Foundations

The tasks:

- choose the right types of the foundations
- plan the rhythm of the works
- choose the most economical method for the works

What is the foundation ?







- **Definition 1:** Foundation: The structure, that transmits the load of the building to the soil
- Definition 2: Load bearing soil (strata): The soil layer, that has the sufficient load bearing capacity in relation to the chosen foundation type
- The primary design concerns are settlement

(total settlement and differential settlement) and load bearing capacity.

What is the foundation ?



Choosing a kind of foundation depends on:

- the ground conditions
- the groundwater conditions
- the site, the environment (the buildings nearby)
- the structure of our building

Requirements:

- structural requirements: safe, be able to carry the load of the building
- constructional requirements: schedule, minimal resources, minimal cost

The ground conditions

Triangular Chart ~ this provides a general classification of soils composed predominantly from clay, sand and silt. Each side of the triangle represents a percentage of material component. Following laboratory analysis, a sample's properties can be graphically plotted on the chart and classed accordingly.

e.g. Sand - 70%. Clay - 10% and Silt - 20% = Sandy Loam.

Note:

Silt is very fine particles of sand, easily suspended in water. Loam is very fine particles of clay, easily dissolved in water.





The ground conditions

Bore Hole Data ~ the information obtained from trial pits or bore holes can be recorded on a pro forma sheet or on a drawing showing the position and data from each trial pit or bore hole thus:-





Bore holes can be taken on a 15.000 to 20.000 grid covering the whole site or in isolated positions relevant to the proposed foundation(s)

As a general guide the cost of site and soil investigations should not exceed 1% of estimated project costs

The ground conditions

Soil Assessment ~ prior to designing the foundations for a building or structure the properties of the subsoil(s) must be assessed. These processes can also be carried out to confirm the suitability of the proposed foundations. Soil assessment can include classification, grading, tests to establish shear strength and consolidation. The full range of methods for testing soils is given in BS 1377: Methods of test for soils for civil engineering purposes.

Classification ~ soils may be classified in many ways such as geological origin, physical properties, chemical composition and particle size. It has been found that the particle size and physical properties of a soil are closely linked and are therefore of particular importance and interest to a designer.

Particle Size Distribution ~ this is the percentages of the various particle sizes present in a soil sample as determined by sieving or sedimentation. BS 1377 divides particle sizes into groups as follows:-

Gravel particles – over 2mm Sand particles – between 2mm and 0.06mm Silt particles – between 0.06mm and 0.002mm Clay particles – less than 0.002mm The sand and silt classifications can be further divided thus:-

CLAY		SILT			SAND	GRAVEL				
	fine	medium	coarse	fine	medium	coarse				
0.002	0.006	0.02	0.06	0.2	0.6	2				

The results of a sieve analysis can be plotted as a grading curve thus:-



The specialities:

- it is expensive and difficult to repair
- usually it is constructed under the ground, so it is out of sight
- a bad/ misapplied foundation could demolish the building

The mistakes:

- construction technology mistakes
- bad or not proper deep digging (always necessary!!!)
- planning mistakes: the type of foundation is inadequate for the ground layers / for the building

Typical Examples~



Trees ~ damage to foundations. Substructural damage to buildings trees can occur with direct physical contact by tree roots. More common is the indirect effect of moisture shrinkage or heave, particularly apparent in clay subsoils.

Shrinkage is most evident in long periods of dry weather, compounded by moisture abstraction from vegetation. Notably broad leaved trees such as oak, elm and poplar in addition to the thirsty willow species. Heave is the opposite. It occurs during wet weather and is compounded by previous removal of moisture-dependent trees that would otherwise effect some drainage and balance to subsoil conditions.







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H = Mature height of tree D = Distance to centre of tree

D/H - Distance from tree/Height of tree

Tree species	0.10	0.25	0.33	0.50	0.66	0.75	1.00
Oak, elm, poplar and willow	3.00	2.80	2.60	2.30	2.10	1.90	1.50
All others	2.80	2.40	2.10	1.80	1.50	1.20	1.00

Minimum foundation depth (m)

The damage from the dynamic effects

If the buildings are too close from the roads they can be damaged.

