

Part II — Definitions

CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS

SECTION R201 GENERAL

R201.1 Scope. Unless otherwise expressly stated, the following words and terms shall, for the purposes of this code, have the meanings indicated in this chapter.

R201.2 Interchangeability. Words used in the present tense include the future; words in the masculine gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the plural and the plural, the singular.

R201.3 Terms defined in other codes. Where terms are not defined in this code such terms shall have meanings ascribed to them as in other code publications of the North Carolina Building Code Council.

R201.4 Terms not defined. Where terms are not defined through the methods authorized by this section, such terms shall have ordinarily accepted meanings such as the context implies.

SECTION R202 DEFINITIONS

ACCEPTED ENGINEERING PRACTICE. Design, analysis and testing methods that are used in developing design solutions for compliance with the requirements of this code. Accepted engineering practice is the level at which the average, prudent designer in a given community would practice.

ACCESSIBLE. Signifies access that requires the removal of an access panel or similar removable obstruction.

ACCESSIBLE, READILY. Signifies access without the necessity for removing a panel or similar obstruction.

ACCESSORY BUILDINGS. One- and two-family dwellings not more than three stories high with separate means of egress, a building, the use of which is incidental to that of the main building and which is detached and located on the same lot.

ACCESSORY STRUCTURE. Accessory structure is any structure not roofed over, enclosed and considered an accessory building located on one- and two-family dwelling sites, which is incidental to that of the main building. Examples of accessory structures are: fencing, decks, gazebos, arbors, retaining walls, barbecue pits, detached chimneys, tree houses, playground equipment, yard art. Accessory structures are not required to meet the provisions of this code, except decks, gazebos and retaining walls as required by Section R404.1.3.

[B] ADDITION. An extension or increase in floor area or height of a building or structure.

AIR ADMITTANCE VALVE. Deleted.

AIR BREAK (DRAINAGE SYSTEM). Deleted.

AIR CIRCULATION, FORCED. Deleted.

AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM. Deleted.

AIR GAP, DRAINAGE SYSTEM. Deleted.

AIR GAP, WATER-DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM. Deleted.

[B] ALTERATION. Any construction or renovation to an existing structure other than repair or addition that requires a permit. Also, a change in a mechanical system that involves an extension, addition or change to the arrangement, type or purpose of the original installation that requires a permit.

[B] ANCHORS. See “Supports.”

ANTISIPHON. Deleted.

APPLIANCE. A device or apparatus that is manufactured and designed to utilize energy and for which this code provides specific requirements.

APPROVED. Approved refers to approval by the building official as the result of investigation and tests conducted by him or her, or by reason of accepted principles or tests by nationally recognized organizations.

APPROVED AGENCY. An established and recognized agency regularly engaged in conducting tests or furnishing inspection services, when such agency has been approved by the building official.

ASPECT RATIO. The ratio of the height to width (h/w) of a shear wall. The shear wall height is the maximum clear height from top of foundation or diaphragm to bottom of diaphragm framing above and the shear wall width is the sheathed dimension in the direction of applied force on the shear wall.

ATTIC. The unfinished space between the ceiling joists of the top story and the roof rafters.

BACKFLOW, DRAINAGE. Deleted.

BACKFLOW PREVENTER. Deleted.

BACKFLOW PREVENTER, REDUCED-PRESSURE-ZONE TYPE. Deleted.

BACKFLOW, WATER DISTRIBUTION. Deleted.

BACKPRESSURE. Deleted.

BACKPRESSURE, LOW HEAD. Deleted.

BACKSIPHONAGE. Deleted.

BACKWATER VALVE. Deleted.

[B] BALCONY, EXTERIOR. An exterior floor projecting from and supported by a structure without additional independent supports.

DEFINITIONS

BALL COCK. Deleted.

[B] BASEMENT. That portion of a building that is partly or completely below grade (see “Story above grade”).

BASEMENT WALL. The opaque portion of a wall that encloses one side of a basement and has an average below grade wall area that is 50 percent or more of the total opaque and non-opaque area of that enclosing side.

BASIC WIND SPEED. Three-second gust speed at 33 feet (10 058 mm) above the ground in Exposure C (see Section R301.2.1) as given in Figure R301.2(4).

BATHROOM GROUP. A group of fixtures, including or excluding a bidet, consisting of a water closet, lavatory, and bathtub or shower. Such fixtures are located together on the same floor level.

BEDROOM. Sleeping room.

BEND. Deleted.

BOILER. Deleted.

[B] BOND BEAM. A horizontal grouted element within masonry in which reinforcement is embedded.

[B] BRACED WALL LINE. A series of braced wall panels in a single story constructed in accordance with Section R602.10 for wood framing or Section R603.7 or R301.1.1 for cold-formed steel framing to resist racking from seismic and wind forces.

[B] BRACED WALL PANEL. A section of a braced wall line constructed in accordance with Section R602.10 for wood framing or Section R603.7 or R301.1.1 for cold-formed steel framing, which extend the full height of the wall.

BRANCH. Deleted.

BRANCH, FIXTURE. Deleted.

BRANCH, HORIZONTAL. Deleted.

BRANCH, INTERVAL. Deleted.

BRANCH, MAIN. Deleted.

BRANCH, VENT. Deleted.

BTU/H. The listed maximum capacity of an appliance, absorption unit or burner expressed in British thermal units input per hour.

