



AIA Philadelphia

A Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

Underpinning 101

A Down & Dirty Overview

John Davis, PE

Denise Richards, PE

April 25, 2016



Credit(s) earned on completion of this course will be reported to **AIA CES** for AIA members. Certificates of Completion for both AIA members and non-AIA members are available upon request.

CES for continuing professional education. As such, it does not include content that may be deemed or construed to be an approval or endorsement by the AIA of any material of construction or any method or manner of handling, using, distributing, or dealing in any material or product.

Questions related to specific materials, methods, and services will be addressed at the conclusion of this presentation.

This course is registered with **AIA**

Learning Objectives

- Learn the basic principles of underpinning.
- Understand the proper techniques of “approach pit” underpinning for wall foundations.
- Understand how not to do approach pit underpinning.
- Review techniques for individual spread footing underpinning.
- Review alternative underpinning/foundation modification techniques.



Without a solid foundation...



London, 2014



Toronto, 2014

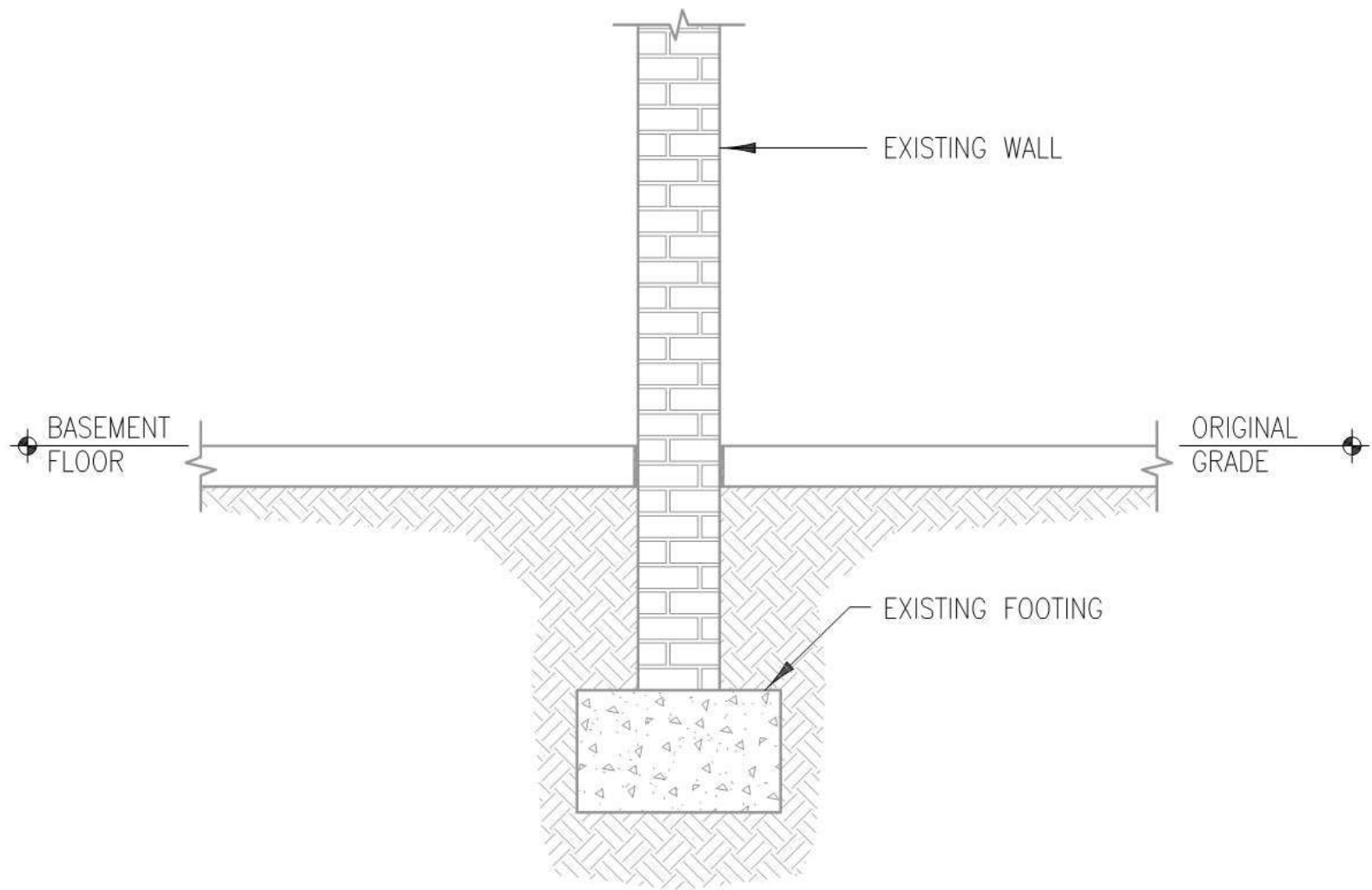


Toronto, 2014

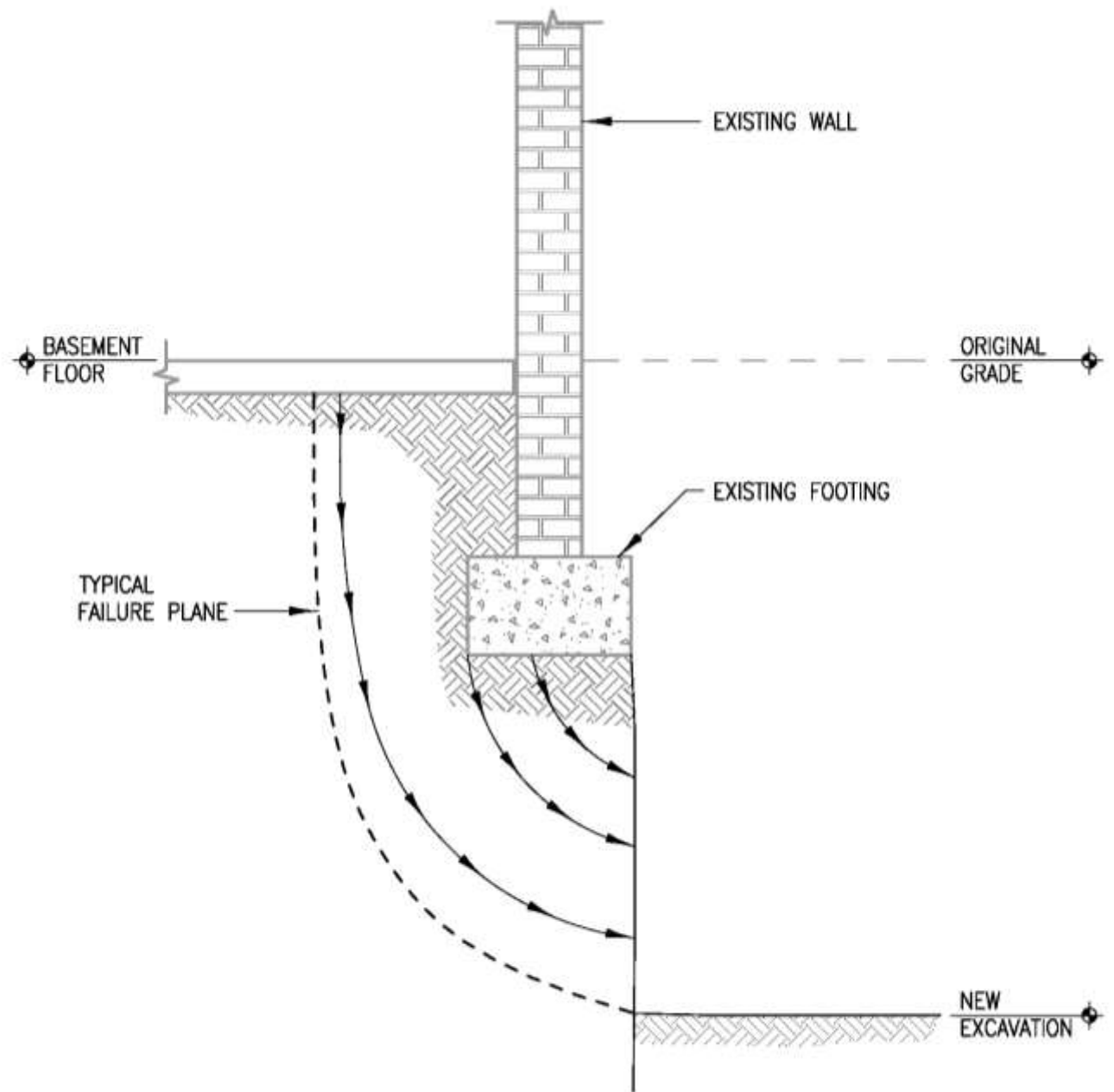
On a Larger Scale...



