

Heat, Humidity, & High Winds

Details for the Intersection of Resilience and Energy Efficiency



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Learning Objectives:

Participants will be able to

- evaluate and differentiate between resilience objectives for protection of the occupant versus protection of the asset and define criteria for selecting between various resilience strategies
- 2) understand the primary methods for implementing resilient construction
- identify potential challenges and opportunities in incorporating multiple third-party certifications into a single home and strategies to mitigate conflicts during the planning process
- 4) evaluate successes and lessons learned from case studies built across the southeast.





20K House

The 20K House is an ongoing research project to develop small, well-designed, affordable houses that support an industry of home building across the rural south.

The project seeks to create dignified houses that make responsible homeownership a possibility for everyone.

Instruction Documents

Front Porch Initiative

The Front Porch Initiative seeks to extend the impact of Rural Studio's applied research in housing affordability by developing a scalable, sustainable, and resilient process for delivering homes in under-resourced rural communities.

Envelopes, Assemblies and Components

ENVELOPE

The envelope is the total enclosure of the house, separating inside and outside. The envelope considers how the assemblies transition across plans to create space.

The assembly is how all of the components of a system, such as a wall, are arranged. The placement and order of each component affects the assembly's performance.

A component is one element of an

assembly. For example, sheathing is a

component of a wall. Some components

fulfill one purpose in an assembly, while

others combine multiple functions.

Buildings are made up of components. When those components are put together --- or assembled --- they create assemblies. Collectively, those assemblies - floor, walls, and roof - create the building envelope. While individual components can be assessed based on performance, cost, and other such factors, it is critical to understand how the components form the assemblies and, therefore, the envelope. For example, systems like insulation and air barriers must be continuous across the planes of the home. In this guide, we will work from large to small scales: starting with the building envelope, then assemblies, and finishing with components.

Envelope

d'harrei Ervelope

14:3 6: ANI 31.10 - 70 80X 278 - NEWBERN, AL + 36765

PRODUCT LINE VARIATIONS

Alls mot basic level, the building envelope is what separates niske from outside. Design decisions made at the level of the building envelope can have a large effect on a building's getware for example, the design of the envelope determines promotion with the second seco is more sense to only the sense of the building - in a building building the track of the building abalone manage juts us on the right track as we drill down further into the seems, assemblies, and components that make up a building.

artie purpose of this document, we will primarily discuss the building envelope in terms of its thermal properties. The suing thermal envelope is bounded by the location of the rsultion. This is what separates conditioned (heated and statist space from unconditioned space. For example, if reaction is placed along the ceiling plane of the house, then the arc or space between the ceiling and the roof, would be able of the thermal envelope. However, if the insulation is plast ang the underside of the roof, the attic space would state: Smilarly, in a house that features a craw/space, the despine of of the crawspace will dictate whether or not In coalstate is within the thermal envelope. If the craw/space streted, nearing that there are no vents to the exterior strg the conspace walls, then the crawlspace is within the tandensinge, or inside. Conversely, if we insulate along the Minisked the first floor and install vents in the crawlspace four basic variations in the thermal envelope: as ther the crawlspace is outside of the thermal envelope. Insulated at floor and ceiling Insulated at ground and ceiling Redagans on the following page illustrate the Insulated at floor and roof Insulated at ground and roof We can think of the two ends of this spectrum as being the

'Insulated box" and the "insulated form." In the Insulated box scenario, only the living spaces are inside the thermal envelope. In the Insulated form scenario, the thermal envelope matches the extents of the built form, meaning that space under the floor and above the ceiling are inside the thermal envelope. Of the four variations shown in this document, there is not one that is "better" than the others. Each offers opportunities and challenges that should be weighed within the context of a specific project, location, and building method.

The roof and foundation are inside the thermal envelope. They perform 2 functions: providing insulation and protect house from the elements.

around the

Insulated Box

Insulated Form

3 of 15

Only the living space (the 'box') of the

house is inside the thermal envelope

while the roof and foundation serve

to protect the box from the elements.

zation and water floor is closer to ground. ling attic and crawlspace

5 of 15

2 of 15

AUBURN UNIVERSITY RURAL STUDIO

RURAL Studio

Product Line Variations

C

Ree's Home

Joanne's Home

AIR Serenbe

00 00

.

00 00

Nashville, TN

AHR Wharf Avenue

Ophelia's Home Newbern, AL

Default risks are on average 32% lower in energy-efficient homes, controlling for other loan determinates.

Institute for Market Transformation

RESEARCH REPORT March 2013 Home Energy Efficiency and Mortgage Risks Research funded by the Institute for Market Transformation

UNC CENTER for COMMUNITY CAPITAL • INSTITUTE for MARKET TRANSFORMATION

ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY CATEGORY (kWh)

TOTAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION (kWh)

ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY CATEGORY (kWh)

TOTAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION (kWh)

Mitigation can result in significant savings in terms of safety, preventing property loss, and preventing distruption of day-to-day life. For example, exceeding buiding codes on average saves \$4 per \$1 spent.

