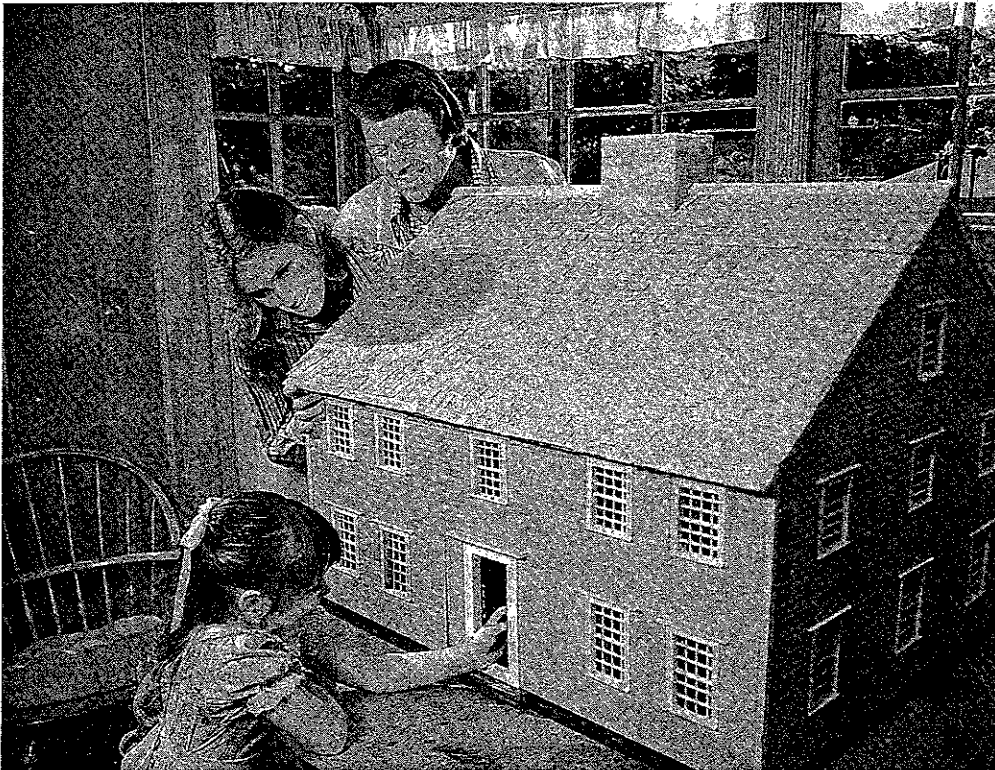


The Dollhouse



The Stanley Colonial Dollhouse is based on an actual house built in the "1776" period in New England. This house is still in use today, and is an excellent example of a most attractive, sturdy, functional and lasting form of domestic architecture.

The interior plan of Colonial houses was different from today's houses. Families were big, so there were many bedrooms. People didn't have many changes of clothes, so there were no bedroom closets. And of course, there were no bathrooms since indoor

plumbing did not come into general use until late in the nineteenth century. When plumbing was eventually installed, one of the smaller second floor bedrooms was often converted into the bathroom. If you want a bathroom in your dollhouse, you can do the same.

There were fireplaces in almost every room since there was no such thing as central heating. All the fireplaces were connected to the huge central chimney that ran through the center of the house. All cooking was done over the open fire in the kitchen-keeping room. The early settlers in this country used the keeping room as a refuge from hostile indians and

wild animals. Later on, it became the most important room in the house, the place where the entire family would gather for meals, warmth, and companionship.

At one end of the keeping room there was usually a large pantry or larder. At the other end was a "borning room", a snug place in which mothers gave birth. Later the baby stayed there to be close to the warmth of the fire and near the mother who would be busy cooking.

On the third floor or attic there was often a smoke oven for smoking hams, sides of bacon, and game. Hickory bark or corncobs were burned in the oven to provide the smoke.