[B] BUILDING. Building shall mean any one- and two-family dwelling or portion thereof, including townhouses, that is used, or designed or intended to be used for human habitation, for living, sleeping, cooking or eating purposes, or any combination thereof, and shall include accessory structures thereto.

[B] BUILDING DRAIN. Deleted.

BUILDING, EXISTING. Existing building is a building erected prior to the adoption of this code, or one for which a legal building permit has been issued.

BUILDING LINE. The line established by law, beyond which a building shall not extend, except as specifically provided by law.

[B] BUILDING OFFICIAL. The officer or other designated authority charged with the administration and enforcement of this code.

BUILDING SEWER. Deleted.

BUILDING THERMAL ENVELOPE. The basement walls, exterior walls, floor, roof and any other building element that enclose conditioned spaces.

BUILT-UP ROOF COVERING. Two or more layers of felt cemented together and surfaced with a cap sheet, mineral aggregate, smooth coating or similar surfacing material.

CEILING HEIGHT. The clear vertical distance from the finished floor to the finished ceiling.

[B] CHIMNEY. A primary vertical structure containing one or more flues, for the purpose of carrying gaseous products of combustion and air from a fuel-burning appliance to the outside atmosphere.

CHIMNEY CONNECTOR. A pipe that connects a fuel-burning appliance to a chimney.

[B] CHIMNEY TYPES

Residential-type appliance. An approved chimney for removing the products of combustion from fuel-burning, residential-type appliances producing combustion gases not in excess of 1,000°F (538°C) under normal operating conditions, but capable of producing combustion gases of 1,400°F (760°C) during intermittent forces firing for periods up to 1 hour. All temperatures shall be measured at the appliance flue outlet. Residential-type appliance chimneys include masonry and factory-built types.

CIRCUIT VENT. Deleted.

CLADDING. The exterior materials that cover the surface of the building envelope that is directly loaded by the wind.

[B] CLEANOUT. Deleted.

CLOSED CRAWL SPACE. A foundation without wall vents that uses air sealed walls, ground and foundation moisture control, and mechanical drying potential to control crawl space moisture. Insulation may be located at the floor level or at the exterior walls.

CLOSET. A small room or chamber used for storage.

COMBINATION WASTE AND VENT SYSTEM. Deleted.

COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL. Any material not defined as noncombustible.

COMBUSTION AIR. Deleted.

COMMON VENT. Deleted.

CONDENSATE. Deleted.

CONDENSING APPLIANCE. Deleted.

CONDITIONED AIR. Air treated to control its temperature, relative humidity or quality.

CONDITIONED AREA. That area within a building provided with heating and/or cooling systems or appliances capable of maintaining, through design or heat loss/gain, 68°F (20°C) during the heating season and/or 80°F (27°C) during the cooling season, or has a fixed opening directly adjacent to a conditioned area.

CONDITIONED CRAWL SPACE. A foundation without wall vents that encloses an intentionally heated or cooled space. Insulation is located at the exterior walls.

CONDITIONED FLOOR AREA. The horizontal projection of the floors associated with the conditioned space.

CONDITIONED SPACE. For energy purposes, space within a building that is provided with heating and/or cooling equipment or systems capable of maintaining, through design or heat loss/gain, 50°F (10°C) during the heating season and 85°F (29°C) during the cooling season, or communicates directly with a conditioned space. For mechanical purposes, an area, room or space being heated or cooled by any equipment or appliance.

CONFINED SPACE. Deleted.

[B] CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS. Written, graphic and pictorial documents prepared or assembled for describing the design, location and physical characteristics of the elements of a project necessary for obtaining a building permit. Construction drawings shall be drawn to an appropriate scale.

CONTINUOUS WASTE. Deleted.

CONTAMINATION. Deleted.

CONTROL, LIMIT. Deleted.

CONTROL, PRIMARY SAFETY. Deleted.

CONVECTOR. Deleted.

[B] CORROSION RESISTANCE. The ability of a material to withstand deterioration of its surface or its properties when exposed to its environment.

[B] COURT. A space, open and unobstructed to the sky, located at or above grade level on a lot and bounded on three or more sides by walls or a building.

CRIPPLE WALL. A framed wall extending from the top of the foundation to the underside of the floor framing of the first story above grade plane.

CROSS CONNECTION. Deleted.

DALLE GLASS. A decorative composite glazing material made of individual pieces of glass that are embedded in a cast matrix of concrete or epoxy.

DAMPER, VOLUME. Deleted.

DAMPPROOFING. A coating or the application of coatings applied to retard the penetration of water vapor and moisture through or into walls or into interior spaces.

DEAD END. Deleted.

[B] DEAD LOADS. The weight of all materials of construction incorporated into the building, including but not limited to walls, floors, roofs, ceilings, stairways, built-in partitions, finishes, cladding, and other similarly incorporated architectural and structural items, and fixed service equipment.

[B] DECK. An exterior floor system supported on at least two opposing sides by an adjoining structure and/or posts, piers, or other independent supports.

[B] DECORATIVE GLASS. A carved, leaded or Dalle glass or glazing material whose purpose is decorative or artistic, not functional; whose coloring, texture or other design qualities or components cannot be removed without destroying the glazing material; and whose surface, or assembly into which it is incorporated, is divided into segments.

DESIGN PROFESSIONAL. See definition of “Registered design professional.”

DEVELOPED LENGTH. Deleted.