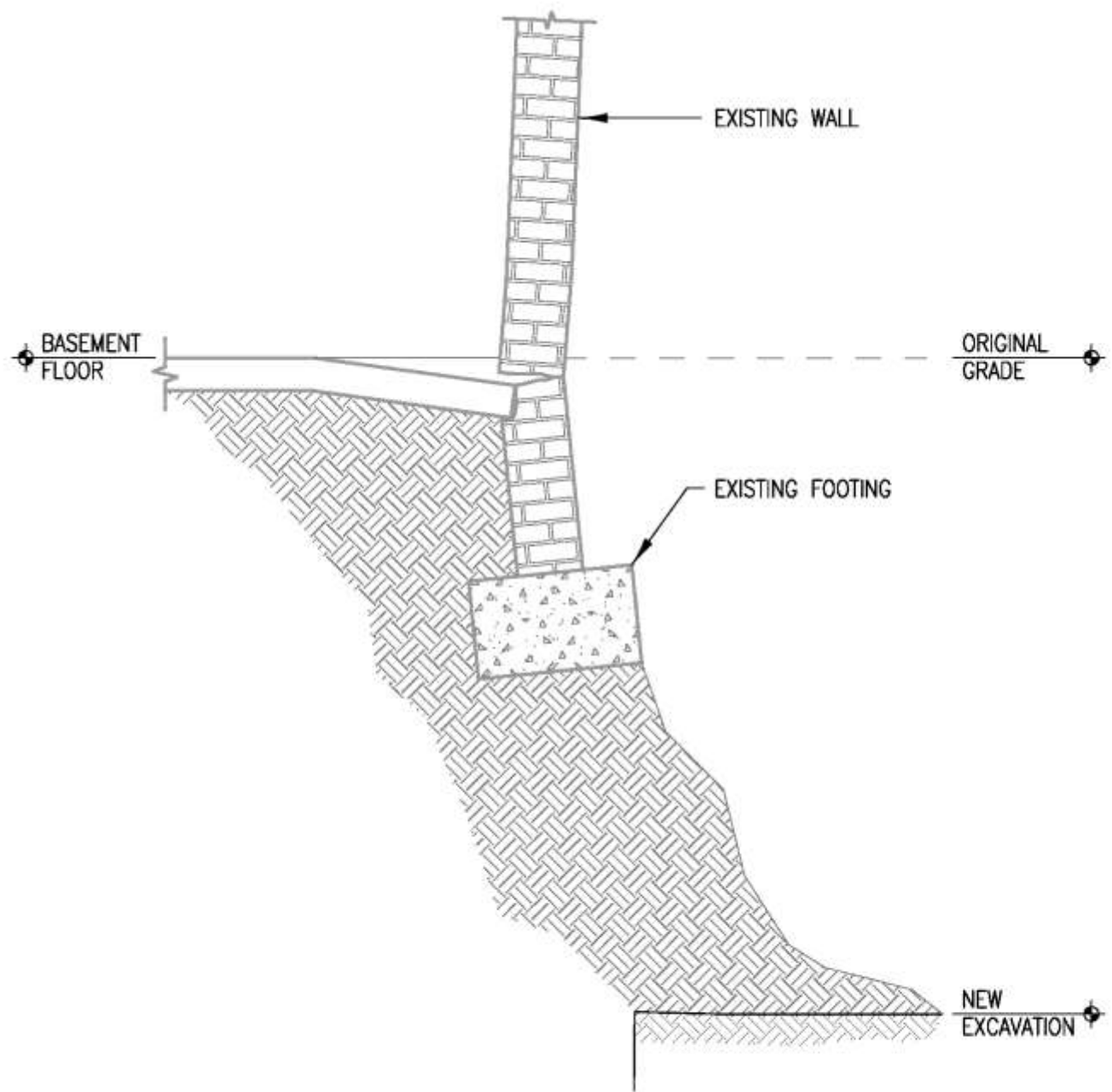
Minard Hall,
North Dakota State, 2009



INITIAL CONFIGURATION



IMMEDIATELY AFTER EXCAVATION



SUBSEQUENT COLLAPSED CONDITION

un·der·pin·ning [uhn-der-pin-ing] –
verb (used with object)

1. the introduction of additional support to the foundation of a structure to deepen or increase its bearing value.
 - a. if done because the foundation is inadequate, it is called remedial underpinning.
 - b. if done to deepen a foundation to enable adjacent, lower construction, it is called precautionary underpinning.¹

1. Edward E. White (1913-1988), Spencer White and Prentis, Inc.

In the Code



2012 IBC Section 1804.1 - Excavations for any purpose shall not remove lateral support from any footing or foundation without first underpinning or protecting the footing or foundation against settlement or lateral translation.

