



**Star
Home
Inspection Services**

Home Inspection Report

613 SE James CT, MO 64063

Inspection Date: 10/21/2008

Prepared For: Larry Carter

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Report Overview

THE HOUSE IN PERSPECTIVE

This is a well built home. As with all homes, ongoing maintenance is required and improvements to the systems of the home will be needed over time. *The improvements that are recommended in this report are not considered unusual for a home of this age and location.* Please remember that there is no such thing as a perfect home.

CONVENTIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

For your convenience, the following conventions have been used in this report.

Major Concern: a system or component which is considered significantly deficient or is unsafe. Significant deficiencies need to be corrected and, except for some safety items, are likely to involve significant expense.

Safety Issue: denotes a condition that is unsafe and in need of prompt attention.

Repair: denotes a system or component which is missing or which needs corrective action to assure proper and reliable function.

Improve: denotes improvements which are recommended but not required.

Monitor: denotes a system or component needing further investigation and/or monitoring in order to determine if repairs are necessary.

Please note that those observations listed under “Discretionary Improvements” are not essential repairs, but represent logical long term improvements.

- For the purpose of this report, it is assumed that the house faces north.

IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATION HIGHLIGHTS / SUMMARY

The following is a synopsis of the potentially significant improvements that should be budgeted for over the short term. Other significant improvements, outside the scope of this inspection, may also be necessary. Please refer to the body of this report for further details on these and other recommendations.

All issues found in this report should be addressed with the appropriate parties to make any improvements, corrections or repairs necessary. All improvements, corrections and repairs should meet the satisfaction of the client named on this report and the inspection agreement associated with this report prior to closing. This report and the findings listed herein are intended for the client only and is not transferable without a signed written agreement.

The comments in red are those made by the seller

Foundation

- **Monitor:** Common minor settlement cracks were observed in the foundation walls. This implies that some structural movement of the building has occurred. Cracks of this type should be watched for any sign of additional movement. In the absence of any sign of ongoing movement, repair should not be necessary. **As Is**

Exterior Walls

- **Repair:** The paint on the trim around the gable vents trim is peeling. These areas should be painted and caulked to prevent water damage and rot. **Repaired**
- **Monitor:** Siding of this type requires monitoring and maintenance. It has a tendency to pop out past nail heads creating a space where two panels join together. Re-securing and caulking the seams and nail holes is standard maintenance for this type of siding. Some are border line of needing attention. **As Is**

Exterior Eaves/Fascia

- **Repair:** The eaves and fascia are peeling and they should be painted to prevent water damage and rot. **Repaired**

Windows

- **Repair:** Some window frames (example: southwest back window) require painting and caulking. **Repaired**

Garage

- **Repair, Safety Issue:** The west garage door opener did not automatically reverse under resistance to closing. *There is a serious risk of injury, particularly to children, under this condition.* Adjustments are needed. **Repaired**
- **Monitor:** The garage floor slab has typical cracks usually the result of shrinkage and/or settling of the slab as it cures. Shrinkage cracks are very common and are not normally a concern. **As Is**

Lot Drainage

- **Recommend:** The grading should be maintained to promote the flow of storm water away from the house. This can often be accomplished by the addition of top soil. The ground should slope away from the house at a rate of one inch per foot for at least the first ten feet. At least eight (8) inches of clearance should be maintained between soil level and the bottom of exterior wall siding. **As Is**
- **Recommend:** Covers should be provided for the basement window well to keep storm water out of the well. **As Is**

Deck

- **Monitor, Repair:** Some deck boards have warped and are loose and needs repair. Repair is discretionary. **Repaired**

Steps

- **Monitor:** The front porch has typical cracks usually the result of shrinkage and/or settling of the slab as it cures. Shrinkage cracks are very common and are not normally a concern. **As Is**

Driveway

- **Monitor:** The driveway has settled and cracked. Persisting movement may result in the need for repairs. **As Is**

Attic / Roof

- **Monitor, Repair:** A gable vent louver on west side is loose. Repair is discretionary. **Repaired**

Water Heater

- **Monitor:** Water heaters have a typical life expectancy of 7 to 12 years. The existing unit is approaching or has exceeded this age range. One cannot predict with certainty when replacement will become necessary. **As Is**