DIAMETER. Unless specifically stated, the term “diameter” is the nominal diameter as designated by the approved material standard.

[B] DIAPHRAGM. A horizontal or nearly horizontal system acting to transmit lateral forces to the vertical resisting elements. When the term “diaphragm” is used, it includes horizontal bracing systems.

DILUTION AIR. Deleted.

DIRECT-VENT APPLIANCE. Deleted.

DRAFT. Deleted.

DRAFT HOOD. Deleted.

DRAFT REGULATOR. Deleted.

[B] DRAFT STOP. A material, device or construction installed to restrict the movement of air within open spaces of concealed areas of building components such as crawl spaces, floor-ceiling assemblies, roof-ceiling assemblies and attics.

DRAIN. Deleted.

DRAINAGE FITTING. Deleted.

DUCT SYSTEM. Deleted.

DURHAM FITTING. Deleted.

DURHAM SYSTEM. Deleted.

DWELLING. Any building that contains one or two dwelling units used, intended, or designed to be built, used, rented, leased, let or hired out to be occupied, or that are occupied for living purposes.

[B] DWELLING UNIT. A single unit providing complete independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.

DWV. Deleted.

EFFECTIVE OPENING. Deleted.

ELBOW. Deleted.

EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE OPENING. An operable window, door or similar device that provides for a means of escape and access for rescue in the event of an emergency.

EQUIPMENT. All piping, ducts, vents, control devices and other components of systems other than appliances that are permanently installed and integrated to provide control of environmental conditions for buildings. This definition shall also include other systems specifically regulated in this code.

EQUIVALENT LENGTH. Deleted.

ESSENTIALLY NONTOXIC TRANSFER FLUIDS. Deleted.

ESSENTIALLY TOXIC TRANSFER FLUIDS. Deleted.

EVAPORATIVE COOLER. Deleted.

EXCESS AIR. Deleted.

DEFINITIONS

EXHAUST HOOD, FULL OPENING. Deleted.

EXISTING INSTALLATIONS. Deleted.

EXTERIOR INSULATION FINISH SYSTEMS (EIFS). Synthetic stucco cladding systems typically consisting of five layers: adhesive, insulation board, base coat into which fiberglass reinforcing mesh is embedded, and a finish coat in the desired color.

EXTERIOR WALL. An above-grade wall enclosing conditioned space. Includes between floor spandrels, peripheral edges of floors, roof and basement knee walls, dormer walls, gable end walls, walls enclosing a mansard roof, and basement walls with an average below grade wall area that is less than 50 percent of the total opaque and non-opaque area of that enclosing side.

FACTORY-BUILT CHIMNEY. A listed and labeled chimney composed of factory-made components assembled in the field in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and the conditions of the listing.

FAMILY. An individual, two or more persons related by blood, marriage or law, or a group of not more than any five persons living together in a dwelling unit. Servants having common housekeeping facilities with a family consisting of an individual or more persons related by blood, marriage or law are a part of the family for this code.

FENESTRATION. Skylights, roof windows, vertical windows (whether fixed or moveable); opaque doors; glazed doors; glass block; and combination opaque/glazed doors.

FIBER CEMENT SIDING. A manufactured, fiber-reinforcing product made with an inorganic hydraulic or calcium silicate binder formed by chemical reaction and reinforced with organic or inorganic non-asbestos fibers, or both. Additives which enhance manufacturing or product performance are permitted. Fiber cement siding products have either smooth or textured faces and are intended for exterior wall and related applications.

FIREBLOCKING. Building materials installed to resist the free passage of flame to other areas of the building through concealed spaces.

[B] FIREPLACE. An assembly consisting of a hearth and fire chamber and smoke chamber, beginning at the hearth and ending at the top of the smoke chamber, of noncombustible material and provided with a chimney, for use with solid fuels.

Factory-built fireplace. A listed and labeled fireplace and chimney system composed of factory-made components, and assembled in the field in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and the conditions of the listing.

Masonry chimney. A field-constructed chimney composed of solid masonry units, bricks, stones or concrete, beginning at the top of the smoke chamber and the flue termination.

Masonry fireplace. A field-constructed fireplace composed of solid masonry units, bricks, stones or concrete, beginning at the hearth and ending at the top of the smoke chamber.

Smoke chamber. That part of a masonry fireplace that extends from the top of the firebox to the start of the chimney

flue lining. A smoke chamber shall have a damper and a smoke shelf.

FIREPLACE STOVE. A free-standing, chimney-connected solid-fuel-burning heater designed to be operated with the fire chamber doors in either the open or closed position.

FIREPLACE THROAT. The opening between the top of the firebox and the smoke chamber.

FIRE SEPARATION DISTANCE. The distance measured from the building face to the closest interior lot line, to the centerline of a street, alley or public way, or to an imaginary line between two buildings on the property. The distance shall be measured at right angles from the lot line.

FIXTURE. Deleted.

FIXTURE BRANCH, DRAINAGE. Deleted.

FIXTURE BRANCH, WATER-SUPPLY. Deleted.

FIXTURE DRAIN. Deleted.

FIXTURE FITTING. Deleted.

FIXTURE GROUP, MAIN. Deleted.

FIXTURE SUPPLY. Deleted.

FIXTURE UNIT, DRAINAGE (d.f.u.). Deleted.

FIXTURE UNIT, WATER-SUPPLY (w.s.f.u.). Deleted.