Historic Building Foundations

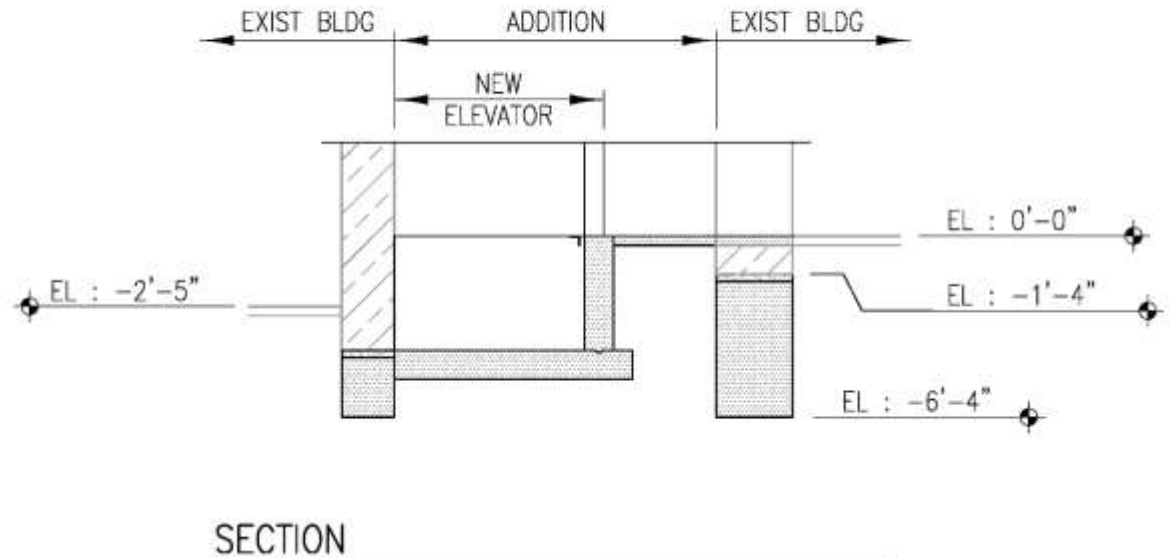


- Prevalent in Philadelphia housing
- Rubble stone foundations without footings
- If exposed or undermined, more susceptible to instability or sudden failure

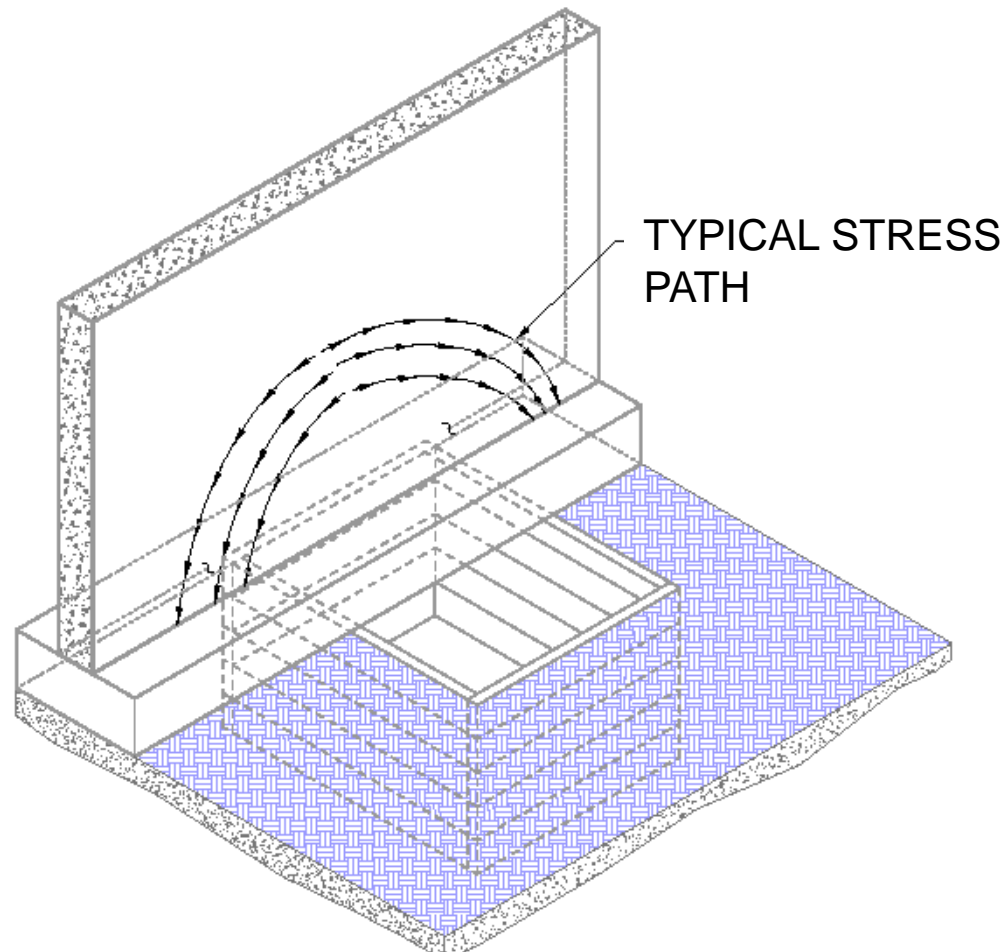
Most Common Type of Precautionary Underpinning

“Approach Pit”:

underpinning in order to lower the foundation bearing level to enable adjacent lower construction.

