REPAIR OF EARTHQUAKE DAMAGED CHIMNEYS

To facilitate the repair of chimneys damaged by an earthquake, the Building Division has approved the following procedures and details. Any of the appropriate details may be used. A building permit is required for all chimney repairs, but a Plan Check fee will not be charged.

The firebox and undamaged areas of all chimneys to be rebuilt should be carefully inspected to determine no cracks or voids are present that would permit the access of flames to the surrounding wood frame.

Anchorage straps should be inspected and, if loose, shall be bolted to joists or rafters.

REINFORCED MASONRY CHIMNEYS

Damaged masonry in reinforced chimneys shall be removed and replaced. Existing reinforcing steel may be used if it can be straightened, otherwise it shall be cut off and extended by welding. Where existing vertical reinforcing steel has been spliced by the use of “C” clamps and slippage is evident, the splice shall be welded. Details for the construction of reinforced chimneys may be obtained from the Building Division. Ask for “ Type V Sheet - Wood Frame Buildings.”

UNREINFORCED MASONRY CHIMNEYS

Unreinforced masonry chimneys may be rebuilt if they are fractured **above the roof** line. See Section A together with details A-1, A-2 or A-3. This method **does not** require Plan Check but does require a permit. For replacement of damaged masonry chimney and firebox with a new masonry firebox and factory-built metal chimney see Section B on page 3.

Chimneys fractured **below the roof line** shall be removed down to the throat of the nearest undamaged firebox. A concrete bond beam shall be constructed on the top of the remaining firebox. This will require structural plans and calculations prepared by a civil engineer, structural engineer or architect licensed by the State of California. Replacement of the firebox and chimney **does** require plan check prior to issuance of a permit.

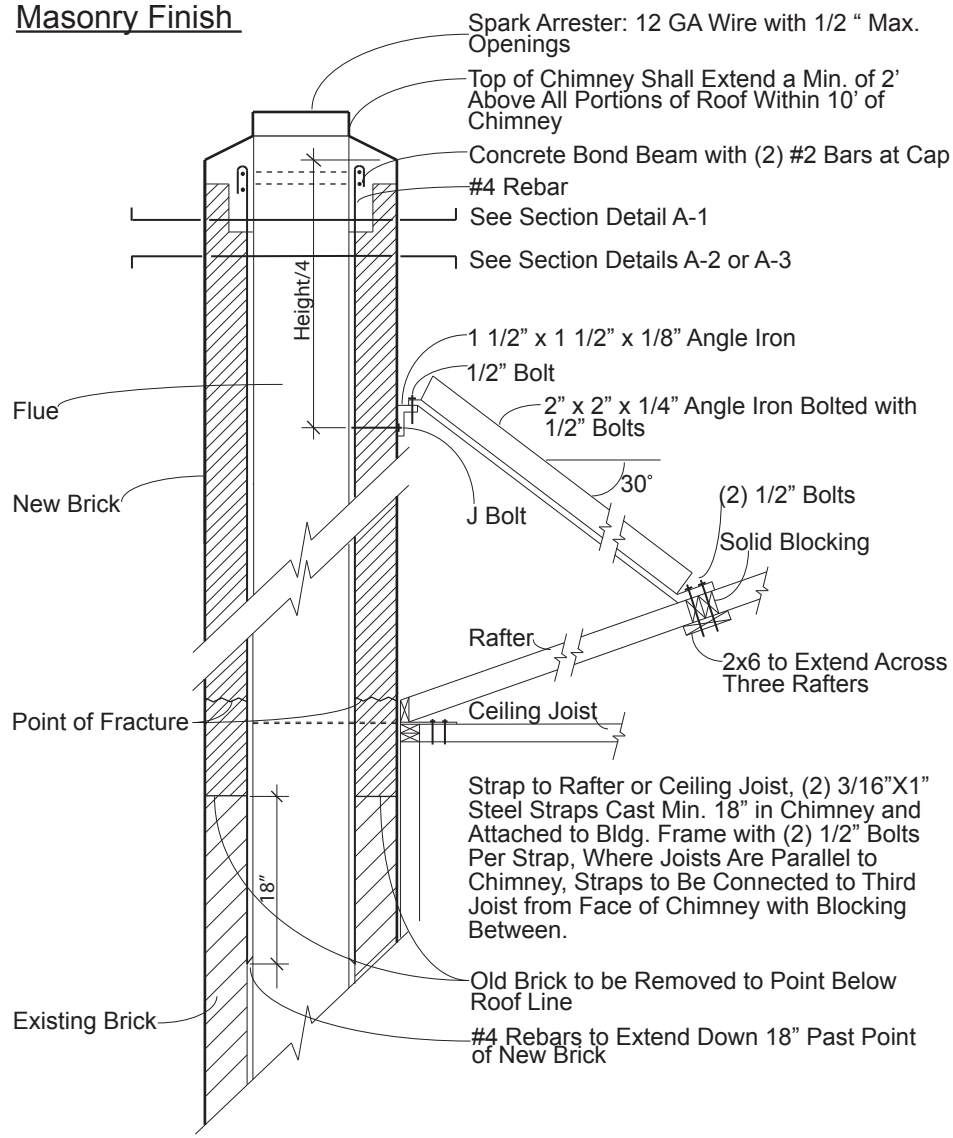
INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS

The permit holder or his agent shall notify the Building Division when the chimney is ready for each of the following inspections:

1. Concrete bond beam: When the forms and required reinforcing steel are in place but before any concrete is poured.
2. Framing: When all members including but not limited to bracing, blocking, metal chimney or flashing are in place but before any covering is in place.
3. Stucco: When the backing and lath is in place ready for stucco.
4. Final: When the chimney is complete.

CITY OF BURBANK
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
BUILDING DIVISION

Reconstruction of Unreinforced Masonry Chimney - Masonry Finish



SECTION A
Masonry Chimney Damaged Above Roof Line