located in the master bath. The base of the shower was constructed of ceramic tile. While no leaks were noted at the time of the inspection, this type of shower is more prone to leaks than a standard tub or precast shower base. The waterproof membrane or shower pan, which is the primary water proofing material is installed beneath the finished floor and is not visible from the interior of the shower or the subfloor below. We cannot verify the integrity of the shower pan or concealed portions of the drain. Additionally, our test of the unit cannot simulate an actual shower and therefore is not a guarantee that the unit is free of leaks. The cosmetic condition of the tile or grout is not considered during the inspection. The absence or presence of cracks in the tile or joints is not an indication of a leak free unit.

The visible portions of the cabinets and counter tops were in good condition. The appliances were turned on to check operational function only. No consideration is given regarding the age or components that may be worn or otherwise affected by wear and tear or use. No warranty, express or implied, is given for the continued operational integrity of the appliances or their components.

The kitchen contained the following appliances:

NOTE: WATER DAMAGED SINK BASE:

The kitchen sink base cabinet is water damaged from leaks. Repairs should be made to the cabinet.



The General Electric electric free standing range was inspected and did appear to be functional. The accuracy of the clock, timers and settings on ovens are not within the scope of this inspection. Please note that many new ranges come with an anti-tilt bracket that is supposed to be attached to the wall and to the back of the range. The purpose of the bracket is to ensure that the range does not tilt forward when the oven door is open and racks are pulled out. We do not verify that the bracket is or is not installed at the inspection. Doing so would require us to pull the range away from the wall, risking scratching or other damage to the finished floor. consult with an appliance service for further evaluation if you want to be sure the bracket is installed.

INFORMATIONAL NOTE: RANGE ANTI TIP BRACKET:

Newer ranges include an anti-tip bracket designed to provide protection when excess force or weight is applied to an open oven door. The bracket is not visible or readily accessible since it is usually installed beneath a rear foot. Applying excessive force on the oven door can damage the hinge or spring so, we do not confirm the presence of a bracket. HomeTeam recommends that anti-tip brackets be installed on all free-standing ranges.



The General Electric refrigerator was inspected and did not appear to be functional. The temperature setting and ice maker, if present, are not within the scope of the inspection.

NOTE: LEAKY FITTING:

A leaky ice maker fitting was noted on the refrigerator in the kitchen Consult with a qualified plumber for repair.



Water dripping

NOTE: DAMAGED DOOR CLADDING:

The cladding on the refrigerator was damaged. Evaluation and repair should be made by a qualified contractor.



The Kitchen Aid dishwasher was tested and did appear to be functional.



The Badger disposal was inspected and did appear to be functional. The efficiency rating and chopping / grinding ability of the unit is not within the scope of the inspection.



The General Electric microwave oven was inspected and did appear to be functional. The accuracy of the clocks, timers and settings are not within the scope of this inspection.



NOTE: SURFACE LIGHT:

The surface light would not light. Consult with an appliance repair service.

HEATING SYSTEM

The heating system was inspected by HomeTeam. Annual maintenance of the heating and cooling equipment is essential for safe and efficient performance, which will maximize the system's useful life. The results of our visual and operational inspection of the heating system is described below. Periodic preventive maintenance is recommended to keep this unit in good working condition. The home was heated by a Trane electric forced air furnace, Serial Number 8202M111V, Model Number 4TEC3524B1000AA which is approximately 16 years old. The unit was located in the closet of the home. It has an approximate net heating capacity of NA BTUH. A carbon monoxide detector with probe was inserted into the main plenum just above the heat exchanger. Examination of heating systems is mechanically limited since the unit cannot be dismantled to examine all of the interior components. Without removing the burners to gain complete access, and with the limited viewing area of the heat exchanger, a thorough inspection is not possible. The inspection does not include a heat-loss analysis, heating design or adequacy evaluation, energy efficiency assessment, installation compliance check, chimney flue inspection, draft test or buried fuel tank inspection. Termination of HVAC condensate lines was raised above the floor drain or drain inlet. The condensate lines were not trapped. HVAC condensate lines must be trapped and not in contact with wet drain inlets to prevent the possible migration of bacteria and mold into the air-handling system. The system was not tested due to ice buildup. The unit does not appear to have been recently serviced. It is recommended that the furnace be cleaned and serviced by a qualified contractor upon taking ownership of the property. The furnace should be serviced annually to maintain safe and efficient operation.



NOTE: FURNACE:

The furnace was not tested due to concerns of water damage from ice build up on coil. Consult with a qualified heating contractor for evaluation and repair.

NOTE: CONDENSATE DRAIN:

We recommend a pan and secondary condensate drain be installed under the heating unit. Efforts should be made to ensure the condensation is directed into a proper drain.

