

## Cement Plaster over Framed Walls

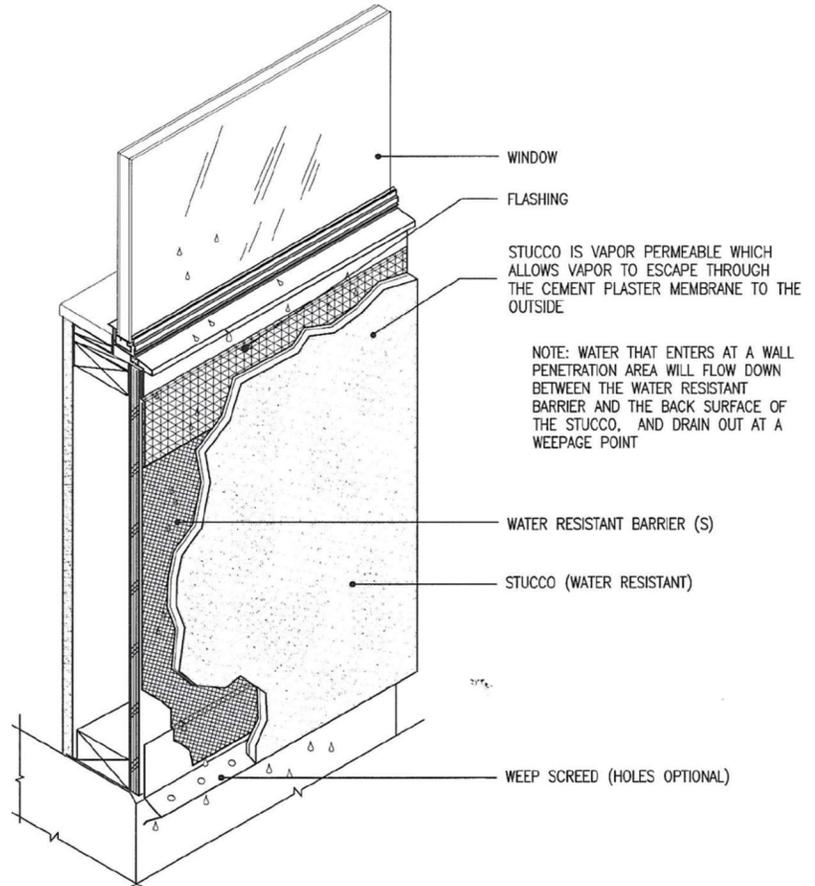
### *The Concealed Barrier Assembly*

**GENERAL:** Properly mixed and applied, cement plaster (stucco) is proven and tested to be highly water-resistant. However, good design should anticipate minor or incidental moisture can find its way behind the cement membrane. This typically occurs at penetrations and terminations points of the cement membrane. A concealed water-resistant barrier(s) and proper flashings will prevent water intrusion and direct incidental moisture down and out via a weep or drainage screed.

Flashing may be of flexible or rigid materials as shown.

**MEMBRANE:** Due to the nature of the assembly, the backside of the stucco will absorb much of the incidental moisture and allow it to escape as vapor through the plaster membrane. Water can also drain between water-resistant barrier and the back surface of the stucco, then exit at a weep or drain screed.

**AIR PRESSURE:** Unlike windows that are greatly impacted by negative wind pressures, the stucco wall is not impacted due to the air barrier qualities of the cement plaster and the gypsum wall board. Incidental moisture between the stucco and the water resistant membrane is not readily drawn into the wall cavity when shingle lapping of flashings and water-resistive barriers is properly followed. This makes sealing lath fasteners into framing members not necessary.



*Graphic courtesy of the Northwest Wall and Ceiling Bureau*