[B] FLAME SPREAD. The propagation of flame over a surface.

[B] FLAME SPREAD INDEX. The numeric value assigned to a material tested in accordance with ASTM E 84.

FLOOD-LEVEL RIM. Deleted.

FLOOR DRAIN. Deleted.

FLOOR FURNACE. Deleted.

FLOW PRESSURE. Deleted.

FLUE. See "Vent."

FLUE, APPLIANCE. The passages within an appliance through which combustion products pass from the combustion chamber to the flue collar.

FLUE COLLAR. The portion of a fuel-burning appliance designed for the attachment of a draft hood, vent connector or venting system.

FLUE GASES. Deleted.

FLUSH VALVE. Deleted.

FLUSHOMETER TANK. Deleted.

FLUSHOMETER VALVE. Deleted.

[B] FOAM PLASTIC INSULATION. A plastic that is intentionally expanded by the use of a foaming agent to produce a reduced-density plastic consisting open or closed cells distributed throughout the plastic and that has a density less than 20 pounds per cubic foot (320 kg/m³).

FUEL-PIPING SYSTEM. Deleted.

FULLWAY VALVE. Deleted.

FURNACE. Deleted.

GLAZING AREA. The interior surface area of all glazed fenestration, including the area of sash, curbing or other framing elements, that enclose conditioned space. Includes the area of glazed fenestration assemblies in walls bounding conditioned basements.

GRADE. The finished ground level adjoining the building at all exterior walls.

GRADE FLOOR OPENING. A window or other opening located such that the sill height of the opening is not more than 44 inches (1118 mm) above or below the finished ground level adjacent to the opening.

GRADE, PIPING. Deleted.

[B] GRADE PLANE. A reference plane representing the average of the finished ground level adjoining the building at all exterior walls. Where the finished ground level slopes away from the exterior walls, the reference plane shall be established by the lowest points within the area between the building and the lot line or, where the lot line is more than 6 feet (1829 mm) from the building between the structure and a point 6 feet (1829 mm) from the building.

GROSS AREA OF EXTERIOR WALLS. The normal projection of all exterior walls, including the area of all windows and doors installed therein.

GROUND-SOURCE HEAT PUMP LOOP SYSTEM. Deleted.

GUARD. A building component or a system of building components located near the open sides of elevated walking surfaces that minimizes the possibility of a fall from the walking surface to the lower level.

[B] HABITABLE SPACE. A space in a building for living, sleeping, eating or cooking. Bathrooms, toilet rooms, closets, halls, storage or utility spaces and similar areas are not considered habitable spaces.

[B] HANDRAIL. A horizontal or sloping rail intended for grasping by the hand for guidance or support.

HANGERS. See “Supports.”

HAZARDOUS LOCATION. Deleted.

HAZARDOUS LOCATION, GLAZING. See Section R308.4.

HEATING DEGREE DAYS (HDD). The sum, on an annual basis, of the difference between 65°F (18°C) and the mean temperature for each day as determined from “NOAA Annual Degree Days to Selected Bases Derived from the 1960-1990 Normals” or other weather data sources acceptable to the code official.

HEAT PUMP. An appliance having heating or heating/cooling capability and that uses refrigerants to extract heat from air, liquid or other sources.

[B] HEIGHT, BUILDING. The vertical distance from grade plane to the average height of the highest roof surface.

[B] HEIGHT, STORY. The vertical distance from top to top of two successive tiers of beams or finished floor surfaces; and, for the topmost story, from the top of the floor finish to the top

of the ceiling joists or, where there is not a ceiling, to the top of the roof rafters.

HIGH-TEMPERATURE (H.T.) CHIMNEY. A high temperature chimney complying with the requirements of UL 103. A Type H.T. chimney is identifiable by the markings “Type H.T.” on each chimney pipe section.

HORIZONTAL BRANCH, DRAINAGE. Deleted.

HORIZONTAL PIPE. Deleted.

HOT WATER. Water at a temperature greater than or equal to 110°F (43°C).

HURRICANE-PRONE REGIONS. Areas vulnerable to hurricanes, defined as the U.S. Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico coasts where the basic wind speed is greater than 90 miles per hour (145 km/h), and Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, Virgin Islands, and America Samoa.

HYDROGEN GENERATING APPLIANCE. Deleted.

IGNITION SOURCE. A flame, spark or hot surface capable of igniting flammable vapors or fumes. Such sources include appliance burners, burner ignitions and electrical switching devices.

INDIRECT WASTE PIPE. Deleted.

INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM. Deleted.

INDIVIDUAL VENT. Deleted.

INDIVIDUAL WATER SUPPLY. A supply other than an approved public water supply that serves one or more families.

INSULATING CONCRETE FORM (ICF). A concrete forming system using stay-in-place forms of rigid foam plastic insulation, a hybrid of cement and foam insulation, a hybrid of cement and wood chips, or other insulating material for constructing cast-in-place concrete walls.

INSULATING SHEATHING. An insulating board having a minimum thermal resistance of R-2 of the core material.

JURISDICTION. The governmental unit that has adopted this code under due legislative authority.

KITCHEN. Kitchen shall mean an area used, or designated to be used, for the preparation of food.

[B] LABEL. An identification applied on a product by the manufacturer which contains the name of the manufacturer, the function and performance characteristics of the product or material, and the name and identification of an approved agency and that indicates that the representative sample of the product or material has been tested and evaluated by an approved agency. (See also “Manufacturer’s designation” and “Mark.”)