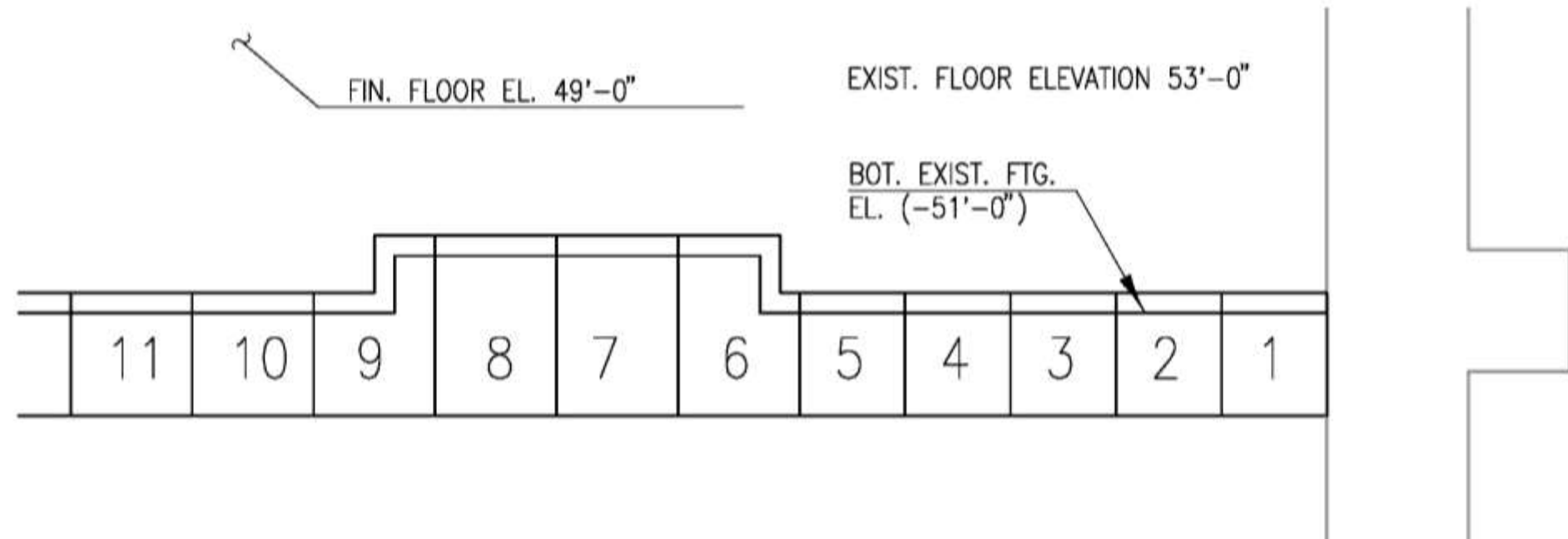


Theory of Approach Pit Underpinning

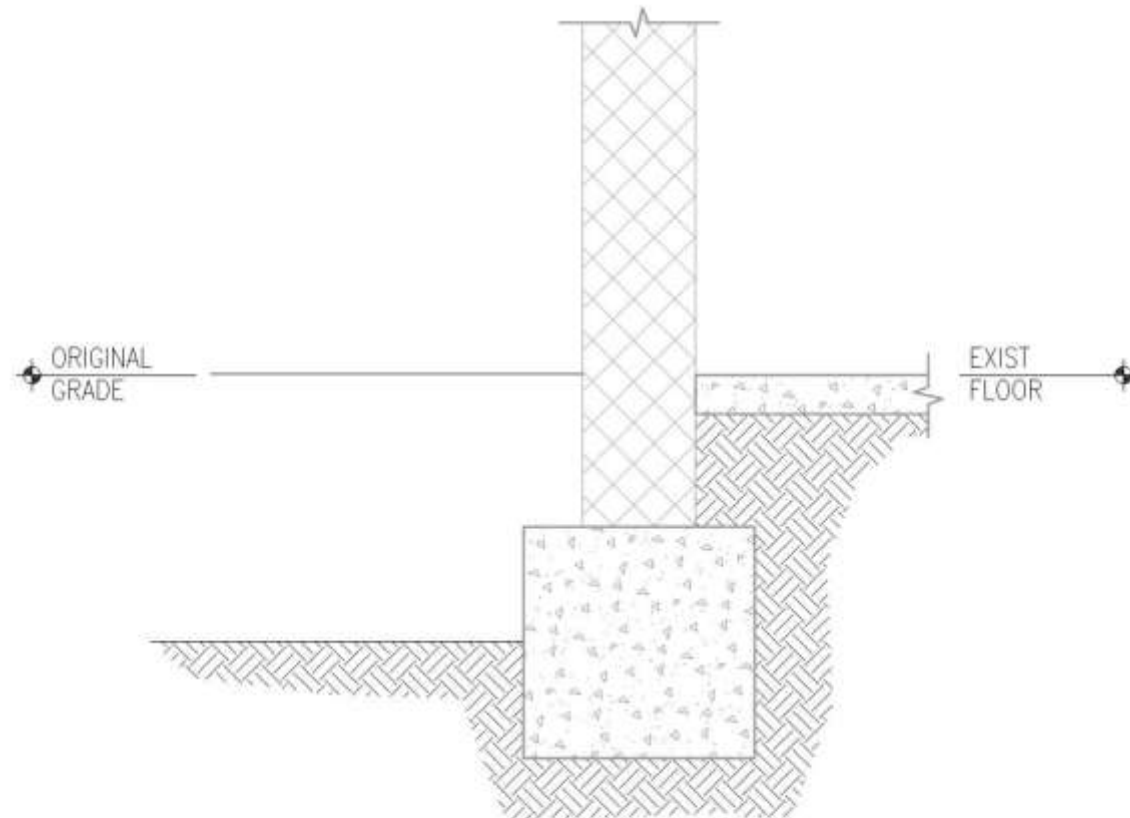


ARCHING OF WALL OVER APPROACH PIT

1. Plan the sequence

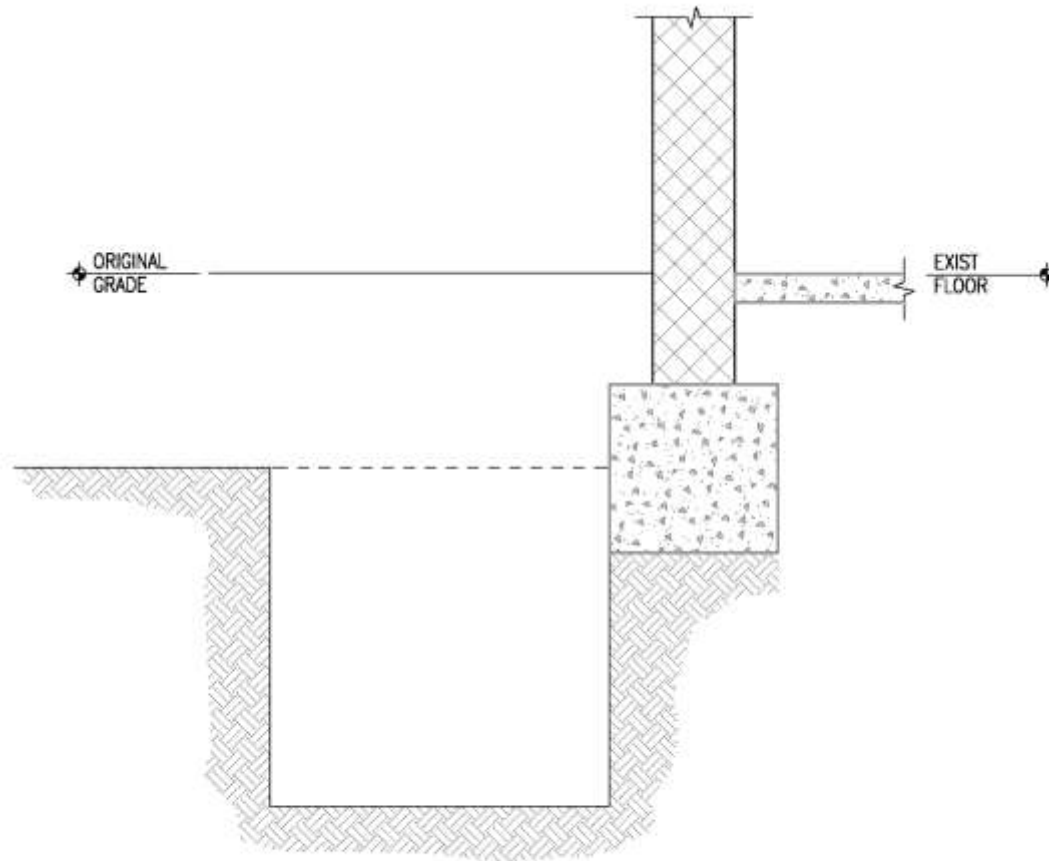


