

March 28, 2011: Field Built Roof Trusses

Perhaps this entry is only for die-hard construction, diy, and home inspection nerds and geeks. Inspected a house today that was built in way back in 1972 (imagine that, before the Fonz or Vinnie Barbarino). Anyhow this home was built by the builder for himself and he lived there till last year. The house was above average construction evident in the details and well-maintained, so a pleasure to inspect.

Most interesting thing about this house was the use of field built roof trusses. The trusses over the carport were constructed of 2x4's, plywood gussets, and hand-driven 8 penny cement coated nails. After 39 years these trusses looked as good if not better than anything that rolled out of a plant. Here's a few pics:



The roof trusses were made of 2x4's connected with plywood gussets that were hand nailed.



Gussets at the ridge



Gussets at the bottom of the vertical struts in the middle of the trusses.



Bonus pic: Girder truss used to support ceiling at family room.