Windows contained many small panes in those days because large sheets of glass were not available. The windows in this house contain twelve panes or "lights" in each sash. This arrangement is called "twelve over twelve". Some houses had solid blinds on the outside that could be closed to protect the panes of glass and also provide security. The familiar louvered shutters that you find on many houses of this period were added much later.

We have made a few adaptations in the room arrangements of the original Colonial house so that the plan can function well as a dollhouse. We have also made changes in certain materials so the dollhouse can be built with supplies that are readily available. For example, door hinges in Colonial houses were generally wrought iron strap, H, or H-L hinges made by a local blacksmith. But because miniature versions of these are not commonly available, we have used butt hinges instead.

These plans provide detailed instructions for making an authentic replica, like the realistic model in the photograph. You can also make a simpler version. Just build the basic structure out of plywood, paint it, and add shadows to give the appearance of real shingles and siding. For an easy window substitute, use clear plastic with painted white divider strips stapled to the inside of the window opening.

Whether you want a sturdy toy for your children, or a historically correct, detailed miniature, you'll really enjoy building the Stanley Colonial Dollhouse.

Stanley Tools You'll Need:

Claw hammer, tack hammer, Powerlock® rule, combination square, Surform® tool or block plane, wood rasp, nail set, brad awl, screwdriver, Phillips head screwdriver with No. 0 point, handsaw, keyhole saw, brace with 1/2" bit, Yankee® push drill with bits, utility knife, 2 C-clamps.

Materials for Basic House:

3 sheets — 4' x 8' x 3/8" plywood — two sides good.
18' — 1 x 2 for base and blocking.

7' — 1 x 1 for corner posts, front and back steps.

6 flathead screws — 1-1/4" No. 10 for end panels.

1 box No. 18 1" long brads.

1 box No. 18 brads 3/4" long.

1 box No. 18 brads 1/2" long — for trim.

Carpenter's white wood glue.

Hinges:

6 — 3/4" x 11/16" for roof.

4 — 3/4" x 11/16" for front and back door.

8 — 7/8" x 1-1/2" for front and rear panels.

Note: Balsa and basswood required if you install trim, paneling, stairs, windows, etc., are available at hobby shops.

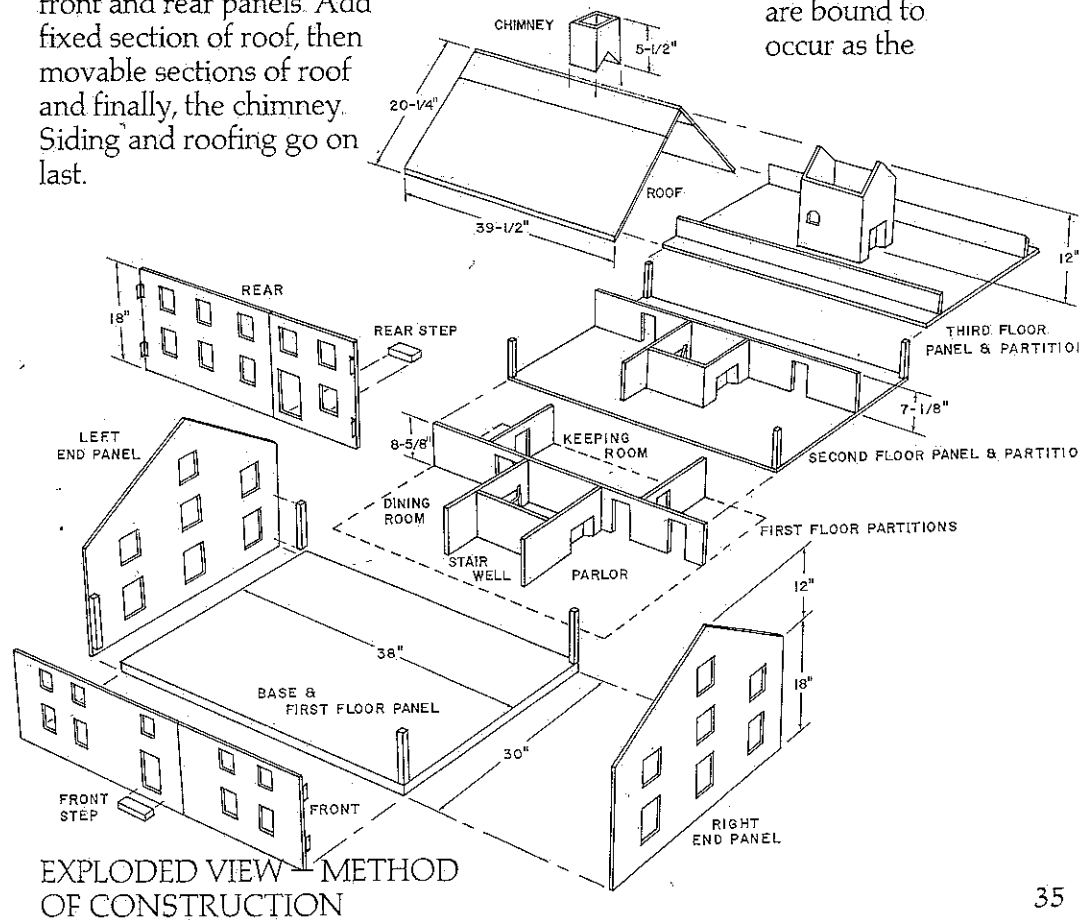
General Construction:

