



The Cob Report

Bringing the ancient art of Cob Earth Wall Building into the modern world. Cob is a method of building walls using a mix of clay rich earth, sand, straw and water.

As many of you have heard:

**THE IRC COB CONSTRUCTION APPENDIX U
HAS BEEN APPROVED**

HOORAY !!

AFTER THIS HARD WON APPROVAL, THE WORK OF WRITING ITS
COMMENTARY BEGAN

A dedicated crew of people
have been working on this important final phase of the Appendix.

CRI MUST RAISE \$5000 TO COMPLETE THIS FINAL PHASE.

ANY AMOUNT HELPS.

PLEASE DONATE HERE:

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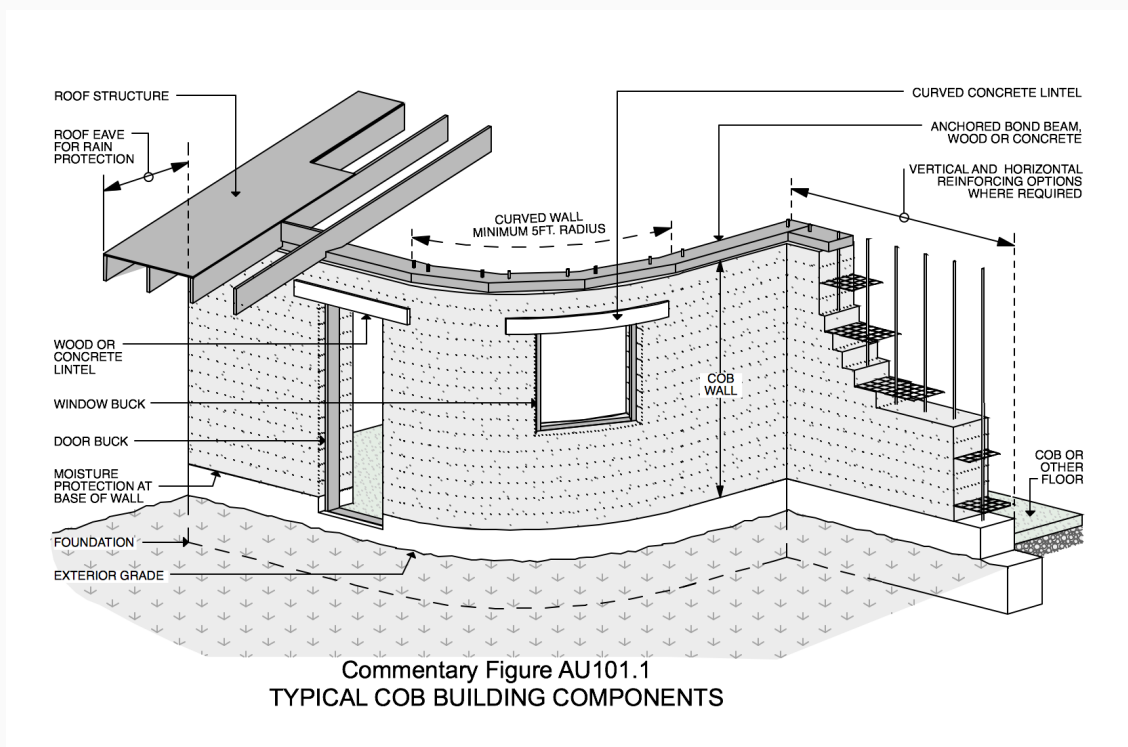
WHAT IS THE COMMENTARY?

The Commentary explains the code and its intent. It is very important because it guides how the code will work in practice. It is especially important with the new Cob Code to introduce the entirely new material and construction concepts of cob to the many people who will rely on it to design, permit, and build cob buildings.

WHAT IS THE IRC?

The International Residential Code (IRC) is the national model building code for one- and two-family dwellings adopted by almost every U.S. state for its Residential Code.

Here is a short excerpt from the Appendix U commentary



❖ *This appendix covers the use of “natural cob” as an earthen building material and system. It does not cover cob with added stabilizers such as cement or asphalt emulsion that are often used in other earthen building systems. (See commentary for definitions of “natural cob”, “stabilized” and “unstabilized”.) It does not preclude the use of stabilized cob; however such use should be evaluated apart from this appendix.*

All components and aspects of cob buildings other than their cob walls - including foundations, non-cob walls, roof structure, energy efficiency, and mechanical, plumbing and electrical systems - must comply with the code, unless otherwise stated in this appendix.

Historically, many variations of cob construction have been practiced, influenced by climate, high-wind and seismic risk, available materials, local building practices and regional architecture. This appendix, through prescriptive and performance-based requirements, is intended to be inclusive of as many safe and durable methods of cob construction as possible. See Commentary Figure AU101.1 for typical cob building components,

The Appendix contains sections, tables, and figures. It provides requirements with flexibility for constructing safe and durable cob residences and accessory structures. The Commentary provides a comprehensive explanation of how to use the code. The Appendix with its Commentary will enable the building of permitted cob residences throughout the United States.

SEE APPENDIX OVERVIEW

Click the button to see CRI's Appendix U Approval and Use Overview

CRI's mission is to make cob building legally accessible to all who wish to build.

Until now, the lack of a COB BUILDING CODE has been a major barrier to cob construction in the U.S. This is now changed. With the approval and publishing of the 2021 International Residential Code Cob Construction Appendix U and Commentary, cob building will become a possibility throughout the USA !

**CRI HAS DONE THIS FOR THE ENTIRE NATURAL BUILDING COMMUNITY
INCLUDING YOU !!**

PLEASE SUPPORT CRI !

CRI is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

**THREE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE GENEROUSLY PLEDGED TO
MATCH DONATIONS UP TO \$5,000
TO HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF \$10,000
DONATE NOW - YOUR DONATIONS WILL BE DOUBLED !!**

DONATE TO CRI

A word about CRI.

The Cob Research Institute is a public interest 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2008 with the mission to remove legal obstacles to building with cob.

CRI needs to support a small staff to continue to do the work of making a cob

building code a reality. The needed research, testing, and ongoing code development is expensive and CRI is working to do this on your behalf. Please support the CRI effort and become part of the CRI team ! Thank you for your generosity.

John Fordice - CRI Director and Founder



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