bone inferonasally (meeting at the zygomaticomaxillary suture). Medially, the orbital rim consists of the maxillary and lacrimal bones, which join the frontal bone superiorly. An additional 3 bones contribute to the orbit: (1) the ethmoidal bone medially, (2) the palatine bone inferiorly in the posterior orbit, and (3) the sphenoid bone laterally and superiorly in the orbital apex.

The orbit is surrounded by several important structures. The 4 paranasal sinuses surround the floor (maxillary sinus) and the medial wall (ethmoidal and sphenoid sinuses) of the orbit (Fig 1-4). The frontal sinus has a variable relationship to the anterior orbital roof. The other major structures around the orbit are the anterior cranial fossa (containing the frontal lobe) and the temporal fossa laterally (containing the temporalis muscle). The roof of the ethmoidal complex, delineated by the frontal ethmoidal suture (top of the ethmoidal bone, or lamina papyracea), marks the inferior boundary of the anterior cranial fossa. It is important to realize that surgical intervention above this anatomical...
landmark—as occurs, for example, during endoscopic sinus surgery—can result in entry into the anterior cranial fossa or a cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak.

The sphenoid sinus forms the medial wall of the optic canal (Fig 1-5). Surgery within the sphenoid sinus has the potential to damage the optic nerve; alternatively, the sphenoid sinus is a surgical route facilitating decompression of the optic chiasm. In approximately