LABELED. Devices, equipment or materials to which have been affixed a label, seal, symbol or other identifying mark of a testing laboratory, inspection agency or other organization concerned with product evaluation that maintains periodic inspection of the production of the above labeled items that attests to compliance with a specific standard.

LIGHT-FRAMED CONSTRUCTION. A type of construction whose vertical and horizontal structural elements are primarily formed by a system of repetitive wood or light gage steel framing members.

DEFINITIONS

LISTED AND LISTING. Terms referring to equipment that is shown in a list published by an approved testing agency qualified and equipped for experimental testing and maintaining an adequate periodic inspection of current productions and whose listing states that the equipment complies with nationally recognized standards when installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

[B] LIVE LOADS. Those loads produced by the use and occupancy of the building or other structure and do not include construction or environmental loads such as wind load, snow load, rain load, earthquake load, flood load or dead load.

LIVING SPACE. Space within a dwelling unit utilized for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, bathing, washing and sanitation purposes.

[B] LOT. A portion or parcel of land considered as a unit.

[B] LOT LINE. A line dividing one lot from another, or from a street or any public place.

MACERATING TOILET SYSTEMS. Deleted.

MAIN. The principal pipe artery to which branches may be connected.

MAIN SEWER. See "Public sewer."

MANIFOLD WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS. Deleted.

MANUFACTURED HOME. Manufactured home means a structure, transportable in one or more sections, which in the traveling mode is 8 body feet (2438 body mm) or more in width or 40 body feet (12 192 body mm) or more in length, or, when erected on site, is 320 square feet (30 m²) or more, and which is built on a permanent chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling with or without a permanent foundation when connected to the required utilities, and includes the plumbing, heating, air-conditioning and electrical systems contained therein; except that such term shall include any structure that meets all the requirements of this paragraph except the size requirements and with respect to which the manufacturer voluntarily files a certification required by the secretary (HUD) and complies with the standards established under this title. For mobile homes built prior to June 15, 1976, a label certifying compliance to the Standard for Mobile Homes, NFPA 501, in effect at the time of manufacture is required. For the purpose of these provisions, a mobile home shall be considered a manufactured home.

[B] MANUFACTURER'S DESIGNATION. An identification applied on a product by the manufacturer indicating that a product or material complies with a specified standard or set of rules. (See also "Mark" and "Label.")

MANUFACTURER'S INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS. Printed instructions included with equipment as part of the conditions of listing and labeling.

[B] MARK. An identification applied on a product by the manufacturer indicating the name of the manufacturer and the function of a product or material. (See also "Manufacturer's designation" and "Label.")

MASONRY CHIMNEY. Deleted.

MASONRY HEATER. A masonry heater is a solid fuel burning heating appliance constructed predominantly of concrete or solid masonry having a mass of at least 1,100 lb. (500 kg), excluding the chimney and foundation. It is designed to absorb and store a substantial portion of heat from a fire built in the firebox by routing exhaust gases through internal heat exchange channels in which the flow path downstream of the firebox includes at least one 180-degree (3.14-rad) change in flow direction before entering the chimney and which deliver heat by radiation through the masonry surface of the heater.

MASONRY, SOLID. Masonry consisting of solid masonry units laid contiguously with the joints between the units filled with mortar.

[B] MASONRY UNIT. Brick, tile, stone, glass block or concrete block conforming to the requirements specified in Section 2103 of the North Carolina Building Code.

Clay. A building unit larger in size than a brick, composed of burned clay, shale, fire clay or mixtures thereof.

Concrete. A building unit or block larger in size than 12 inches by 4 inches by 4 inches (305 mm by 102 mm by 102 mm) made of cement and suitable aggregates.

Glass. Nonload-bearing masonry composed of glass units bonded by mortar.

Hollow. A masonry unit whose net cross-sectional area in any plane parallel to the loadbearing surface is less than 75 percent of its gross cross-sectional area measured in the same plane.

Solid. A masonry unit whose net cross-sectional area in every plane parallel to the loadbearing surface is 75 percent or more of its cross-sectional area measured in the same plane.

MASS WALL. Masonry or concrete walls having a mass greater than or equal to 30 pounds per square foot (146 kg/m²), solid wood walls having a mass greater than or equal to 20 pounds per square foot (98 kg/m²), and any other walls having a heat capacity greater than or equal to 6 Btu/ft² · °F [266 J/(m² · k)].

MEAN ROOF HEIGHT. The average of the roof eave height and the height to the highest point on the roof surface, except that eave height shall be used for roof angle of less than or equal to 10 degrees (0.18 rad).

MECHANICAL DRAFT SYSTEM. A venting system designed to remove flue or vent gases by mechanical means, that consists of an induced draft portion under nonpositive static pressure or a forced draft portion under positive static pressure.

Forced-draft venting system. A portion of a venting system using a fan or other mechanical means to cause the removal of flue or vent gases under positive static pressure.

Induced draft venting system. A portion of a venting system using a fan or other mechanical means to cause the removal of flue or vent gases under nonpositive static vent pressure.

Power venting system. A portion of a venting system using a fan or other mechanical means to cause the removal of flue or vent gases under positive static vent pressure.

MECHANICAL EXHAUST SYSTEM. A system for removing air from a room or space by mechanical means.

MECHANICAL SYSTEM. A system specifically addressed and regulated in this code and composed of components, devices, appliances and equipment.