National Institute of Building Sciences

NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION SAVES

National Institute of BUILDING SCIE

Resilience is the ability of a system, entity, community, or person to withstand shocks while still maintaining its essential functions. Resilience also refers to the ability to recover quickly and effectively from catastrophe and the capability to endure greater stress.

Definition from Rockefeller Foundation 100 Resilient Cities

PROTECTION OF OCCUPANT

Federal, State & Municipality

PROTECTION OF ASSET

Private Entities (Insurance Companies)

IBHS FORTIFIED

PROTECTION OF OCCUPANT

Federal, State & Municipality

FEMA P-320

















TURNER'S HOUSE

Foundation Elevated slab (w/in pier & beam)

Walls

Doubled wood studs w/ plywood & steel sheathing

Ceiling

Doubled wood joists w/ plywood & steel sheathing

EDDIE'S HOUSE

Foundation Slab-on-grade

Walls CMU (grouted solid)

Ceiling Concrete slab Rebar Foundation: The turn down and reinforcing for the safe room was placed before the concrete slab was poured. A guide for the rebar floated above the slab, holding the #5 rebar in place and spaced it in every other concrete block cell. In the turndown, a 90-degree bend inside the rebar provided uplift resistance. The #5 rebar continued up the CMU walls.

B Door Frame: The safe room door was manufactured and purchased from Building Specialties Company. It is very important that the safe room door frame is placed before the safe room walls are built. This tied the door frame to the concrete block and ensured that the door would fit and that the walls were plumb.

C Mortar: Mortar was placed in between the blocks. The mortar is a mixture of portland cement, all purpose sand and water.

Block: We used standard grade CMU blocks that were nominally 8"x8"x16". Thankfully, Jonathan Brooks (a brick mason) helped up lay the CMU walls. This trade requires skill and practice to get right. And it has to be right.

Ventilation: In order to properly ventilate the safe room, we cut an opening in the concrete block approximately 2 feet from the bottom of the wall and placed a 4" diameter PVC pipe inside. The space around the pipe was sealed with grout. Later, we cut off the extra pipe and covered the opening with a vent plate.

Grout: The CMU walls had to be filled solid with precision grout. To ensure the grout fully filled the wall, we poured grout after laying five courses of block. We repeated this process until the walls had reached the right height.

Celing: One of the most important requirements for the FEMA tornado safe room is that it be structurally separate from the house. The exterior walls of the house wrap the safe room and a lower ceiling in the safe room does not interfere with the house's roof structure. The safe room ceiling assembly is reinforced concrete. First, we built the formwork for the concrete ceiling by notching the top CMU block and setting joists (treated #2 2x8s). Then, we covered the joists with 3/4" treated plywood. We cut a hole in the plywood in order to place a 3" PVC pipe that would serve as a chase for electrical wire. A grid of #4 rebar was placed at 16" on center and turned down 24" into the walls. Then, we built the bounding box formwork. Lastly, we poured the concrete ceiling. After the concrete was set, we removed the bounding box formwork but left the ceiling joists to provide a cavity for the safe room light and as a surface to attach the drywall.





































An Object that Defines Surrounding Spaces

Views of Implied Expansion

Race Track Circulation (Adaptability)

Storm Shelter (Adaptability)















TURNER'S HOUSE





EDDIE'S HOUSE

IDELLA'S HOUSE



PROTECTION OF OCCUPANT

Federal, State & Municipality



PROTECTION OF ASSET

(Insurance Companies)



IBHS FORTIFIED













A survey of homes in Alabama saw a 6.8% increase in resale value when the home was designated as FORTIFIED.

Alabama Center for Insurance Information & Research

Estimating the Effect of FORTIFIED Home™ Construction on Home Resale Value¹

> Sebastain Awondo, PhD – University of Alabama Harris Hollans, PhD – Auburn University Lawrence Powell, PhD – University of Alabama Chip Wade, PhD – University of Mississippi

ALABAMA* College of Commerce

¹ This research is sponsored by the Alabama Center for Insurance Information and Research (ACIIR), Culverhouse College of Commerce, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487. Please address correspondence to Lars.Powell@culverhouse.ua.edu. Awondo and Powell are with ACIIR, Hollans is Associate Professor of Real Estate, Auburn University, Wade is Assistant Professor of Finance, University of Mississippi. We thank the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) for data and guidance. Any remaining errors are our own.

























ENERGY STAR

Improve energy efficiency to lower energy bills and increase thermal comfort.