2. Initial Excavation



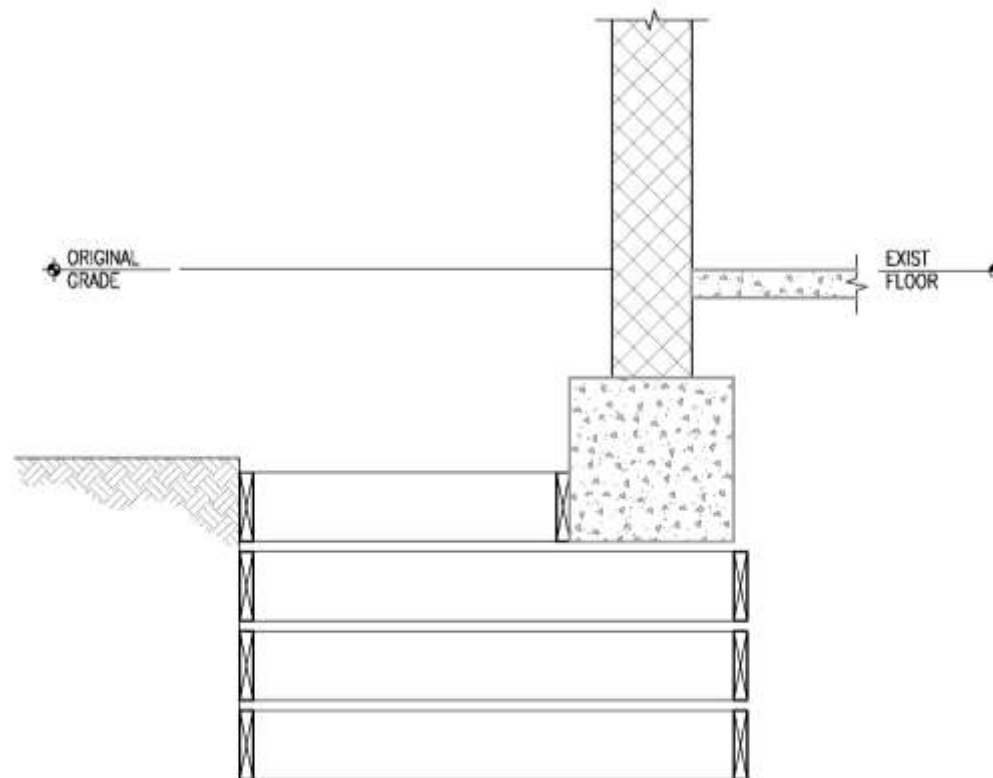
STEP 1: LOCALLY EXCAVATE FOR
APPROACH PIT

3. Start “Approach Pit”



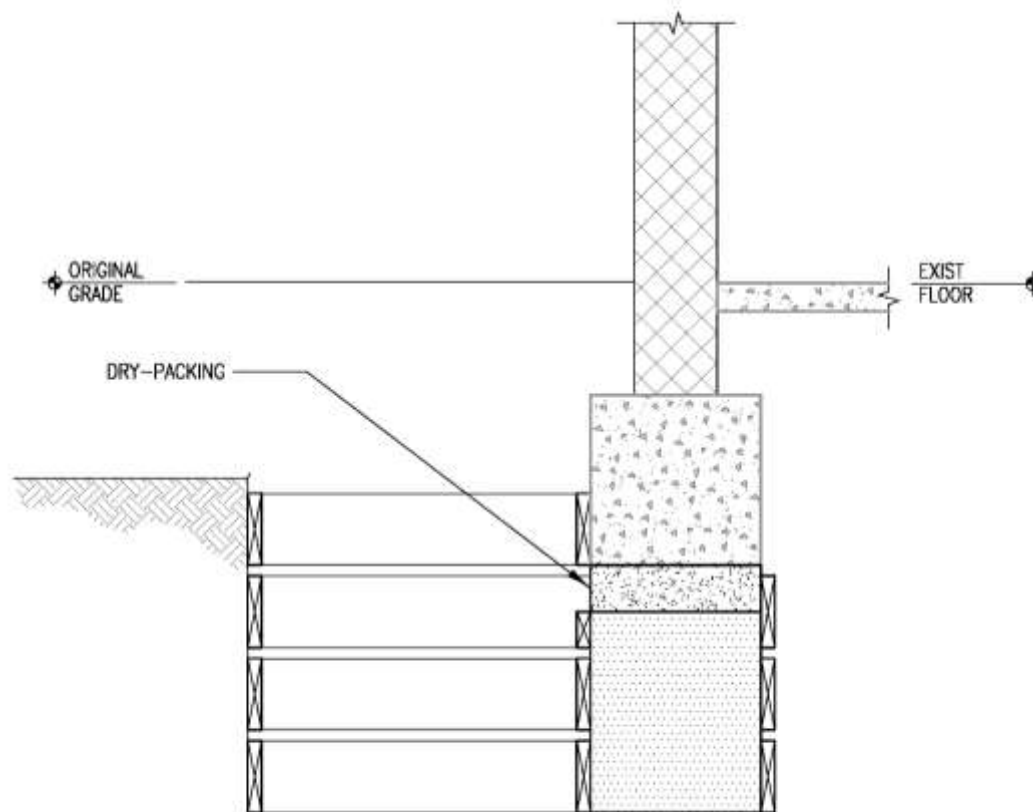
STEP 2: LOCALLY EXCAVATE
APPROACH PIT w/o LAGGING

