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Standard Guide for Construction of Solid Fuel Burning Masonry Heaters¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This guide covers the design and construction of solid fuel burning masonry heaters. It provides dimensions for site constructed masonry heater components and clearances that have been derived by experience and found to be consistent with the safe installation of those masonry heaters.

1.2 Values given in SI units are to be regarded as standard. Inch/pound units may be rounded (see [IEEE/ASTM SI-10](#)). All dimensions are nominal unless specifically stated otherwise. All clearances listed in this guide are actual dimensions.

1.3 This guide applies to the design and construction of masonry heaters built on-site with the components and materials specified herein. It does not apply to the construction/installation requirements for component systems that have been safety tested and listed. The requirements for listed masonry heater systems are specified in the manufacturer's installation instructions.

1.4 The design and construction of solid fuel burning masonry heaters shall comply with applicable building codes.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

[C11 Terminology Relating to Gypsum and Related Building Materials and Systems](#)

[C43 Terminology of Structural Clay Products³](#)

[C71 Terminology Relating to Refractories](#)

[C270 Specification for Mortar for Unit Masonry](#)

[C401 Classification of Alumina and Alumina-Silicate Castable Refractories](#)

[E136 Test Method for Behavior of Materials in a Vertical Tube Furnace at 750°C](#)

[IEEE/ASTM SI-10 Standard for Use of the International System of Units \(SI\): The Modern Metric System](#)

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E06 on Performance of Buildings and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E06.54 on Solid Fuel Burning Appliances.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For Annual Book of ASTM Standards volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

³ Withdrawn. The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

2.2 UL Standards:

[UL 103 Chimneys, Factory Built Residential Type and Building Heating Appliances⁴](#)

3. Terminology

3.1 Terms used in this guide are as defined in Terminology [C11](#), Definitions [C43](#), Terminology [C71](#), and Classification [C401](#).

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *approved*—acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

3.2.2 *authority having jurisdiction*—the organization, office, individual, or agent thereof, who is responsible for approving construction, materials, equipment, installation, procedure, and so forth. In most cases in which a building permit is required, the authority is typically the building official or his agent. Where a building permit is not required, the authority is typically the owner or his agent.

3.2.3 *bypass damper*—a valve or plate that provides a direct path to the chimney flue for the flue gases or portion thereof.

3.2.4 *capping slab*—a horizontal refractory barrier covering the top of the masonry heater.

3.2.5 *cleanout opening*—an access opening in a flue passageway of the masonry heater or chimney that is designed to allow access to the flue for purposes of inspecting for and removal of ash, soot, and other extraneous matter that may become trapped.

3.2.6 *damper*—an adjustable valve or plate for controlling draft or the flow of gases, including air.

3.2.7 *firebox (firechamber)*—that portion of the masonry heater that is designed for containing and burning the fuel charge.

3.2.8 *gas slot*—a small fixed opening that provides a bypass for unburned flue gases, and is a critical safety feature in certain masonry heater designs (namely those of the Grundofen type with vertical flue runs) (see [Fig. 1](#), [Fig. 2](#), [Fig. 3](#), and [Fig. 6](#)).

3.2.9 *hearth extension*—the noncombustible surfacing applied to the floor area extending in front of and beyond each side of the fuel loading door of the masonry heater; also applies to the floor beneath a masonry heater or beneath an elevated overhanging masonry heater hearth.

⁴ Available from Underwriter's Laboratories, 333 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, IL 60062.

FIG. 1 Vertical Channel
Masonry Heater
(Russian)

1. Ashbox
2. Ash Drop
3. Capping Slab
4. Chimney
5. Clean-Out
6. Combustion Air
7. Downdraft Channel
8. Exhaust Gas
9. Expansion Joint
10. Exterior Wall
11. Firebox
12. Fuel-Loading Door
13. Gas Slot
14. Hearth Extension
15. Heater Base
16. Insulation
17. Shut-Off Damper
18. Updraft Channel