[B] METAL ROOF PANEL. An interlocking metal sheet having a minimum installed weather exposure of at least 3 square feet (0.28 m²) per sheet.

[B] METAL ROOF SHINGLE. An interlocking metal sheet having an installed weather exposure less than 3 square feet (0.28 m²) per sheet.

[B] MEZZANINE, LOFT. An intermediate level or levels between the floor and ceiling of any story with an aggregate floor area of not more than one-third of the area of the room or space in which the level or levels are located.

[B] MODIFIED BITUMEN ROOF COVERING. One or more layers of polymer modified asphalt sheets. The sheet materials shall be fully adhered or mechanically attached to the substrate or held in place with an approved ballast layer.

MULTIPLE STATION SMOKE ALARM. Two or more single station alarm devices that are capable of interconnection such that actuation of one causes all integral or separate audible alarms to operate.

NATURAL DRAFT SYSTEM. A venting system designed to remove flue or vent gases under nonpositive static vent pressure entirely by natural draft.

NONCOMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL. Materials that pass the test procedure for defining noncombustibility of elementary materials set forth in ASTM E 136.

NONCONDITIONED SPACE. A space that is not a conditioned space by insulated walls, floors or ceilings.

[B] OCCUPIED SPACE. The total area of all buildings or structures on any lot or parcel of ground projected on a horizontal plane, excluding permitted projections as allowed by this code.

OFFSET. Deleted.

[B] OWNER. Any person, agent, firm or corporation having a legal or equitable interest in the property.

PELLET FUEL-BURNING APPLIANCE. Deleted.

PELLET VENT. Deleted.

[B] PERMIT. An official document or certificate issued by the authority having jurisdiction that authorizes performance of a specified activity.

[B] PERSON. An individual, heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, and also includes a firm, partnership or corporation, its or their successors or assigns, or the agent of any of the aforesaid.

PITCH. See "Slope."

PLANS. Construction documents.

PLATFORM CONSTRUCTION. A method of construction by which floor framing bears on load bearing walls that are not continuous through the story levels or floor framing.

PLENUM. A chamber that forms part of an air-circulation system other than the occupied space being conditioned.

PLUMBING. See the North Carolina Plumbing Code for definition.

PLUMBING APPLIANCE. Deleted.

PLUMBING APPURTENANCE. Deleted.

PLUMBING FIXTURE. Deleted.

PLUMBING SYSTEM. Deleted.

POLLUTION. Deleted.

PORTABLE FUEL CELL APPLIANCE. Deleted.

[B] POSITIVE ROOF DRAINAGE. Deleted.

POTABLE WATER. Water free from impurities present in amounts sufficient to cause disease or harmful physiological effects and conforming in bacteriological and chemical quality to the requirements of the public health authority having jurisdiction.

PRESSURE-RELIEF VALVE. Deleted.

PUBLIC SEWER. A common sewer directly controlled by public authority.

PUBLIC WATER MAIN. A water-supply pipe for public use controlled by public authority.

PUBLIC WAY. Any street, alley or other parcel of land open to the outside air leading to a public street, which has been deeded, dedicated or otherwise permanently appropriated to the public for public use and that has a clear width and height of not less than 10 feet (3048 mm).

PURGE. Deleted.

QUICK-CLOSING VALVE. Deleted.

R-VALUE, THERMAL RESISTANCE. The inverse of the time rate of heat flow through a building thermal envelope element from one of its bounding surfaces to the other for a unit temperature difference between the two surfaces, under steady state conditions, per unit area (h · ft² · °F/Btu).

RAMP. A walking surface that has a running slope steeper than 1 unit vertical in 20 units horizontal (5-percent slope).

RECEPTOR. Deleted.

REFRIGERANT. Deleted.

REFRIGERANT COMPRESSOR. Deleted.

REFRIGERATING SYSTEM. Deleted.

[B] REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL. An individual who is registered or licensed to practice their respective design profession as defined by the statutory requirements of the professional registration laws of the state or jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed. Design by a Registered Design Professional is not required where exempt under the registration or licensure laws.

RELIEF VALVE, VACUUM. Deleted.

[EB] REPAIR. The reconstruction or renewal of any part of an existing building for the purpose of its maintenance.

[B] REROOFING. The process of recovering or replacing an existing roof covering. See "Roof recover."

DEFINITIONS

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING TYPE. The type of residential building for determining building thermal envelope criteria. Detached one- and two-family dwellings are Type A-1. Townhouses are Type A-2.

RETURN AIR. Deleted.

RISER. Deleted.

[B] ROOF ASSEMBLY. A system designed to provide weather protection and resistance to design loads. The system consists of a roof covering and roof deck or a single component serving as both the roof covering and the roof deck. A roof assembly includes the roof deck, vapor retarder, substrate or thermal barrier, insulation, vapor retarder, and roof covering.

[B] ROOF COVERING. The covering applied to the roof deck for weather resistance, fire classification or appearance.

[B] ROOF COVERING SYSTEM. See “Roof assembly.”

[B] ROOF DECK. The flat or sloped surface not including its supporting members or vertical supports.

[B] ROOF RECOVER. The process of installing an additional roof covering over a prepared existing roof covering without removing the existing roof covering.

[B] ROOF REPAIR. Reconstruction or renewal of any part of an existing roof for the purposes of its maintenance.

