

Robert H Thompson

To: clint.thomas@probuild.com; robertdedman@wilsoncountyttn.com
Subject: Homeowner experiencing major flooding - Spoke with Civil Engineer and TN State Geologist - It was recommended I share this with you and seek advice and support

Mr. Robert Dedman & Mr. Clint Thomas,

My name is Robert Thompson. I am a homeowner over in Quad Oak Valley; off Logue Road.

I spoke with a State of TN geologist today and he suggested I share my story with you and seek your advice and support. I'm writing to request your review of the situation and the opportunity to call and/or meet you to discuss how to proceed.

I purchased my home last year in July and have had quite a battle with flooding. My builder, Kevin Mosley, and I have worked to manage the problem within the bounds of the property, but last Saturday, all our efforts were proven ineffective as you can see in the videos here: <http://robertthompson.wordpress.com/>

I've reached out to a variety of people already this week and learned, after acquiring the "Grading and Drainage Plans" for the subdivision from the Road Commission offices, that my home was built in a "doline" or shallow depression. Both a civil engineer PE and the TN state geologist were surprised that this land feature was missed and that proper drainage was not provided. They indicated it was highly unlikely, but obviously not impossible that multiple engineers didn't catch it.

My communication with the Geologist including topo maps and flooding pictures are included below. Additional pictures, videos and information can be found at <http://robertthompson.wordpress.com/>

Any information you can provide would be amazing. If you read the full story on my blog (link above) you will see the year long timeline of challenges. You may also have noticed my wife is 7 months pregnant and my first child, a baby girl, will be here in about 8 weeks! I'm an engineer/MBA "fixer" who is incredibly frustrated not knowing how to make this right for my family. I DO NOT want to get into a legal battle – I want to try and give the normal professional obligations and considerations a chance to work. What are your experiences with missed or overlooked significant geological formations and the Civil Engineer / Developer / Builder / Homeowner situations?

I will follow this up with a phone call.

Thank you,
-Robert
615-290-6965
Robert.h.thompson@gmail.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Ron Clendening** <Ron.Clendening@tn.gov>

Date: Thu, Oct 1, 2009 at 10:31 AM

Subject: Re: Found you while researching sink hole _ Homeowner experiencing major flooding searching for expe

To: "Thompson, Robert" <robert.h.thompson@gmail.com>

Robert,
I hope our phone conversation was of some assistance to you.

As I mentioned, your current course of action (speaking w/ the Co. Engr. and the subdivision design engr.) seems to me to be the best way to start the resolution process.

And, also it would be advisable to send this same information to your County govt. representative (whatever their title is in Wilson Co) and the County Mayor (Executive). These folks should also be in the loop to help facilitate getting you the help you need.

Please feel free to give me a call or send me an email should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,
Ron

Ron Clendening, P.G.
Geologist
Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
Division of Geology
13th Floor, L & C Tower
401 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37243

Phone: 615-532-1508
Fax: 615-532-1517
email: ron.clendening@tn.gov

<http://www.state.tn.us/environment/tdg/>

From: Robert Thompson [mailto:robert.h.thompson@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2009 12:11 AM
To: 'ask.geology@tn.gov'; 'Ronald.Zurawski@tn.gov'; 'Mike.Hoyal@tn.gov'
Subject: Found you while researching sink hole _ Homeowner experiencing major flooding searching for expert advice

TN Geologists,

I was excited to find you while Googling "Tennessee sink hole". I found and read this:

Public Information Series: Subsidence and Sinkholes in East Tennessee

"Limestone or dolomite bedrock creates the potential for both sinkhole and doline formation. The primary threat from dolines comes from flooding and ponding, particularly when they are so wide and shallow that people have tried to build within them."

I could only shake my head when I saw figure 9: Typical karstic landforms" The wooded area behind my home and my back yard looks very much like the left part of the figure.