Exploded view shows method of construction. First, build base and then add the two end panels. Next, install the first floor partition, then add the second floor along with its partitions and stairs from first to second floor. Install third floor and partitions and stairs. Add front and rear panels. Add fixed section of roof, then movable sections of roof and finally, the chimney. Siding and roofing go on last.

To insure a perfect match of identical elements — base panels, floor panels, end panels, front and rear panels and movable section of roof — clamp the pieces together and cut both at the same time. If you are going to install the wood windows, openings for them must be cut very accurately to insure a perfect fit.

Because of restricted access, complete each floor — painting, staining, paneling, trim, wallpaper, etc., before proceeding with next floor. Apply wallpaper before installing interior trim, chair rails and corner posts. Paint all interior and exterior trim and elements for windows before cutting to size. Use glue and 1/2" brads to apply all trim.

Detail dimensions on drawings show measurements to fractional parts of an inch but variations are bound to occur as the



work progresses so measure for each element and make necessary adjustments as needed.

Build Base: (Fig. 1)

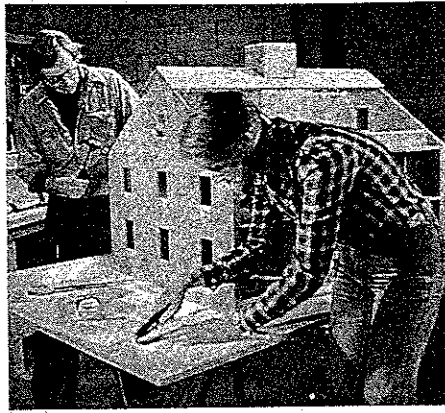
Use glue and 1" brads to assemble 1 x 2 frame and plywood panels. Stain or paint top of upper panel that serves as first floor. Make up the two end panels and cut openings for windows with brace and bit and keyhole saw. Note the first floor windows are taller than those on second and third floor. Secure panels to base with glue and three 1-1/4" screws per panel.

Install First Floor Partitions: (Fig. 2)

Start with center partition B. Temporarily tack this into place and then C and E. Add panel A — the chimney enclosure. Cut openings in this for the three fireplaces. Add partitions D, F, H and G. Note height of G is only 6-3/8". The upper landing of stairs will rest on top of G. You can indicate the understairs closet door on G with trim rather than installing a hinged door.

Remove partitions and install paneling if desired. Details of paneling are given in Figure 11.