Fixtures

- **Monitor:** The kitchen sink has some minor surface damage. **As Is**

Wall / Ceiling Finishes

- **Monitor:** Ghosting was observed on some ceilings. Ghosting is carbon deposits that looks like a dirty surface where the cause is usually from dirty burning candles such as the Yankee brand. Other causes could be from a dirty burning pilot light in the furnace or fireplace, smokers or just plain dirt in the air. Carbon attracts to colder surfaces such as wall studs where there is an absence of insulation, around electrical outlets, wall hangings and the edges of carpet where the carpet actually acts as a filter. More information can be found on the internet by going to Google and using "ghosting" as a search word. Here are two websites that address the topic. **As Is**
http://www.buildingscienceconsulting.com/resources/misc/black_stains_on_carpet.htm
http://www.buildingscienceconsulting.com/resources/misc/black_stains_on_carpet.htm
- **Monitor:** Typical drywall flaws were observed that could include loose tape, minor cracks, rough seams, peeling paper, nail popping, minor patching, etc. Any repairs would be discretionary. **As Is**

Doors

- **Repair:** It is recommended that the basement screen door lock/latch be repaired. **Repaired**

Basement Leakage

- **Monitor:** No evidence of moisture penetration was visible in the basement at the time of the inspection. *It should be understood that it is impossible to predict whether moisture penetration will pose a problem in the future.* The vast majority of basement leakage problems are the result of insufficient control of storm water at the surface. The ground around the house should be sloped to encourage water to flow away from the foundation. Gutters and downspouts should act to collect roof water and drain the water at least five (5) feet from the foundation or into a functional storm sewer. Downspouts that are clogged or broken below grade level, or that discharge too close to the foundation are the most common source of basement leakage. Please refer to the Roofing and Exterior sections of the report for more information.

In the event that basement leakage problems are experienced, lot and roof drainage improvements should be undertaken as a first step. Please beware of contractors who recommend expensive solutions. Excavation, damp-proofing and/or the

installation of drainage tiles should be a last resort. In some cases, however, it is necessary. Your plans for using the basement may also influence the approach taken to curing any dampness that is experienced. **As Is**

THE SCOPE OF THE INSPECTION

All components designated for inspection in the ASHI® Standards of Practice are inspected, except as may be noted in the "Limitations of Inspection" sections within this report.

It is the goal of the inspection to put a home buyer in a better position to make a buying decision. Not all improvements will be identified during this inspection. Unexpected repairs should still be anticipated. The inspection should not be considered a guarantee or warranty of any kind.

This inspection is visual only. A representative sample of building components are viewed in areas that are accessible at the time of the inspection. No destructive testing or dismantling of building components is performed.

Please refer to the pre-inspection contract for a full explanation of the scope of the inspection.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Dry conditions prevailed at the time of the inspection.

The estimated outside temperature was 65 degrees F.

RECENT WEATHER CONDITIONS

Dry condition has been experienced in the days leading up to the inspection.

Structure

DESCRIPTION OF STRUCTURE

Foundation:	•Poured Concrete •Basement Configuration •70% Of Foundation Was Not Visible From Inside Due To Finished Walls and/or Storage
Columns:	•Steel
Floor Structure:	•Wood Joist •Concrete
Wall Structure:	•Wood Frame
Ceiling Structure:	•Joist •Rafters
Roof Structure:	•Rafters •Waferboard Sheathing

STRUCTURE OBSERVATIONS

Positive Attributes

The construction of the home is good quality. The materials and workmanship, where visible, are good. The visible joist spans appear to be within typical construction practices. The inspection did not discover evidence of substantial structural movement.

General Comments

No major defects were observed in the accessible structural components of the house.

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS

Foundation

- **Monitor:** Common minor settlement cracks were observed in the foundation walls. This implies that some structural movement of the building has occurred. Cracks of this type should be watched for any sign of additional movement. In the absence of any sign of ongoing movement, repair should not be necessary. **As Is**

LIMITATIONS OF STRUCTURE INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions:

- Structural components concealed behind finished surfaces could not be inspected.
- Only a representative sampling of visible structural components were inspected.
- Furniture and/or storage restricted access to some structural components.
- Engineering or architectural services such as calculation of structural capacities, adequacy, or integrity are not part of a home inspection.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.

Roofing

DESCRIPTION OF ROOFING

Roof Covering:	•Asphalt Shingle •Single Ply Membrane
Roof Flashings:	•Roofing Material (Shingles)
Roof Drainage System:	•Galvanized Steel •Downspouts discharge above grade
Method of Inspection:	•Walked on roof

ROOFING OBSERVATIONS

Positive Attributes

The roof coverings are to be in generally good condition. Where investigated, eave protection has been installed below the sloped roof coverings. This reduces the risk of roof leakage, should ice damming develop in the winter. The installation of the roofing materials has been performed in a professional manner. The quality of the installation is above average. Better than average quality materials have been employed as roof coverings. Roof flashing details appear to be in good order. The gutters are clean.