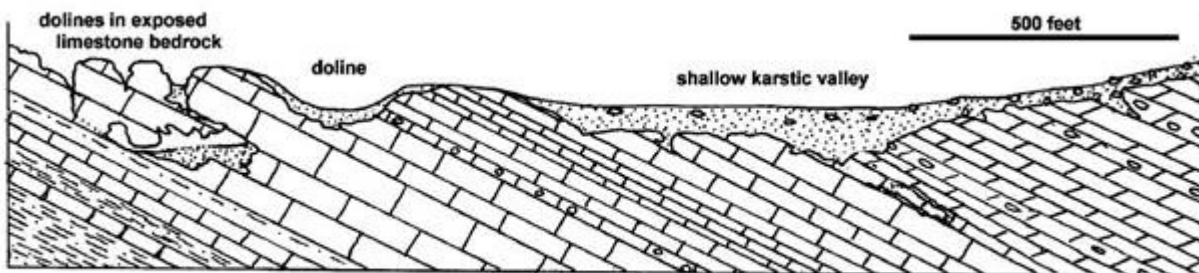
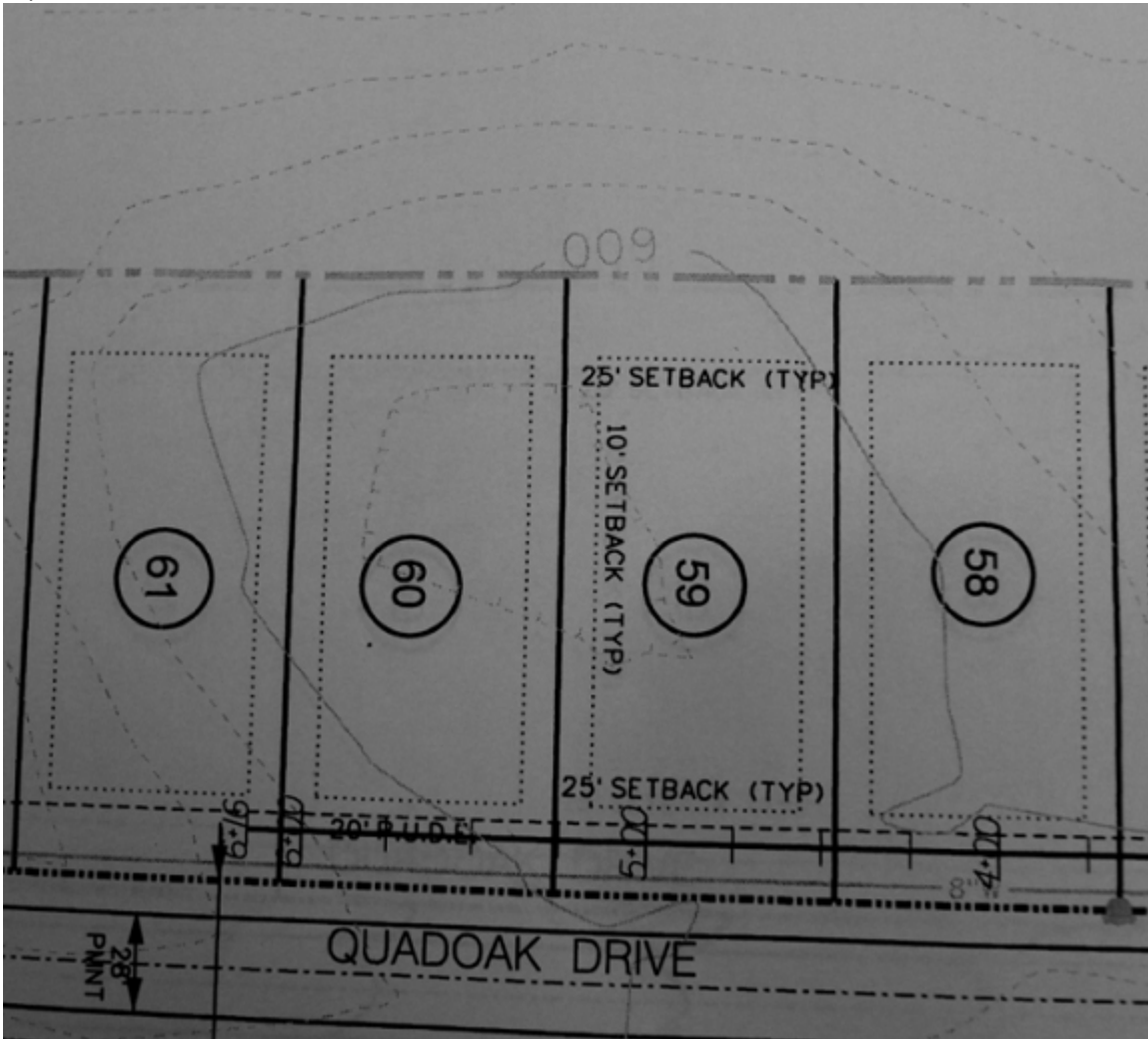


FIGURE 9. Typical karstic landforms in East Tennessee.

I am a homeowner experiencing repeated property flooding. I am searching for professional advice on potential severity, safety concerns, and how and who a person should contact to seek resolution.

A picture is worth a thousand words so I'll start with this.





My home is on lot 60. For the entire time I've owned my home (purchased new July 2008) I've experienced various degrees of flooding. See videos and the (humorous now looking back) steps taken so far:

<http://robertthompson.wordpress.com/2009/09/29/lot-60-277-quad-oak-persistent-flooding-part-1/>

Can you help me understand the topo lines. Is my (and my neighbor's) home built over a doline?

I obtained a copy of the “grading and drainage” plan from the Wilson County Road Commission and Storm Water office today. Someone told me a special geological study should have been performed for building to be allowed on a depression/doline. I can find no evidence of such a study. Could I contact the original engineers on the project “Rob Porter, Civil Site Design Group” to find out? Who would you approach to seek drainage correction and confirmation of safety of the site?

Any information you can provide would be amazing. If you read the full story on my blog (link above) you will see the year long timeline of challenges. You may also have noticed my wife is 7 months pregnant and my first child, a baby girl, will be here in about 8 weeks! I’m an engineer/MBA “fixer” who is incredibly frustrated not knowing how to make this right for my family. I DO NOT want to get into a legal battle – I want to try and give the normal professional obligations and considerations a chance to work. What are your experiences with missed or overlooked significant geological formations and the Civil Engineer / Developer / Builder / Homeowner situations?

I’ll follow up with a phone call or hope to hear from you.

Thank you!

-Robert Thompson

615-290-6965

Robert.h.thompson@gmail.com

Robert Thompson 615-290-6965

Lot 60, 277 Quad Oak Drive, Mt Juliet, TN 37122

Parcel ID: 100H A 01800 00024100H

Photos/Videos at: <http://robertthompson.wordpress.com/>

Map: [http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=37122&sll=37.0625,-](http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=37122&sll=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=92.902743,179.121094&ie=UTF8&ll=36.139742,-86.472981&sfn=0.001538,0.002733&t=h&z=19)

[95.677068&sspn=92.902743,179.121094&ie=UTF8&ll=36.139742,-86.472981&sfn=0.001538,0.002733&t=h&z=19](http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=37122&sll=37.0625,-95.677068&sspn=92.902743,179.121094&ie=UTF8&ll=36.139742,-86.472981&sfn=0.001538,0.002733&t=h&z=19)