

For Lot Grading Type B which drains both to the street and to the rear lot line, only side-yard swales are needed. They should extend back of the line of the rear building wall; then splash blocks from rear roof downspouts should be placed to direct roof water to the side swales for drainage directly to the abutting street. Thus the amount of water carried on the rear slope to easements or other properties is kept as small as possible. This reduces erosion and disposal problems.

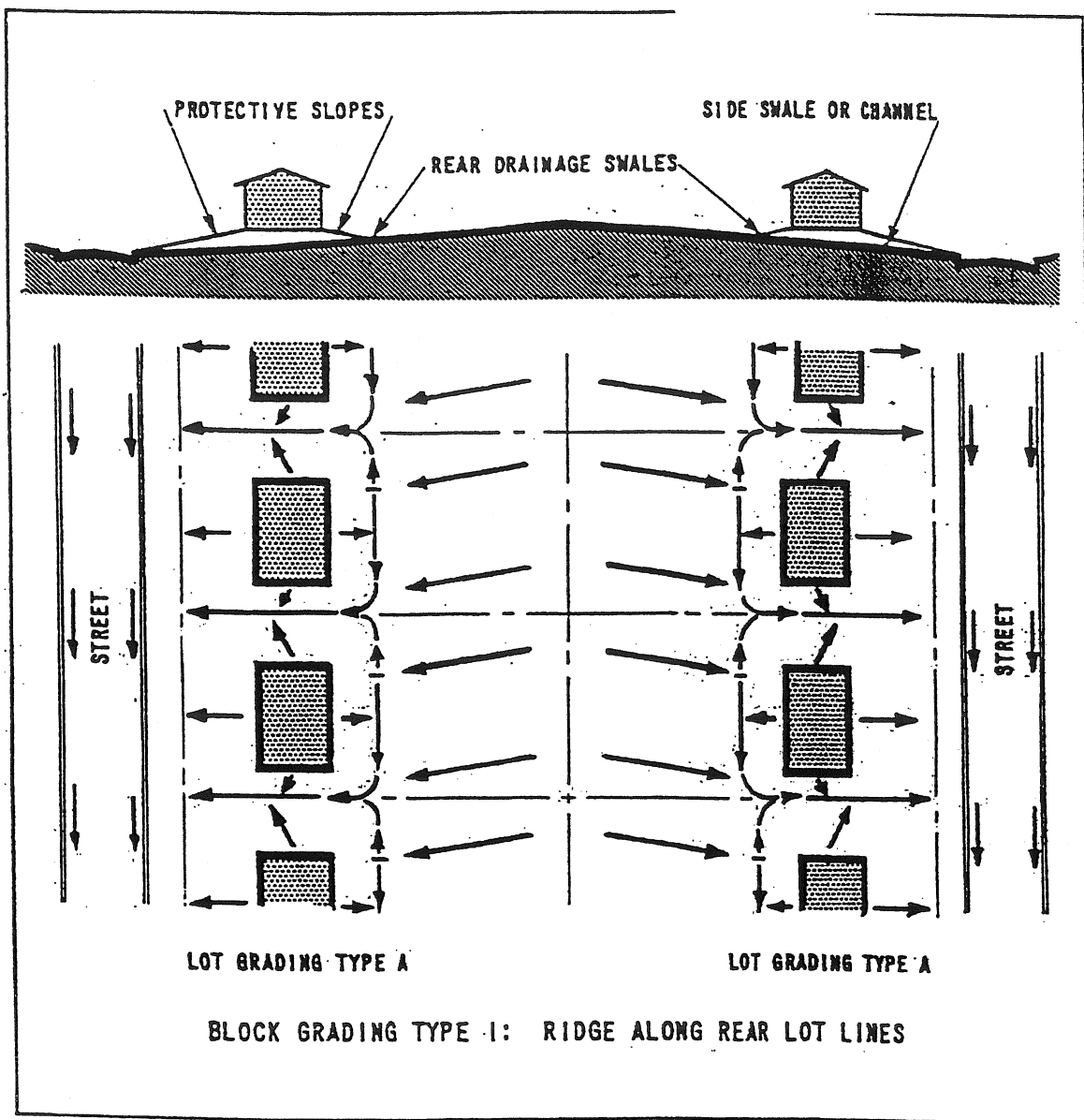
In Lot Grading Type C draining entirely to the rear lot line, front swales are essential to carry surface water from the front yard to side-