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS

LIMITATIONS OF ROOFING INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions:

- Not all of the underside of the roof sheathing is inspected for evidence of leaks.
- Evidence of prior leaks may be disguised by interior finishes.
- Estimates of remaining roof life are approximations only and do not preclude the possibility of leakage. Leakage can develop at any time and may depend on rain intensity, wind direction, ice build up, and other factors.
- Antennae, chimney/flue interiors which are not readily accessible are not inspected and could require repair.
- Roof inspection may be limited by access, condition, weather, or other safety concerns.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.

Exterior

DESCRIPTION OF EXTERIOR

Wall Covering:	•Stucco •Wood Siding •Board & Bat
Eaves, Soffits, And Fascias:	•Wood
Exterior Doors:	•Solid Wood •Sliding Glass
Window/Door Frames and Trim:	•Wood
Entry Driveways:	•Concrete
Entry Walkways And Patios:	•Concrete
Porches, Decks, Steps, Railings:	•Concrete •Treated Wood
Overhead Garage Door(s):	•Wood •Automatic Opener Installed
Surface Drainage:	•Level Grade
Retaining Walls:	•Prefab Masonry
Fencing:	•Chain Link

EXTERIOR OBSERVATIONS

Positive Attributes

Window frames are clad, for the most part, with a low maintenance material. The wood window frames are in generally good condition. There is no significant wood/soil contact around the perimeter of the house, thereby reducing the risk of insect infestation or rot. The decking appears to be constructed from pressure treated wood. The garage appears to be fully insulated. The garage completely finished.

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS

Exterior Walls

- **Repair:** The paint on the trim around the gable vents trim is peeling. These areas should be painted and caulked to prevent water damage and rot. **Repaired**



- **Monitor:** Siding of this type requires monitoring and maintenance. It has a tendency to pop out past nail heads creating a space where two panels join together. Re-securing and caulking the seams and nail holes is standard maintenance for this type of siding. Some are border line of needing attention. **As Is**

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Lot Drainage

- **Recommend:** The grading should be maintained to promote the flow of storm water away from the house. This can often be accomplished by the addition of top soil. The ground should slope away from the house at a rate of one inch per foot for at least the first ten feet. At least eight (8) inches of clearance should be maintained between soil level and the bottom of exterior wall siding. **As Is**
- **Recommend:** Covers should be provided for the basement window well to keep storm water out of the well. **As Is**

Deck

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Steps

- **Monitor:** The front porch has typical cracks usually the result of shrinkage and/or settling of the slab as it cures. Shrinkage cracks are very common and are not normally a concern. **As Is**

Driveway

- **Monitor:** The driveway has settled and cracked. Persisting movement may result in the need for repairs. **As Is**

LIMITATIONS OF EXTERIOR INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions:

- A representative sample of exterior components was inspected rather than every occurrence of components.
- The inspection does not include an assessment of geological, geotechnical, or hydrological conditions, or environmental hazards.
- Screening, shutters, awnings, or similar seasonal accessories, fences, recreational facilities, outbuildings, seawalls, break-walls, docks, erosion control and earth stabilization measures are not inspected unless specifically agreed-upon and documented in this report.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.

Electrical

DESCRIPTION OF ELECTRICAL

Size of Electrical Service:	•120/240 Volt Main Service - Service Size: 200 Amps
Service Drop:	•Underground
Service Entrance Conductors:	•Aluminum
Service Equipment & Main Disconnects:	•Main Service Rating 200 Amps •Breakers •Located: Basement Northwest Wall
Service Grounding:	•Copper •Water Pipe Connection
Service Panel & Overcurrent Protection:	•Panel Rating: 100 Amp •Breakers •Located: Basement Northwest Wall
Sub-Panel(s):	•None Visible
Distribution Wiring:	•Copper
Wiring Method:	• Non-Metallic Cable "Romex"
Switches & Receptacles:	•Grounded
Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters:	•Bathroom(s) •Exterior
Smoke Detectors:	•Present

ELECTRICAL OBSERVATIONS

Positive Attributes

The size of the electrical service is sufficient for typical single family needs. The electrical panel is well arranged and all fuses/breakers are properly sized. Generally speaking, the electrical system is in good order. All outlets and light fixtures that were tested operated satisfactorily. The distribution of electricity within the home is good. All 3-prong outlets that were tested were appropriately grounded. Ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) devices have been provided in some areas of the home. These devices are extremely valuable, as they offer an extra level of shock protection. All GFCI's that were tested responded properly. Dedicated 220 volt circuits have been provided for all 220 volt appliances within the home. All visible wiring within the home is copper. This is a good quality electrical conductor.