[B] ROOFTOP STRUCTURE. An enclosed structure on or above the roof of any part of a building.

ROOM HEATER. Deleted.

ROUGH-IN. Deleted.

[B] RUNNING BOND. The placement of masonry units such that head joints in successive courses are horizontally offset at least one-quarter the unit length.

SANITARY SEWER. A sewer that carries sewage and excludes storm, surface and groundwater.

[B] SCUPPER. An opening in a wall or parapet that allows water to drain from a roof.

SEISMIC DESIGN CATEGORY. A classification assigned to a structure based on its Seismic Group and the severity of the design earthquake ground motion at the site.

SEPTIC TANK. Deleted.

SEWAGE. Deleted.

SEWAGE PUMP. Deleted.

SHALL. The term, when used in the code, is construed as mandatory.

[B] SHEAR WALL. A general term for walls that are designed and constructed to resist racking from seismic and wind by use of masonry, concrete, cold-formed steel or wood framing in accordance with Chapter 6 of this code and the associated limitations in Section R301.2 of this code.

SIDE VENT. Deleted.

SINGLE PLY MEMBRANE. A roofing membrane that is field applied using one layer of membrane material (either homogeneous or composite) rather than multiple layers.

SINGLE STATION SMOKE ALARM. An assembly incorporating the detector, control equipment and alarm sounding

device in one unit that is operated from a power supply either in the unit or obtained at the point of installation.

SKYLIGHT AND SLOPED GLAZING. See Section R308.6.1.

SKYLIGHT, UNIT. See Section R308.6.1.

SLEEPING ROOM. A room designated as a sleeping or bedroom on the plans.

SLIP JOINT. Deleted.

SLOPE. The fall (pitch) of a line in reference to a horizontal plane. In drainage, the slope is expressed as the fall in units vertical per units horizontal (percent).

SMOKE-DEVELOPED RATING. A numerical index indicating the relative density of smoke produced by burning assigned to a material tested in accordance with ASTM E 84.

SOIL STACK OR PIPE. Deleted.

SOLAR HEAT GAIN COEFFICIENT (SHGC). The solar heat gain through a fenestration or glazing assembly relative to the incident solar radiation ($\text{Btu/h} \cdot \text{ft}^2 \cdot ^\circ\text{F}$).

SOLID MASONRY. Load-bearing or nonload-bearing construction using masonry units where the net cross-sectional area of each unit in any plane parallel to the bearing surface is not less than 75 percent of its gross cross-sectional area. Solid masonry units shall conform to ASTM C 55, C 62, C 73, C 145 or C 216.

STACK. Deleted.

[B] STACK BOND. The placement of masonry units in a bond pattern is such that head joints in successive courses are vertically aligned. For the purpose of this code, requirements for stack bond shall apply to all masonry laid in other than running bond.

STACK VENT. Deleted.

STACK VENTING. Deleted.

STANDARD TRUSS. Any construction that does not permit the roof/ceiling insulation to achieve the required R-value over the exterior walls.

STATIONARY FUEL CELL POWER PLANT. Deleted.

STORM SEWER, DRAIN. Deleted.

[B] STORY. That portion of a building included between the upper surface of a floor and the upper surface of the floor or roof next above. A flood-resistant enclosure, designed to break away, so as not to cause collapse, shall not be considered as a story when determining height.

[B] STORY ABOVE GRADE. Any story having its finished floor surface entirely above grade, except that a basement shall be considered as a story above grade where the finished surface of the floor above the basement is:

1. More than 6 feet (1829 mm) above grade plane.
2. More than 6 feet (1829 mm) above the finished ground level for more than 50 percent of the total building perimeter.
3. More than 12 feet (3658 mm) above the finished ground level at any point.

STORY, ATTIC. Any story situated wholly or partly in the roof, so designated, arranged or built as to be used for storage or habitation. If an attic that is accessible by a fixed stairway has a 7-foot (2134 mm) clear height greater than 50 percent of the floor area of the story below, then the space shall be considered as a story.

STRUCTURAL INSULATED PANELS (SIPS). Factory fabricated panels of solid core insulation with structural skins of oriented strand board (OSB) or plywood.

STRUCTURE. Deleted.

SUMP. A tank or pit that receives sewage or waste, located below the normal grade of the gravity system and that must be emptied by mechanical means.

SUMP PUMP. Deleted.

SUNROOM ADDITION. A one-story structure added to an existing dwelling with a glazing area in excess of 40 percent of the gross area of the structure's exterior walls and roof.

SUPPLY AIR. Deleted.

SUPPORTS. Devices for supporting, hanging and securing pipes, fixtures and equipment.

SWEEP. Deleted.

TEMPERATURE- AND PRESSURE-RELIEF (T AND P) VALVE. Deleted.

TEMPERATURE-RELIEF VALVE. Deleted.

THERMAL ISOLATION. A separation of conditioned spaces, between a sunroom addition and a dwelling unit, consisting of existing or new wall(s), doors, and/or windows.

THERMAL RESISTANCE, R-VALUE. The inverse of the time rate of heat flow through a body from one of its bounding surfaces to the other for a unit temperature difference between the two surfaces, under steady state conditions, per unit area ($\text{h} \cdot \text{ft}^2 \cdot ^\circ\text{F}/\text{Btu}$).