- 1. High-performance windows, doors, & insulation
- 2. Fully-aligned air barriers
- 3. Reduce thermal bridging
- 4. Air sealing
- 5. Heating & cooling equipment
- 6. Quality duct installation
- 7. Ventilation
- 8. Filtration



FORTIFIED FOR HURRICANE

Strengthen home to improve resistance to damage from high winds and rain.

- 1. Roof
- 2. Impact protection @ windows & doors
- 3. Overhang & gable end bracing
- 4. Continuous load path



FGBC GREEN HOME

Address Florida-specific climactic conditions for improved efficiency, health, and resilience performance.

- 1. Energy performance
- 2. Water conservation
- 3. Site conditions (minimize disturbance)
- 4. Healthy materials
- 5. Local, efficient, recycled materials
- 6. Disaster mitigation


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THERMAL COMFORT SYSTEM



DUCTED ERV SYSTEM



RURAL Studio

CAHFH Chipola Street



FORTIFIED FOR HURRICANE

Strengthen home to improve resistance to damage from high winds and rain.

1. Roof

- 2. Impact protection @ windows & doors
- 3. Overhang & gable end bracing

4. Continuous load path



Front Porch Initiative > Field Test Partners MATCH WIDTH OF TOP PLATE TO BEAM BELOW ROOF RAFTER CEILING JOIST ENERGY HEEL ON TRUSS (ALLOW FOR

CAHFH Chipola Street

OVERLAP SECOND TOP PLATE

ASSEMBLY ANALYSIS: FOUNDATION & FLOOR

ENERGY STAR





RURAL STUDIO

ASSEMBLY ANALYSIS: FOUNDATION & FLOOR

FORTIFIED





CAHFH Chipola Street

ASSEMBLY ANALYSIS: CEILING & ROOF

ENERGY STAR + FORTIFIED



Air Infiltration: 2.05 ACH50



RURAL









RURA AUBURN UNIVERSITY RURAL STUDIO

Front Porch Initiative > Field Test Partners

NOLAHFH Jean Lafitte









ASSEMBLY ANALYSIS: FOUNDATION & FLOOR

ENERGY STAR





RURAL

ASSEMBLY ANALYSIS: FOUNDATION & FLOOR

FORTIFIED





RURAL STUDIO NOLAHFH Jean Lafitte

ASSEMBLY ANALYSIS: CEILING & ROOF

ENERGY STAR + FORTIFIED



Air Infiltration: 2.89 ACH50



RURAL









House 66 PHIUS + FORTIFIED House 68 ZERH + FORTIFIED





PASSIVE HOUSE

Making high-performance passive building the mainstream market standard.

- 1. Continuous insulation (no thermal bridging)
- 2. Attention to air sealing
- 3. Window & door performance
- 4. Active ventilation
- 5. Energy efficient equipment
- 6. Active ventilation



FORTIFIED FOR HIGH WINDS

Strengthen home to improve resistance to damage from high winds.

- 1. Roof
- 2. Gable end bracing
- 3. Continuous load path



ZERO ENERGY READY HOMES

Optimize efficiency, manage related risks, and help ensure future readiness.

- 1. Optimize efficiency Enclosure Equipment Appliances / lighting
- 2. Do no harm Water protection Ensured comfort Indoor air quality
- 3. Ensure future ready Solar ready Forthcoming codes

KEY ASSEMBLIES







RURAL STUDIO





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AOHFH Stevens Street







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ZERH

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RURAL STUDIO

ASSEMBLY COMPARISON: CEILING & ROOF



RURAL

ASSEMBLY COMPARISON: CEILING & ROOF





Total R-Value: R-62

PHIUS



AUBURN UNIVERSITY RURAL STUDIO





Total R-Value: R-46

AUBURN UNIVERSITY RURAL STUDIO

Front Porch Initiative > Field Test Partners

AOHFH Stevens Street



COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS: Water Heater

	House 68 House 70 ZERH code	
Average monthly savings	\$40.50	
Average annual savings	\$486	
Initial cost difference of two models	\$1100	
Payback	2.26 years	

COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS: Homeowner's Insurance

Cost difference between two premiums	\$678	
Average annual premium: AOHFH	\$1,150	
Annual homeowners insurance premium: House 68*	\$472	

* Generally, a FORTIFIED certification yields, on average, a 20% discount on wind premiums.