General Comments

Inspection of the electrical system did not reveal the need for improvement.

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS

LIMITATIONS OF ELECTRICAL INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions:

- Electrical components concealed behind finished surfaces are not inspected.
- Only a representative sampling of outlets and light fixtures were tested.
- Furniture and/or storage restricted access to some electrical components which may not be inspected.
- The inspection does not include remote control devices, alarm systems and components, low voltage wiring, systems, and components, ancillary wiring, systems, and other components which are not part of the primary electrical power distribution system.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.

Heating

DESCRIPTION OF HEATING

Energy Source:	•Gas
Heating System Type:	•Forced Air Furnace •Manufacturer: Lennox •Serial Number: 5802A23145
Vents, Flues, Chimneys:	•Metal-Single Wall
Heat Distribution Methods:	•Ductwork

HEATING OBSERVATIONS

Positive Attributes

The heating system is in generally good condition. Heating a home with a this type of heating system should be relatively economical. Adequate heating capacity is provided by the system. Heat distribution within the home is adequate. The heating system is controlled by a “set back” thermostat. This type of thermostat, if set up correctly, helps reduce heating costs.

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS

LIMITATIONS OF HEATING INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions:

- The adequacy of heat supply or distribution balance is not inspected.
- The interior of flues or chimneys which are not readily accessible are not inspected.
- The furnace heat exchanger, humidifier, or dehumidifier, and electronic air filters are not inspected.
- Solar space heating equipment/systems are not inspected.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.

Cooling / Heat Pumps

DESCRIPTION OF COOLING / HEAT PUMPS

Energy Source: •Electricity
Central System Type: •Air Cooled Central Air Conditioning •Manufacturer: Lennox
•Serial Number: 5802C56712
Size of Circuit: •House Fan

COOLING / HEAT PUMPS OBSERVATIONS

Positive Attributes

The capacity and configuration of the system should be sufficient for the home. The location of the return air vents is well suited to air conditioning.

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS

LIMITATIONS OF COOLING / HEAT PUMPS INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions:

- Window mounted air conditioning units are not inspected.
- The cooling supply adequacy or distribution balance are not inspected.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.

Insulation / Ventilation

DESCRIPTION OF INSULATION / VENTILATION

Attic Insulation:	•Loose Fiberglass/Mineral Wool in Main Attic
Exterior Wall Insulation:	•Not Visible
Basement Wall Insulation:	•Not Visible
Roof Ventilation:	•Roof Vents •Soffit Vents
Exhaust Fan/vent Locations:	•Bathroom •Kitchen •Dryer

INSULATION / VENTILATION OBSERVATIONS

Positive Attributes

Insulation levels are typical for a home of this age and construction.

RECOMMENDATIONS / ENERGY SAVING SUGGESTIONS

Attic / Roof

- **Monitor, Repair:** A gable vent louver on west side is loose. Repair is discretionary. **Repaired**

LIMITATIONS OF INSULATION / VENTILATION INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions:

- Insulation/ventilation type and levels in concealed areas are not inspected. Insulation and vapor barriers are not disturbed and no destructive tests (such as cutting openings in walls to look for insulation) are performed.
- Potentially hazardous materials such as Asbestos and Urea Formaldehyde Foam Insulation (UFFI) cannot be positively identified without a detailed inspection and laboratory analysis. This is beyond the scope of the inspection.
- An analysis of indoor air quality is not part of our inspection unless explicitly contracted-for and discussed in this or a separate report.
- Any estimates of insulation R values or depths are rough average values.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.

Plumbing

DESCRIPTION OF PLUMBING

Water Supply Source:	•Public Water Supply
Service Pipe to House:	•Copper
Main Water Valve Location:	•Front Wall of Basement
Interior Supply Piping:	•Copper
Waste System:	•Public Sewer System
Drain, Waste, & Vent Piping:	•Plastic
Water Heater	•Gas •Approximate Capacity (in gallons): 40 •Manufacturer: Reliance •Serial Number: H97534790
Fuel Shut-Off Valves:	•Natural Gas Main Valve At Meter

PLUMBING OBSERVATIONS

Positive Attributes

The plumbing system is in generally good condition. The piping system within the home, for both supply and waste, is a good quality system. The water pressure supplied to the fixtures is above average. Only a slight drop in flow was experienced when two fixtures were operated simultaneously.