4. Install Lagging and Extend Shaft Under Footing

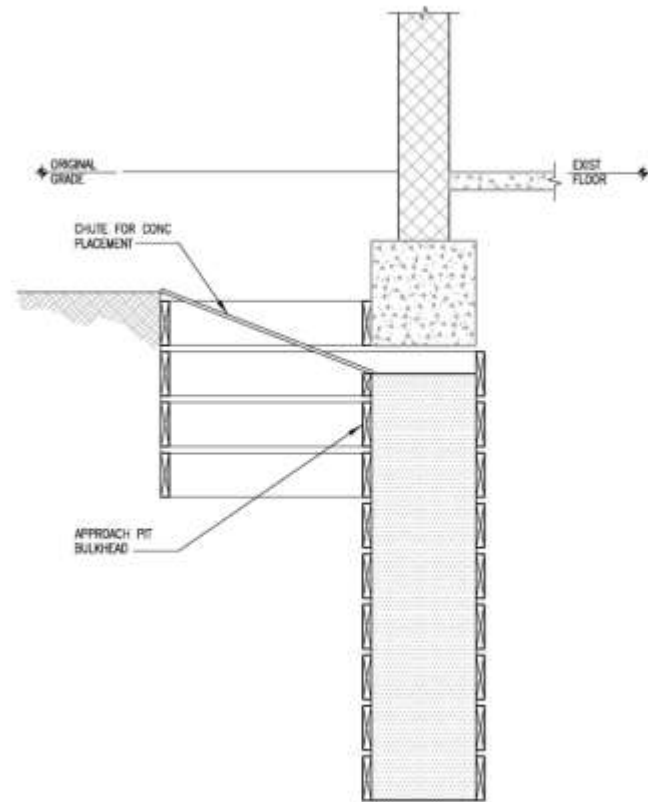
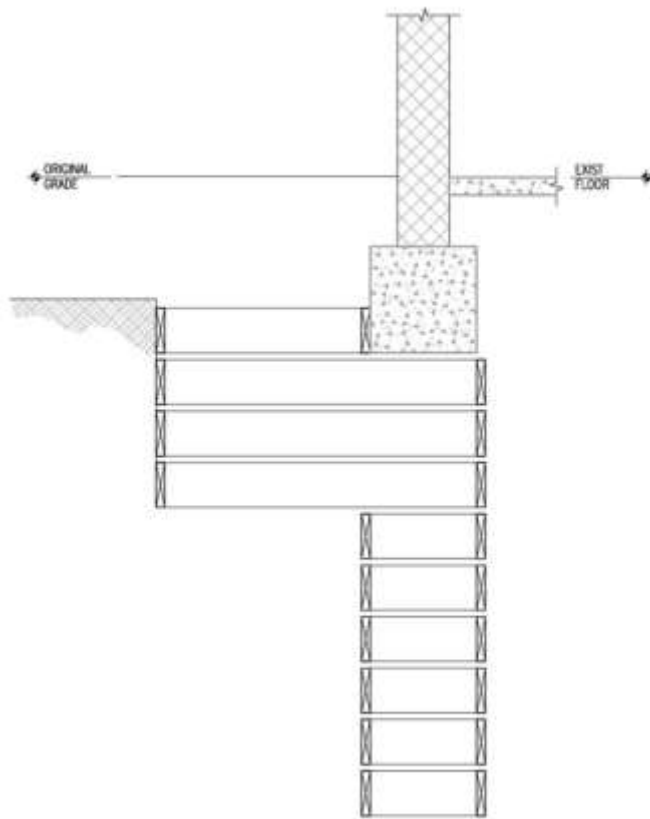