AIR CONDITIONING

The electric outdoor air conditioner condensing unit was a Trane, Model Number 4TWB3024A1000AA and Serial Number 8224X352F. The unit is located condenser tower of the home. This unit is approximately 16 years old. Periodic preventive maintenance is recommended to keep this unit in good working condition. The forced air cooling system was tested and found to be non functional. The home inspection does not include a heat-gain analysis, cooling design or adequacy evaluation, energy efficiency assessment, installation compliance check or refrigerant evaluation.

NOTE: COOLING SYSTEM:

The cooling system was inspected and found to be iced. Consult with a qualified heating and cooling contractor to further evaluate and repair the cooling system as required.

NOTE: A/C LINE SET INSULATION:

The insulation on the exterior air conditioning line set is damaged. This could affect the efficiency of the system and should be replaced.



There will be normal temperature variations from room to room and level to level, most noticeable between levels.

CONTROLS

The control for the heating and air conditioning system was a 24 volt thermostat located on the living room wall of the home. The thermostat was manufactured by Honeywell and was found to be in working order.



REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS REGARDING A PROFESSIONAL HOME INSPECTION:

There may come a time when you discover something wrong with the house, and you may be upset or disappointed with your home inspection. There are some things we'd like you to keep in mind.

Intermittent or concealed problems: Some problems can only be discovered by living in a house. They cannot be discovered during the few hours of a home inspection. For example, some shower stalls leak when people are in the shower, but do not leak when you simply turn on the tap. Some roofs and basements only leak when specific conditions exist. Some problems will only be discovered when carpets are lifted, furniture is moved or finishes are removed.

No clues: These problems may have existed at the time of the inspection, but there were no clues as to their existence. Our inspections are based on the past performance of the house. If there are no clues of a past problem, it is unfair to assume we should foresee a future problem.

We always miss some minor things: Some say we are inconsistent because our reports identify some minor problems but not others. The minor problems that are identified were discovered while looking for more significant problems. We note them simply as a courtesy. The intent of the inspection is not to find the \$200 problems; it is to find the \$1000 problems. These are the things that affect people's decisions to purchase.

Contractor's advice: A common source of dissatisfaction with home inspectors comes from comments made by contractors. Contractors' opinions often differ from ours. Don't be surprised when three roofers all say the roof needs replacement, when we said that the roof would last a few more years with some minor repairs.

"Last man in" theory: While our advice represents the most prudent thing to do, many contractors are reluctant to undertake these repairs. This is because of the "last man in" theory. The contractor fears that if he is the last person to work on the roof, he will get blamed if the roof leaks, regardless of whether or not the roof leak is his fault. Consequently, he won't want to do a minor repair with high liability, when he could re-roof the entire house for more money and reduce the likelihood of a callback. This is understandable.

Most recent advice is best: There is more to the "last man in" theory. It suggests that it is human nature for homeowners to believe the last bit of expert advice they receive, even if it is contrary to previous advice. As home inspectors, we unfortunately find ourselves in the position of "first man in" and consequently it is our advice that is often disbelieved.

Why didn't we see it?: Contractors may say, "I can't believe you had this house inspected, and they didn't find this problem." There are several reasons for these apparent oversights:

- **Conditions during inspection:** It is difficult for homeowners to remember the circumstances in the house at the time of the inspection. Homeowners seldom remember that it was snowing, there was storage everywhere or that the furnace could not be turned on because the air conditioning was operating, etc. It's impossible for contractors to know what the circumstances were when the inspection was performed.
- **This wisdom of hindsight:** When the problem manifests itself, it is very easy to have 20/20 hindsight. Anybody can say that the basement is wet when there is 2" of water on the floor. Predicting the problem is a different story.
- **A long look;** If we spent half an hour under the kitchen sink or 45 minutes disassembling the furnace, we'd find more problems, too. Unfortunately, the inspection would take several days and would cost considerably more.
- **We're generalists:** We are generalists; we are not specialists. The heating contractor may indeed have more heating expertise than we do. This is because we are expected to have heating expertise and plumbing expertise, structural expertise, electrical expertise, etc.
- **An invasive look:** Problems often become apparent when carpets or plaster are removed, when fixtures or cabinets are pulled out, and so on. A home inspection is a visual examination. We don't perform invasive or destructive tests.

Not insurance: In conclusion, a home inspection is designed to better your odds. It is not designed to eliminate all risk. For that reason, a home inspection should not be considered an insurance policy. The premium that an insurance company would have to charge for a policy with no deductible, no limit and an indefinite policy period would be considerably more than the fee we charge. It would also not include the value added by the inspection.

Reprinted from ASHI Reporter, By Permission of Alan Carson, Carson Dunlop & Assoc.