Before final installation of partitions, apply wallpaper, if desired, to exterior walls in dining room and parlor. Seal the plywood first with latex paint. Coat back of paper with wallpaper paste or dilute white glue and allow to remain until paper is soft before applying paper. Install trim around windows corner posts and chair rails (Fig. 12). On all non-paneled walls 3/32" x 3/8" chair rails can be set 2-1/2" above floor. Install partitions with glue and 3/4" brads toe-nailed into floor.



You'll need nine pieces of 3/32" x 3/8" x 36" long balsa for all the interior trim and paneling for a room. You will also need four pieces of 1/8" x 4" basswood 22" long for panels for all the paneled walls.

For fireplace details, see Fig. 13.

Add Second Floor: (Fig. 3)

Cut L-shaped opening in floor panel for stairs. Paint underside of floor panel that serves as first floor ceiling. Secure floor panel to end panels with glue and 1" brads. Add support to first floor partitions by driving 3/4" brads through second floor into top edge of partitions. Make up second floor partitions and install in same manner as first floor partitions. You'll need five pieces of 36" long 3/32" x 3/8" balsa for trim around second floor windows and door and for chair rails.

Install First Floor Stairs: (Fig. 4)

Make stringers out of 1/8" basswood. Glue inside stringers to wall. Outside stringers are glued at top and bottom to floor and landing. Install lower short stringer to wall. Construct lower landing with L-shaped support to hold it in place (Fig. 2). Add second short stringer and glue to floor and lower landing. Install upper landing on top of partition G (Fig. 2). Glue inside stringer to wall and fasten outside stringer with glue to lower and upper landing. Install upper short stringer. Attach risers first, then treads to stringers with glue. Drill

1/8" hole near end of each tread for balusters. Make balusters 2-5/8" long from 1/8" dowel and glue them into holes so they extend 2-1/2" above treads. Make handrail out of 1/4" x 1/4" basswood. Round off top with sandpaper and glue to balusters.

You'll need two pieces of 1/8" x 4" basswood 22" long and two 36" lengths of 1/8" dowels for both flights of stairs. Pattern for stair stringers (Fig. 4).

Add Third Floor Panel: (Fig. 5)

Cut opening for stairs and attach panel to end panels. Install chimney enclosure. The pitch for the side pieces of this unit must match the pitch of the roof. Cut the two side pieces to correct width, mark correct angle for cut. Make openings for fireplaces and smoke oven. Install knee walls. Bevel top edge of walls to about 38 degrees to match pitch of room. Install stairs from 2nd to 3rd floor using same method of construction as given for first floor stairs. (Fig. 4)

Make Front And Rear Hinged Hinged Panels: (Fig. 6)

Cut both at same time, then cut each into two sections as shown in Fig. 6. Bevel top edge to about a 38 degree angle to conform with roof angle. Attach panels to corners with two hinges per panel. Make up front and back doors. (Fig. 14.)

Add outside steps made of 1 x 1.