STEP 2: LOCALLY EXCAVATE
APPROACH PIT WITH LAGGING

5. Place Concrete and Drypack

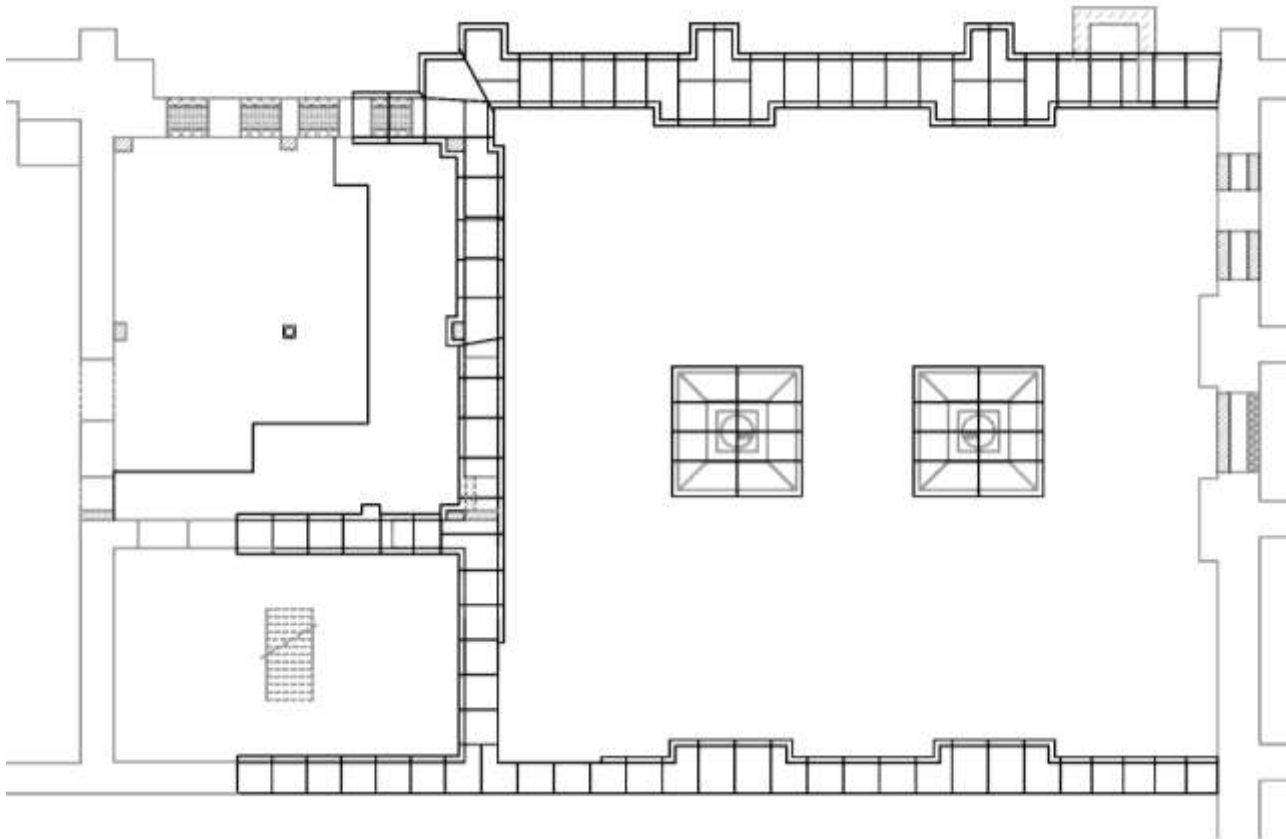


5a. Or Extend Shaft to Depth Needed Then Place and Drypack





Underpinning Plan

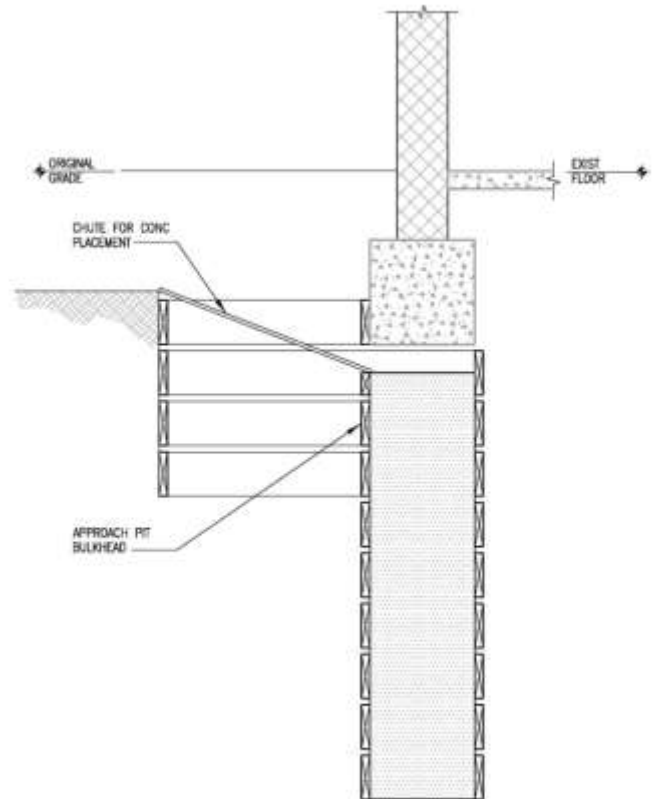
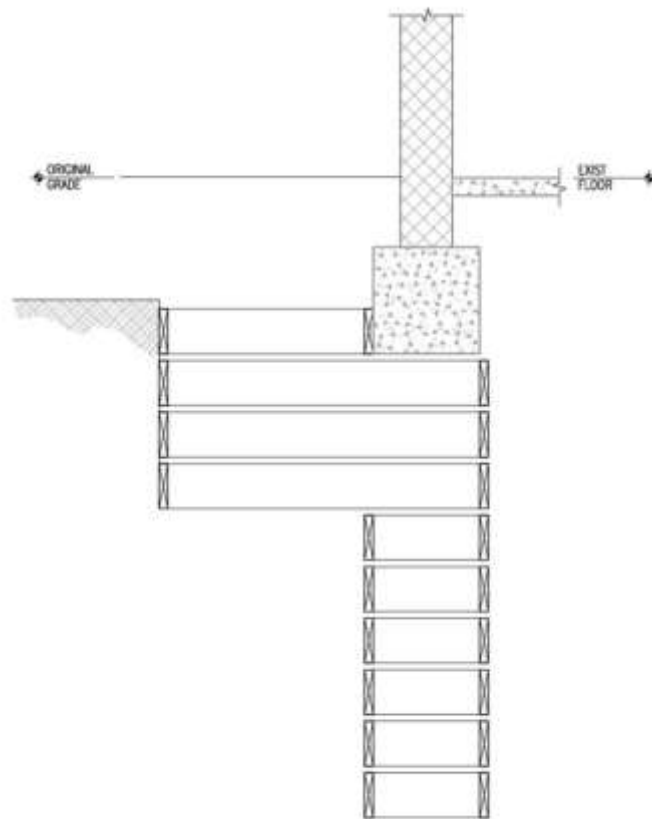


















12 8'95





15TH STREET

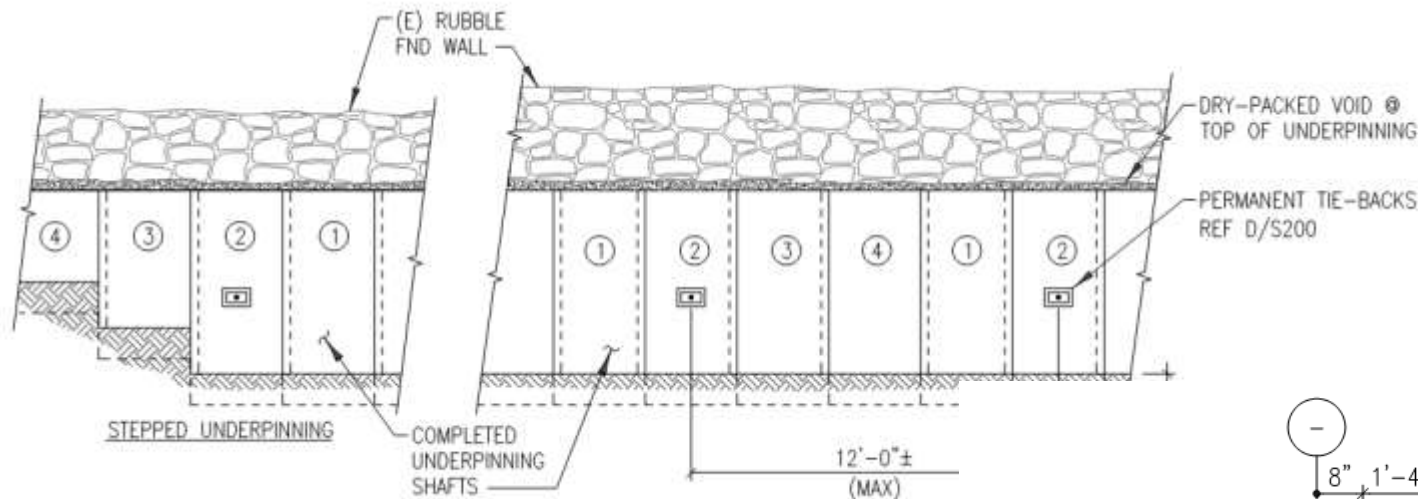
NORRIS

United Rentals

NATIONAL
PORTABLE TOILETS

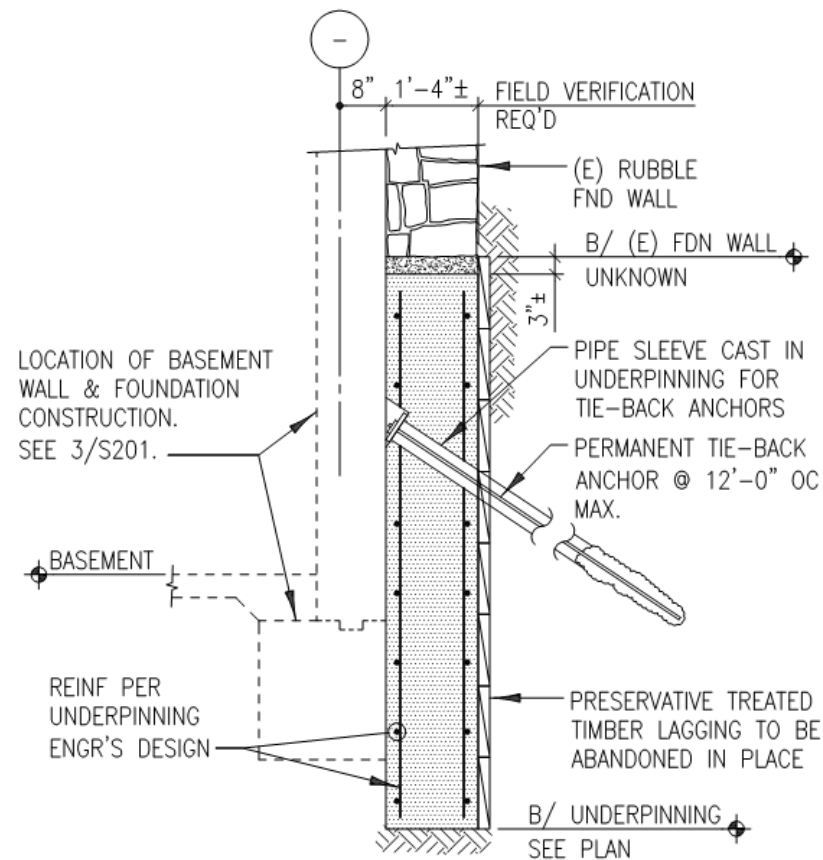
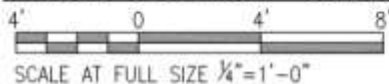
ICE LIFT
United Rentals