yard swales which carry it to the rear for disposal in easements or across other properties. Proper cross-section of the street gutter, curb and parkway strip are essential to stop street water from flowing onto the lot.

Easements and erosion involving Lot Types B and C are discussed above with Block Grading Types 3 and 4.

For lots with steep cross-slopes due to street gradients, similar lot grading types are used, the lot cross-slopes being taken up by walls or steep slopes along side lot lines or by changing grade levels along the front and rear house walls.

Where high slopes occur along side or rear lot



BLOCK GRADING TYPES

Block Grading Type 1 has a ridge along rear lot lines and each lot is graded to drain surface water directly to the street independent of other properties. It is the most simple and desirable type of block grading. Topography, however, will often require other block grading types.

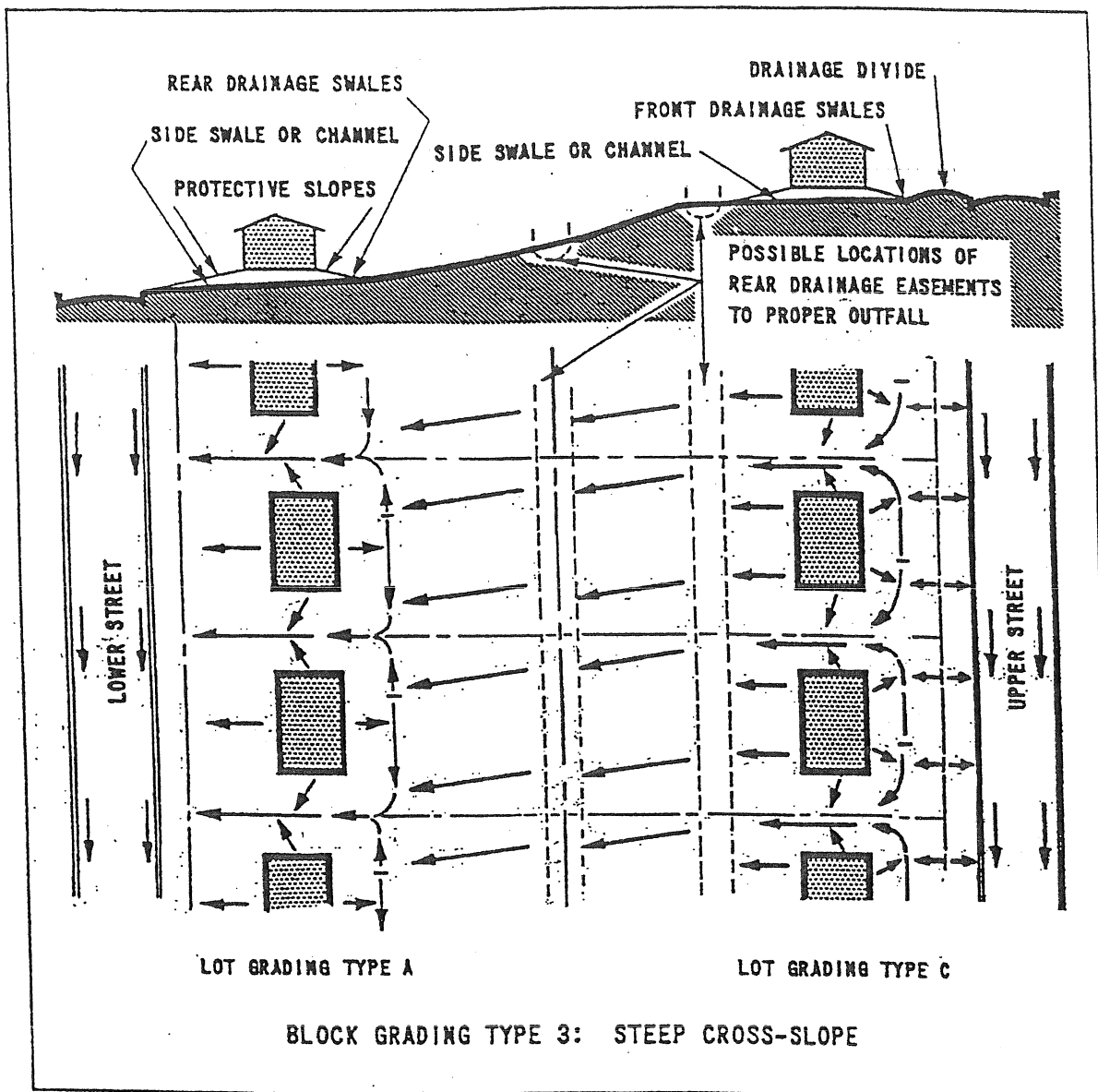
Block Grading Type 2 for a gentle cross-slope involves drainage of some surface water from lots of the high side of the block across the lower tier of lots. Difficulties are not encountered, however, if slopes are gentle and if the water always drains over short routes to the streets and does not concentrate or accumulate