FIG. 1

BASE ASSEMBLY—GLUE & NAIL

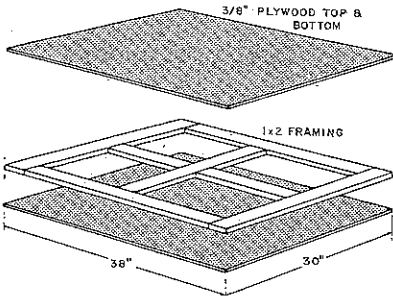


FIG. 2

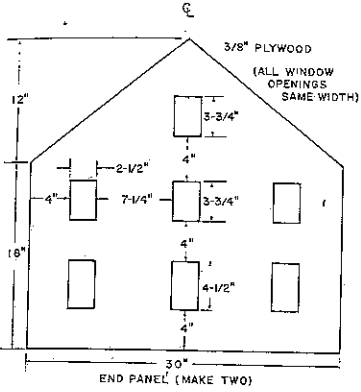
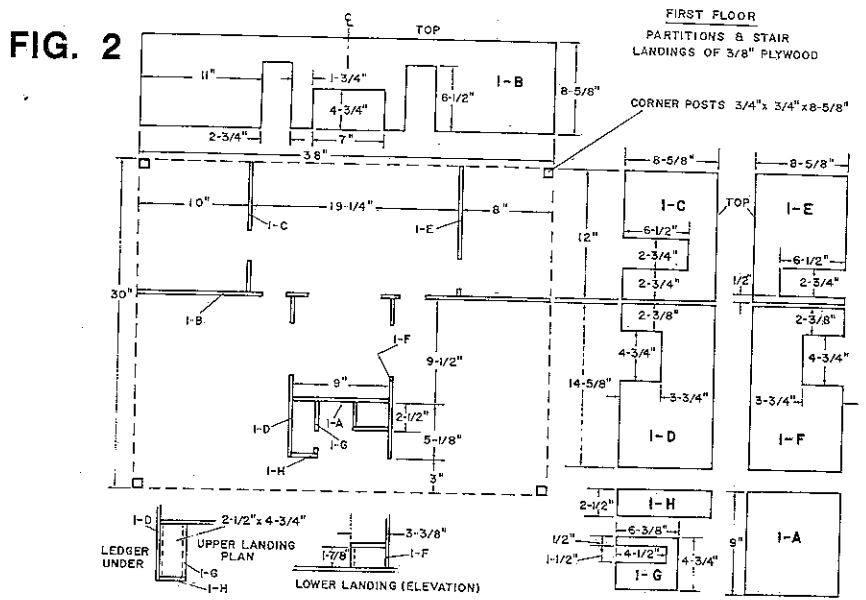


FIG. 3

CUT 2-F8 2-G TO FIT UNDER THIRD FLOOR STAIR STRINGER

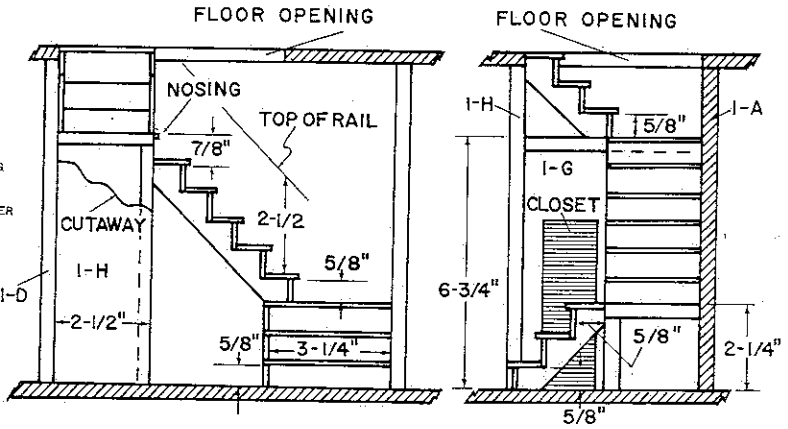
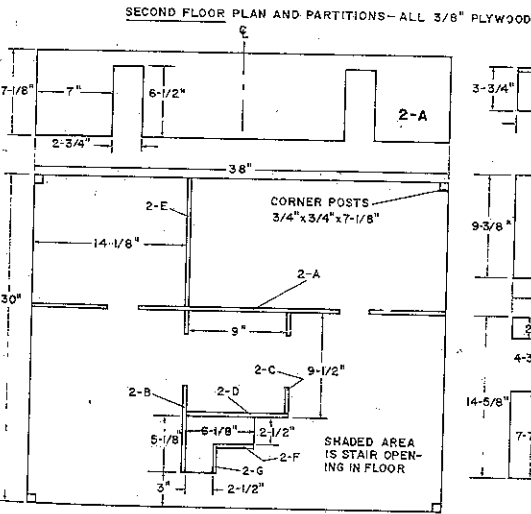