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS

Water Heater

- **Monitor:** Water heaters have a typical life expectancy of 7 to 12 years. The existing unit is approaching or has exceeded this age range. One cannot predict with certainty when replacement will become necessary. **As Is**

Fixtures

- **Monitor:** The kitchen sink has some minor surface damage. **As Is**

LIMITATIONS OF PLUMBING INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions:

- Portions of the plumbing system concealed by finishes and/or storage (below sinks, etc.), below the structure, or beneath the ground surface are not inspected.
- Water quantity and water quality are not tested unless explicitly contracted-for and discussed in this or a separate report.
- Clothes washing machine connections are not inspected.
- Interiors of flues or chimneys which are not readily accessible are not inspected.
- Water conditioning systems, solar water heaters, fire and lawn sprinkler systems, and private waste disposal systems are not inspected unless explicitly contracted-for and discussed in this or a separate report.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.

Interior

DESCRIPTION OF INTERIOR

Wall And Ceiling Materials:	•Drywall
Floor Surfaces:	•Carpet •Vinyl/Resilient •Wood •Concrete
Window Type(s) & Glazing:	•Double/Single Hung
Doors:	•Wood-Solid Core •Wood-Hollow Core •Sliding Glass •Storm Door(s)

INTERIOR OBSERVATIONS

General Condition of Interior Finishes

On the whole, the interior finishes of the home are in above average condition. Typical minor flaws were observed in some areas.

General Condition of Windows and Doors

The majority of the doors and windows are good quality.

General Condition of Floors

The floors of the home are relatively level and walls are relatively plumb.

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS

Wall / Ceiling Finishes

- **Monitor:** Ghosting was observed on some ceilings. Ghosting is carbon deposits that looks like a dirty surface where the cause is usually from dirty burning candles such as the Yankee brand. Other causes could be from a dirty burning pilot light in the furnace or fireplace, smokers or just plain dirt in the air. Carbon attracts to colder surfaces such as wall studs where there is an absence of insulation, around electrical outlets, wall hangings and the edges of carpet where the carpet actually acts as a filter. More information can be found on the internet by going to Google and using "ghosting" as a search word. Here are two websites that address the topic. **As Is**
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http://www.buildingscienceconsulting.com/resources/misc/black_stains_on_carpet.htm
- **Monitor:** Typical drywall flaws were observed that could include loose tape, minor cracks, rough seams, peeling paper, nail popping, minor patching, etc. Any repairs would be discretionary. **As Is**

Doors

- **Repair:** It is recommended that the basement screen door lock/latch be repaired. **Repaired**

Basement Leakage

- **Monitor:** No evidence of moisture penetration was visible in the basement at the time of the inspection. *It should be understood that it is impossible to predict whether moisture penetration will pose a problem in the future.* The vast majority of basement leakage problems are the result of insufficient control of storm water at the surface. The ground around the house should be sloped to encourage water to flow away from the foundation. Gutters and downspouts should act to collect roof water and drain the water at least five (5) feet from the foundation or into a functional storm sewer. Downspouts that are clogged or broken below grade level, or that discharge too close to the foundation are the most common source of basement leakage. Please refer to the Roofing and Exterior sections of the report for more information.

In the event that basement leakage problems are experienced, lot and roof drainage improvements should be undertaken as a first step. Please beware of contractors who recommend expensive solutions. Excavation, damp-proofing and/or the installation of drainage tiles should be a last resort. In some cases, however, it is necessary. Your plans for using the basement may also influence the approach taken to curing any dampness that is experienced. **As Is**

LIMITATIONS OF INTERIOR INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions

- Furniture, storage, appliances and/or wall hangings are not moved to permit inspection and may block defects.
- Carpeting, window treatments, central vacuum systems, household appliances, recreational facilities, paint, wallpaper, and other finish treatments are not inspected.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.

Appliances

DESCRIPTION OF APPLIANCES

Appliances Tested:	•Electric Range •Electric Cooktop •Microwave Oven •Dishwasher •Waste Disposer
Laundry Facility:	•Dryer Vented to Building Exterior •Hot and Cold Water Supply for Washer •Waste Standpipe for Washer
Other Components Tested:	•Cooktop Exhaust Vent/Fan •Door Bell

APPLIANCES OBSERVATIONS

Positive Attributes

All appliances that were tested responded satisfactorily. The kitchen and laundry facilities are well organized. The kitchen cabinetry is above average quality.

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS

LIMITATIONS OF APPLIANCES INSPECTION

As we have discussed and as described in your inspection contract, this is a visual inspection limited in scope by (but not restricted to) the following conditions

- Thermostats, timers and other specialized features and controls are not tested.
- The temperature calibration, functionality of timers, effectiveness, efficiency and overall performance of appliances is outside the scope of this inspection.

Please also refer to the pre-inspection contract for a detailed explanation of the scope of this inspection.