Installing an effective FORTIFIED sealed roof deck system—as well as an improved roof deck attachment and improved edge detailing on shingle roofs—can reduce damage by reducing potential water intrusion by as much as 95%. - **IBHS**










VERIFY



MONITOR









VERIFY



MONITOR









VERIFY

TEST



MONITOR

e:	Annual Savings	Hama	
RS score is a relative ore. The lower the num		Home:	
y efficient the home. To www.hersindex.com	*Relative to an average U.S. home	Builder: Real Life Homes	
Your Home's Estimated Energy Use:		This home meets or exceeds the criteria of the following:	
Jse [MBtu] 3.7 0.4 1.3 11.7 0.0 17.2	Annual Cost \$99 \$12 \$34 \$309 \$0 -\$0 \$454	Energy Star v3 Energy Star v3.1 2018 International Energy Conservation Code 2015 International Energy Conservation Code 2012 International Energy Conservation Code 2009 International Energy Conservation Code	
Home Feature Summa Home Type: Conditioned Floor Area: Number of Bedrooms Primary Heating System: Primary Vater Heating: House Tightness: Ventilation: Duct Leakage to Outside: Above Grade Walls: Ceiling: Window Type: Foundation Walls:	Iry: Single family detached 915 sq. ft. 2 Air Source Heat Pump • Electric • 12.8 HSPF Air Source Heat Pump • Electric • 24.6 SEER Water Heater • Electric • 3.42 Energy Factor 40 CFM50 (0.35 ACH50) 7.20 CFM • 4.0.0 Watts Untested R-31 Attic, R-61 + Radiant Barrier U-Value: 0.18, SHGC: 0.25 N/A	Rating Completed by: Energy Rater:Bruce Kitchell RESNET ID:7668731 Rating Company:Airedale Energy Consultants 1464 Shadowrock Heights, Marietta, GA 30062 404-218.0905 Rating Provider:Energy Vanguard 533 W Howard, Suite E, Decatur, GA 30030 678-662-4332 Bruce Kitchell, Certified Energy Rater Ducide Kichell, Certified Energy Rater Dicitally icomech 10(10(18 at 156 PM)	
	efficient the home. To www.hersindex.com I Energy Use: se [MBtu] 3.7 0.4 1.3 11.7 0.0 17.2 Iome Feature Summa Home Type: Conditioned Floor Area: Number of Bedrooms: Primary Heating System: Primary Water Heating: Primary Water Heating: House Tightness: Ventilation: Duct Leakage to Outside Above Grade Walls: Celling: Window Type: Foundation Walls:	efficient the home. To www.hersindex.com *Relative to an average U.S. home IEnergy Use: se [MBtu] Annual Cost 3.7 \$99 0.4 \$12 1.3 \$34 11.7 \$309 0.0 -\$0 17.2 \$454 Conditioned Floor Area: 915 sq. ft. Number of Bedrooms: 2 Primary Cooling System: Air Source Heat Pump • Electric • 12.8 HSPF Primary Water Heating Water Heater • Electric • 3.42 Energy Factor House Tightness: 40 CFM50 (0.35 ACH50) VentItation: 72.0 CFM • 40.0 Watts Duct Leakage to Outside Untested Above Grade Walls: R-31 Celling: Attic, R61 + Radiant Barrier Window Type: U-Value: 0.18, SHGC: 0.25 Foundation Walls: N/A	

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RURAL



TEST

VERIFY







MONITOR



AIR SEALING

2012 IRC: 7 ACH50

2018 IRC: 3 ACH50

	(pre-intervention) First Blower Door Test	(post-intervention) 2nd Blower Door Test	Final Blower Door Test	HERS
Joanne (41A)	6.3	3.7	2.9	52
Mac (41B)	7.6	3.7	3.5	51
Dave (43A)	6.3	3.9	3.3	54
Joanne (43B)	5.2	2.9	2.7	52
Average	6.35	3.55	3.1	52

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Assess the needs, risks, and opportunities of each specific project.

What hazards are you trying to address (wind, rain, flood, fire, etc.)? How easy or difficult is it for home occupants to access and utilize existing shared resources versus what needs to be provided in the home (eg. is there a local community shelter resident can access during a storm event, or will residents need to shelter in place)? What infrastructure is or is not in place for the features you plan on integrating into the home (eg. does the local energy company offer bidirectional metering or will batteries need to store any energy produced on-site)? What policy or financial incentives can be leveraged to increase building performance (tax credits, insurance discounts, etc.)?

Plan ahead.

Setting expectation at the outset of the project and planning accordingly is key for incorporation of multiple occasionally conflicting—standards in a cost- and time-efficient manner. Think through construction sequencing. How are you going to adequately air seal around all of those FORTIFIED anchors? How do you insulate the perimeter wall running directly behind your concrete safe room? How do you provide continuous insulation in a way that satisfies both your PHIUS evaluator and your termite company?

Check your work along the way...and make sure the evaluator does too.

Don't wait until closing out construction to ensure you're on track to meet performance expectations. Take advantage of third-party inspections throughout the construction process. Is your HERS rater coming out to do an insulation inspection? Ask them to run a blower door test while they're out so you can identify and correct any deficiencies before the walls are closed up. Get those inspections on your schedule; missing them can mean missing out on certification and potential incentives that come with achieving beyond-code performance.