FIG. 4

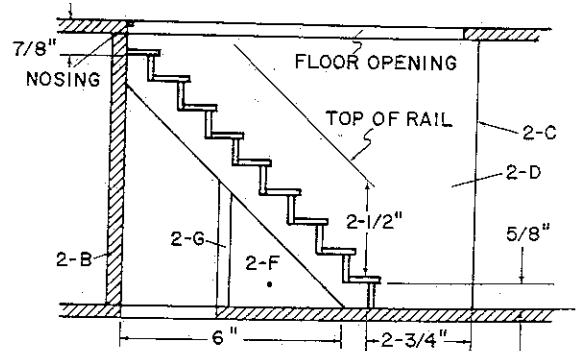
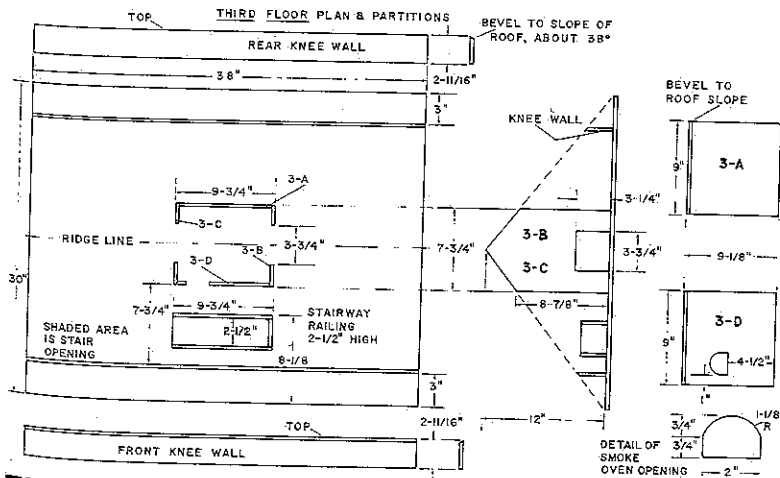
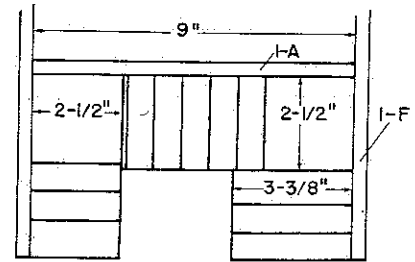


FIG. 5

The Dollhouse Plan

Add Roof And Chimney: (Fig. 7)

Install fixed section of roof, then attach movable sections of roof to fixed sections with three hinges per section. Install chimney (Fig. 7). If you cover it with chimney paper, apply before securing chimney to roof with glue and brads.

Make Windows: (Fig. 8)

These are made of three sizes of balsa – 3/32" x 3/8", 1/16" x 1/8" and 1/8" x 3/16". An easy way to assemble the windows is to build a jig as shown in Fig. 8 out of 3/8" plywood. Two jigs are required because the first floor windows are higher than those on the second and third floor.

Cut them out and lay them on the jig and then cover with plastic so glue won't stick to the paper. Assemble all elements with glue. Install the windows and outside trim around them. If you are going to install clapboard siding, do not install the drip cap at top until after the siding is on. For each window and outside trim you will need one piece 3/32" x 3/8" balsa 36" long, 1/16" x 1/8" balsa 25" long and 1/8" x 3/16" balsa 2-1/2" long.

Apply The Siding: (Fig. 9)

First add the trim at corners. Manufactured dollhouse siding is available at many hobby shops or it can be made with thin strips of balsa or thin cardboard cut from large sheets with paper cutter or utility knife. Paint siding before installing and it is easier to apply with staples than with glue. Install drip cap around windows after siding is on. You'll need four pieces of 3/32" x 3/8" balsa 36" long for corner trim.