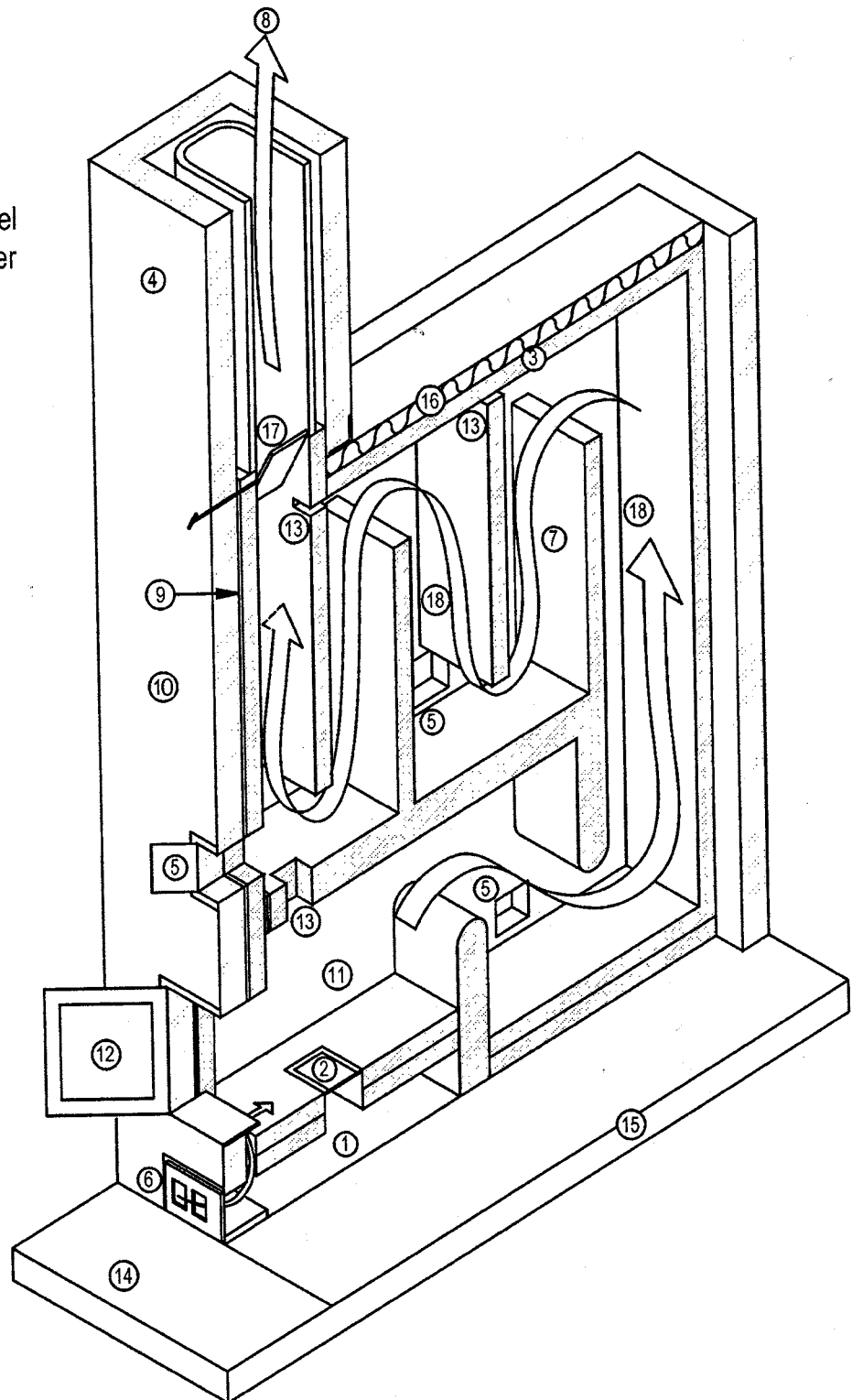


FIG. 2 Horizontal Channel Masonry Heater (Russian)

1. Ashbox
2. Ash Drop
3. Capping Slab
4. Chimney
5. Clean-Out
6. Combustion Air
7. Exhaust Gas
8. Expansion Joint
9. Exterior Wall
10. Firebox
11. Fuel-Loading Door
12. Gas Slot
13. Hearth Extension
14. Heater Base
15. Horizontal Channel
16. Insulation
17. Shut-Off Damper