THERMAL TRANSMITTANCE, U-FACTOR. The coefficient of heat transmission (air to air) through a building envelope component or assembly, equal to the time rate of heat flow per unit area and unit temperature difference between the warm side and cold side air films ($\text{Btu}/\text{h} \cdot \text{ft}^2 \cdot ^\circ\text{F}$).

TOWNHOUSE. A single-family dwelling unit constructed in a row of attached units separated by property lines and with open space on at least two sides.

TRAP. Deleted.

TRAP ARM. Deleted.

TRAP PRIMER. Deleted.

TRAP SEAL. Deleted.

TRIM. Picture molds, chair rails, baseboards, handrails, door and window frames, and similar decorative or protective materials used in fixed applications.

TRUSS DESIGN DRAWING. The graphic depiction of an individual truss, which describes the design and physical characteristics of the truss.

TYPE L VENT. A listed and labeled vent conforming to UL 641 for venting oil-burning appliances listed for use with Type L vents or with gas appliances listed for use with Type B vents.

U-FACTOR, THERMAL TRANSMITTANCE. The coefficient of heat transmission (air to air) through a building envelope component or assembly, equal to the time rate of heat flow per unit area and unit temperature difference between the warm side and cold side air films ($\text{Btu}/\text{h} \cdot \text{ft}^2 \cdot ^\circ\text{F}$).

UNCONFINED SPACE. A space having a volume not less than 50 cubic feet per 1,000 Btu/h ($4.8 \text{ m}^3/\text{kW}$) of the aggregate input rating of all appliances installed in that space. Rooms communicating directly with the space in which the appliances are installed, through openings not furnished with doors, are considered a part of the unconfined space.

[B] UNDERLAYMENT. One or more layers of felt, sheathing paper, nonbituminous saturated felt, or other approved material over which a roof covering, with a slope of 2 to 12 (17-percent slope) or greater, is applied.

UNUSUALLY TIGHT CONSTRUCTION. Construction in which all three of the following conditions are met:

1. Walls and ceilings comprising the building thermal envelope have a continuous water vapor retarder with a rating of 1 perm [$5.7 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ kg}/(\text{s} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{Pa})$] or less with openings therein gasketed or sealed.
2. Storm windows or weatherstripping is applied around the threshold and jambs of opaque doors and openable windows.
3. Caulking or sealants are applied to areas such as joints around window and door frames between sole plates and floors, between wall-ceiling joints, between wall panels, at penetrations for plumbing, electrical and gas lines, and at other openings.

VACUUM BREAKERS. Deleted.

VAPOR PERMEABLE MEMBRANE. A material or covering having a permeance rating of 5 perms [$(28.5 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ kg}/(\text{s} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{Pa}))$] or greater, when tested in accordance with the desiccant method using Procedure A of ASTM E96. A vapor permeable material permits the passage of moisture vapor.

[B] VAPOR RETARDER. A vapor resistant material, membrane or covering such as foil, plastic sheeting, or insulation facing having a permeance rating of 1 perm ($5.7 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ kg}/\text{Pa} \cdot \text{s} \cdot \text{m}^2$) or less, when tested in accordance with the desiccant method using Procedure A of ASTM E 96. Vapor retarders limit the amount of moisture vapor that passes through a material or wall assembly.

VENT. A passageway for conveying flue gases from fuel-fired appliances, or their vent connectors, to the outside atmosphere.

VENT COLLAR. Deleted.

VENT CONNECTOR. Deleted.

VENT DAMPER DEVICE, AUTOMATIC. Deleted.

VENT GASES. Deleted.

VENT STACK. Deleted.

VENT SYSTEM. Deleted.

[B] VENTILATION. The natural or mechanical process of supplying conditioned or unconditioned air to, or removing such air from, any space.

VENTING. Deleted.

DEFINITIONS

VENTING SYSTEM. Deleted.

VERTICAL PIPE. Deleted.

WALL VENTED CRAWL SPACE. A foundation that uses foundation wall vents as a primary means to control space moisture. Insulation is located at the floor level.

[B] WALLS. Walls shall be defined as follows:

Load-bearing wall is a wall supporting any vertical load in addition to its own weight.

Nonbearing wall is a wall which does not support vertical loads other than its own weight.

WASTE. Deleted.

WASTE PIPE OR STACK. Deleted.

WATER-DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM. Deleted.

WATER HEATER. Any heating appliance or equipment that heats potable water and supplies such water to the potable hot water distribution system.

WATER MAIN. A water-supply pipe for public use.

WATER OUTLET. Deleted.

WATERPROOFING. A coating or the application of coatings applied to prevent the penetration of water through or into walls or into interior spaces.

WATER-SERVICE PIPE. Deleted.

WATER-SUPPLY SYSTEM. The water-service pipe, the water-distributing pipes and the necessary connecting pipes, fittings, control valves and all appurtenances in or adjacent to the building or premises.

WET VENT. Deleted.

WIND BORNE DEBRIS REGION. Areas within hurricane-prone regions within 1500 feet (0.452 km) of the mean high water line of the Atlantic Ocean.

I WINDER. A tread with nonparallel edges.

WINDOW. See “Fenestration.”

[B] WOOD STRUCTURAL PANEL. A panel manufactured from veneers; or wood strands or wafers; bonded together with waterproof synthetic resins or other suitable bonding systems. Examples of wood structural panels are plywood, OSB or composite panels.

[B] YARD. An open space, other than a court, unobstructed from the ground to the sky, except where specifically provided by this code, on the lot on which a building is situated.