Roofing: (Fig. 10)

Apply 1/16" x 1/8" fascia board along edge of roof. Roof shingles should be 1/2" wide and 1" long laid 3/4" to the weather. If table saw is available, cut 1/16" strips out of 3/4" cedar or pine and then cut to one inch length with paper cutter. Shingles can also be made out of thin strips of cardboard. Dollhouse shingles are also available at many hobby shops.

Apply shingles with staples except for course next to hinges. Use glue for these shingles as you don't want any exposed staples. Install ridge boards made of 3/32" x 3/8" balsa.

Details:

(Fig. 11) Paneling

For paneling, install stiles and then fit panels into place. Use utility knife to bevel edges of panels.

(Fig. 12) Molding and

Window Molding

(Fig. 13) Fireplace

Fireplaces are made of three pieces of 3/8" plywood. Cut the edges of each piece at a slight angle so the sides will slant inward. Tack a piece of scrap to the floor inside the fireplace enclosure to hold the plywood pieces in place until glue has set. Paint inside of fireplaces black.

(Fig. 14) Front and Back Doors.

(Fig. 4) Pattern for Stair Stringers.

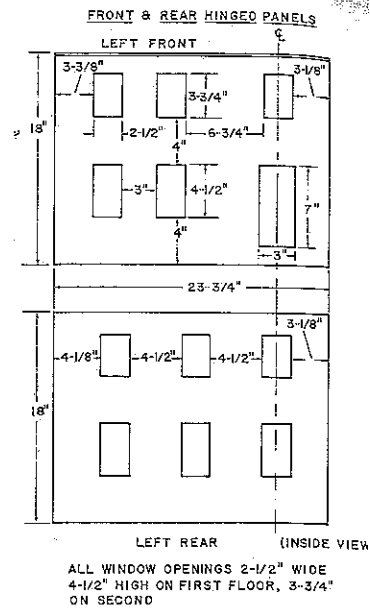


FIG. 13

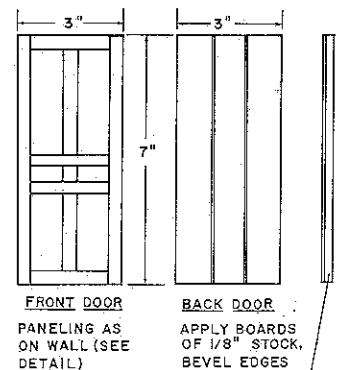
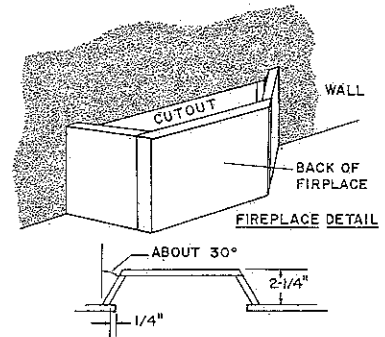