Tasks

We have to plan "strong" reinforced concrete foundations

Soild walls, with reinforced pillars and ceilings

The example for the damaged house

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The shape of the house before the transportation



The shape of the house after the transportation





Underpinning to Walls ~ to prevent fracture, damage or settlement of the wall(s) being underpinned the work should always be carried out in short lengths called legs or bays. The length of these bays will depend upon the following factors:-

- 1. Total length of wall to be underpinned.
- 2. Wall loading.
- 3. General state of repair and stability of wall and foundation to be underpinned.
- 4. Nature of subsoil beneath existing foundation.
- 5. Estimated spanning ability of existing foundation.

Typical Underpinning Schedule ~





UNDERPINNING BAY ~ TYPICAL SECTION



• Spread (shallow) foundations

• Transitional (semi-deep) foundations

well foundation caison

foundation framework cofferdam

• Deep foundations

• Spread (shallow) foundations

When is it applicable?

- The load-bearing layer is near to bottom floor level
- The loads of the building are light-medium

Types

- Strip foundations
- Pad foundations Bucket foundations
- Beam foundations
- Mat (slab) foundations

• Strip foundations

Steel reinforcement is required when footing projects more than half of foundation wall thickness and becomes subject to bending.

• Strip foundations

CONSTRUCTIONS

- We have to use special accessories to place the steel. http://www.reinforcing.com.au/our-products/accessories
- We can plane a floor slab from concrete
- The question is: what is the large of the workplace?

Prefabricated reinforced concrete

Strip foundations - construction

Pad foundations - construction

Partly in-situ and prefabricated pad (bucket) foundation

Prefab r.c.

Preparation of the building area

The organization of the site

Typical Example ~

NB. temporary site services omitted for clarity.

Preparation of the building area

NB. Corners of walls transferred from intersecting cord lines to mortar spots on concrete foundations using a spirit level

Pad foundations - construction

Pad foundations - construction

When is it necessary?

- The load-bearing layer is in deeper location
- The loads of the building are too heavy
- Other special cases

Types

- Piles
- Slurry wall
- Other

Material: wood, steel, concrete, reinforced concrete

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Geometry:
length>5D, D>60 cm (large-diameter),
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D<30 cm (Micro-pile)
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Direction: vertical or leaning

Construction: prefabricated or cast-in-place

Piles

Precast piles

Cast-in-place piles

- Shell-type or shell-less type
- Many different technologies

Constructing the foundation

- 0. alignment (define the position of the foundation)
- 1. creating a test-pile
- 2. checking the load-bearing capacity (endurance test)
- 3. making the piles
- 4. removing the top of the piles
- 5. constructing the pile caps
- 6. connecting the pile caps with RC beams if necessary

CFA - constuction

Pictures and videos

Soil-Mec technology

- Boring until planned depth (using a guiding tube)
- Using bentonite mud (slurry) under the groundwater level
- Placing reinforcement
- Placing the concrete and removing the guiding tube

Franki technology

(bulb pile or compacted concrete pile)

- Filling concrete in a steel pipe (creating a plug)
- Pushing down the pipe using a heavy drop hammer
- Fastening the pipe and creating the foot
- Placing the concrete and compacting while removing the pipe (reinforcing)

Creating panels (w:40-120 cm, 1: 8-10 m)

- Creating the guiding walls
- Excavating the soil from the trench and piping in bentonite slurry (placing end pipes)
- Placing the reinforcement
- Placing concrete (by tremie method) displacing slurry (can be reused)

What is bentonite slurry?

 A mixture of bentonite and water (a dense fluid)

 Produces a positive static pressure on the walls of the trench avoiding soil and water to enter the trench (supporting the surface of the soil)

Piped in while
 excavating the trench,
 piped out while placing
 the concrete

 Can be reused after filtering (removing soil particles)

Placing the concrete (underwater concreting)

- Using concrete pipe
- Start filling in the concrete at the bottom
- Pulling out the concrete pipe with the speed of filling in the concrete so that the end of the pipe is constantly under the level of the concrete
- x=60 cm
- (meantime piping out the slurry)

Excavation

Using clamshell buckets

Hydrofraise technology

Tie-back

- Anchorage to brace against earth and water pressure
- Steel and concrete ties