in volume at any point inside the block.

Block Grading Type 3 for steep cross-slopes and Type 4 for a valley along rear lot lines require special provision for block drainage and erosion control.

Erosion is controlled by provision of intercepting drainage swales in easements at the top of the rear lot incline or at intermediate locations along it, and by treatment of the steep slope itself.

Drainage easements in Block Types 3 and 4 must have alignment, width and improvements appropriate for the expected use and maintenance. Assurance of permanent and adequate outfall is essential. The easements must be permanently

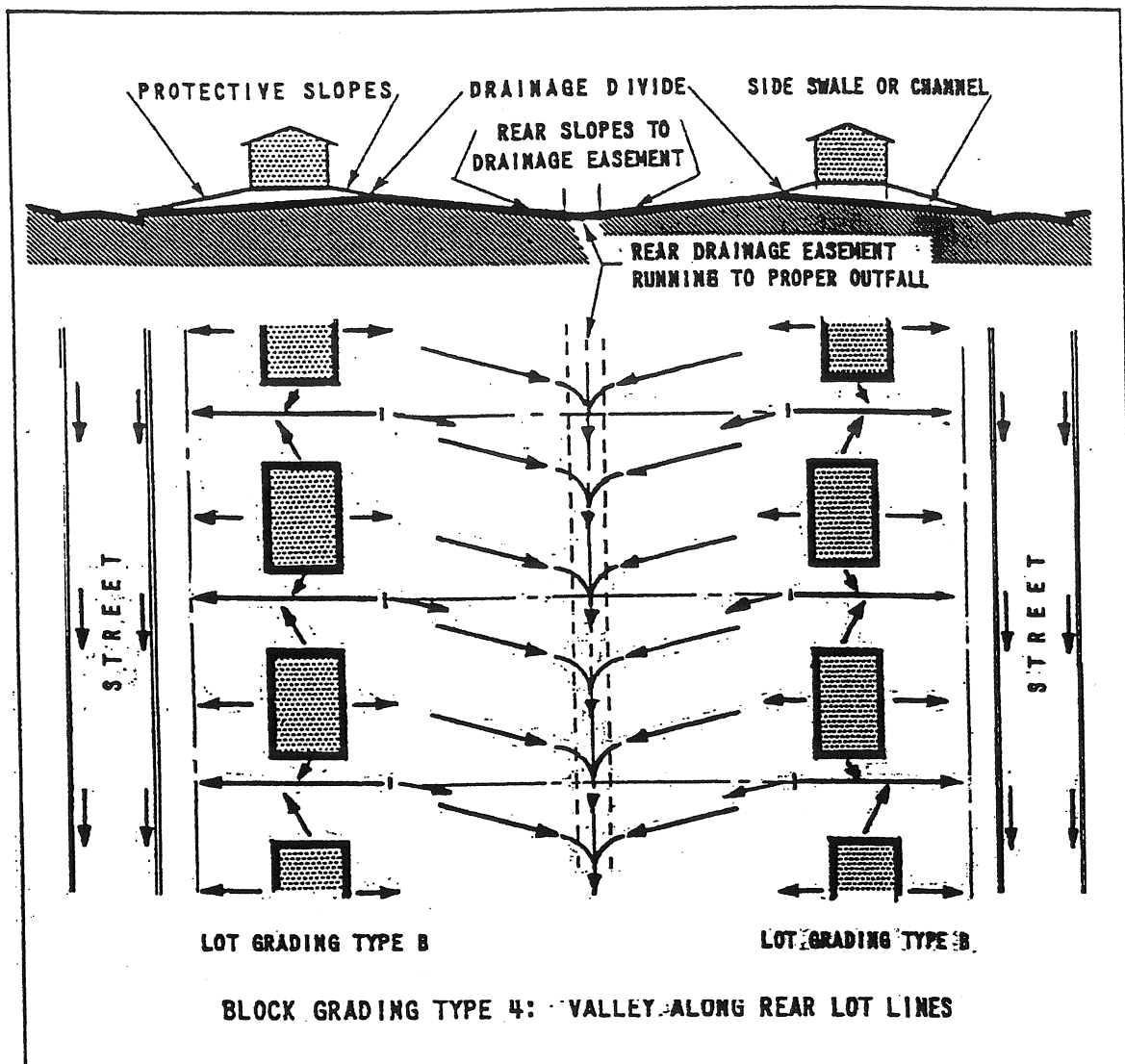


point along the house wall where the outside finish grade controls the floor elevation. In the case of no street curbs, the starting point and elevation should be the normal curb location and the street center-line elevation.

The minimum street-to-floor rise for any lot is found by adding and subtracting the required rises and permitted falls along the lot grading control line for the property. The method is illustrated by the sample computation accompanying each of the three lot grading diagrams. For actual building operations, the relationship should be figured out specifically for each lot or group of typical lots because such factors as building setback,

building depth, lot width and swale gradient may change the relationship considerably.

Minimum gradients for grass swales and other unpaved areas depend upon practical limits on precision in grading and maintaining land surfaces and upon the capacity of the ground to percolate water held back by surface texture and depressions. A gradient of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch-per-foot (2%) is a practical minimum in areas subject to ground frost. Flatter gradients are usable, however, where the supplementary ground percolation at all seasons is adequate to prevent any prolonged saturation of soil or standing water. For example, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch per foot (1%) is satisfactory on



ADJUSTMENTS TO EACH PROPERTY

After the minimum lot grading control line and minimum street-to-floor rise have been determined, they should be adjusted upward as suitable for existing topography and other conditions of each property.

For a house with a basement, check is made of elevations of drains for basement floor and any basement plumbing fixtures. For a house with a crawl space, floor elevation is checked for height of access space and drainage of interior ground (MPS 803-3). For a concrete slab house, floor elevation is checked against excessive depth of fill under the slab (MPS 808-4).

Then general lot grading is checked for feasibility and suitability.

Proposed grades at any necessary additional key points are determined, and all grades are further adjusted as needed. These additional points and adjustments cover such items as grades of walk and driveway, variation of outside finish grade along building walls, width and gradients of usable yard areas, and transition to grades of adjoining properties.

After all key elevations have been properly determined by these adjustments in the planning stage, then execution of good grading on the ground is relatively easy. Care must be taken primarily to set grade stakes correctly at key points and to build and grade to them in accordance with the practices outlined in this data sheet and in the FHA Minimum Property Standards.