FIG. 14

MAKE DOORS OF 1/4" PLYWOOD OR 3/16" IF AVAILABLE

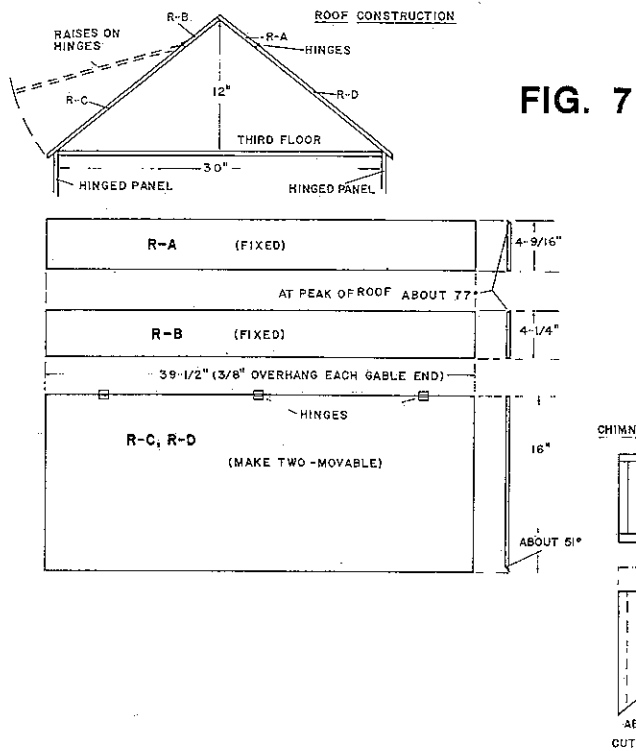
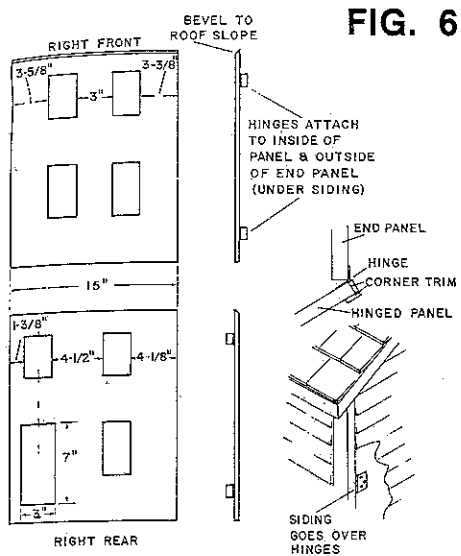


FIG. 9 SIDING

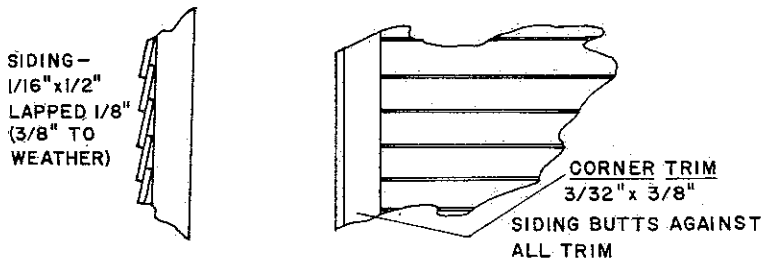


FIG. 10 ROOF SHINGLES (3/4" TO WEATHER)

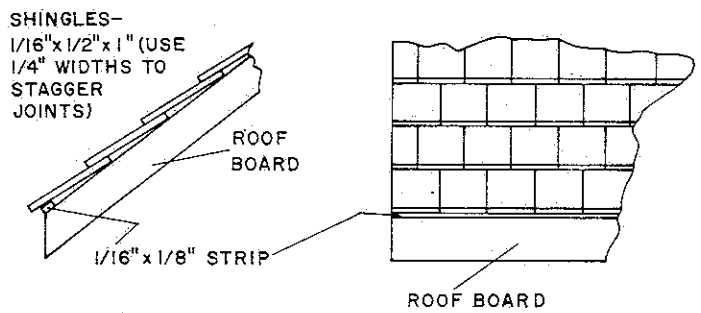


FIG. 11

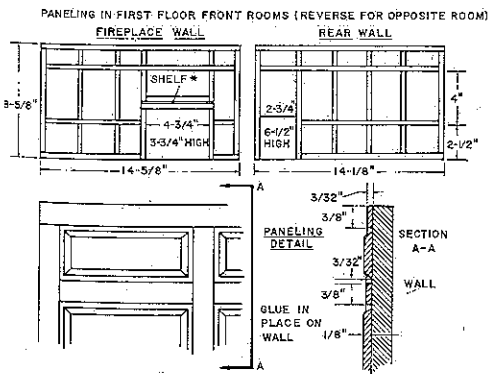


FIG. 12

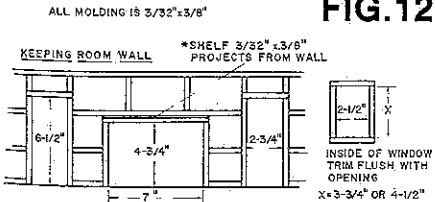


FIG. 8