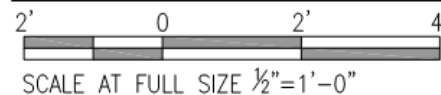


WHERE UNDERPINNING SHAFT ELEVATIONS STEP THE SHAFT @ THE LOWEST ELEVATION SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED FIRST. SUBSEQUENT SHAFTS SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED IN THE SEQUENTIAL ORDER OF UPWARD STEPPING BEARING ELEVATIONS WITHOUT SKIPPING SHAFTS TO AVOID UNDERMINING PREVIOUSLY CONSTRUCTED SHAFT.

TYPICAL ELEVATION - COMPLETED UNDERPINNING



SECTION - EXISTING FOOTING UNDERPINNING



Exceptions to the Rule









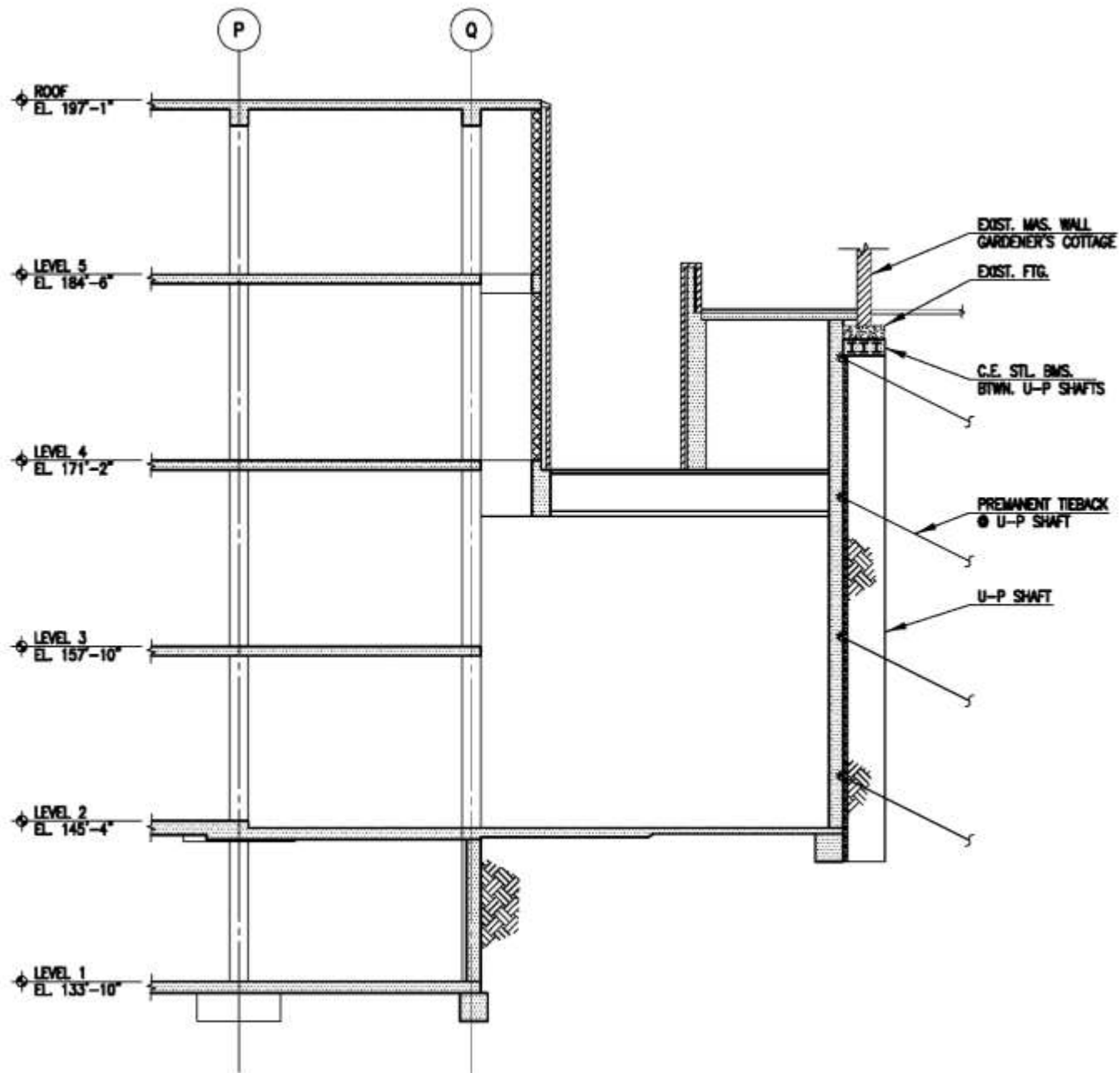




Non Continuous Approach Pit Underpinning













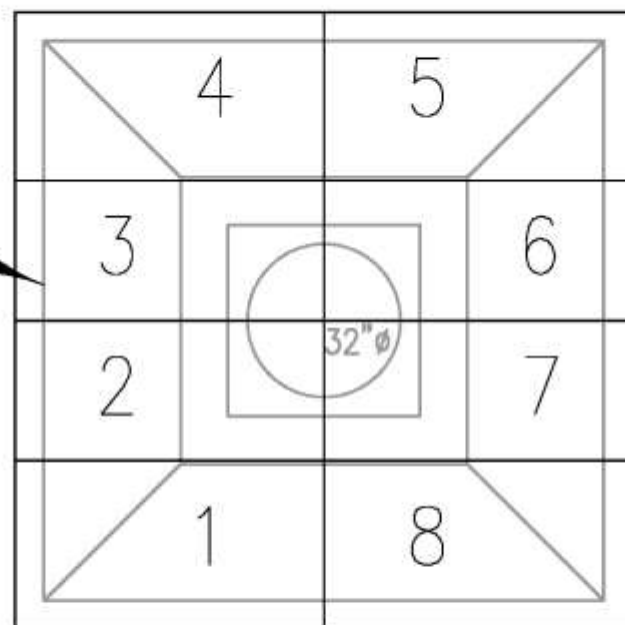






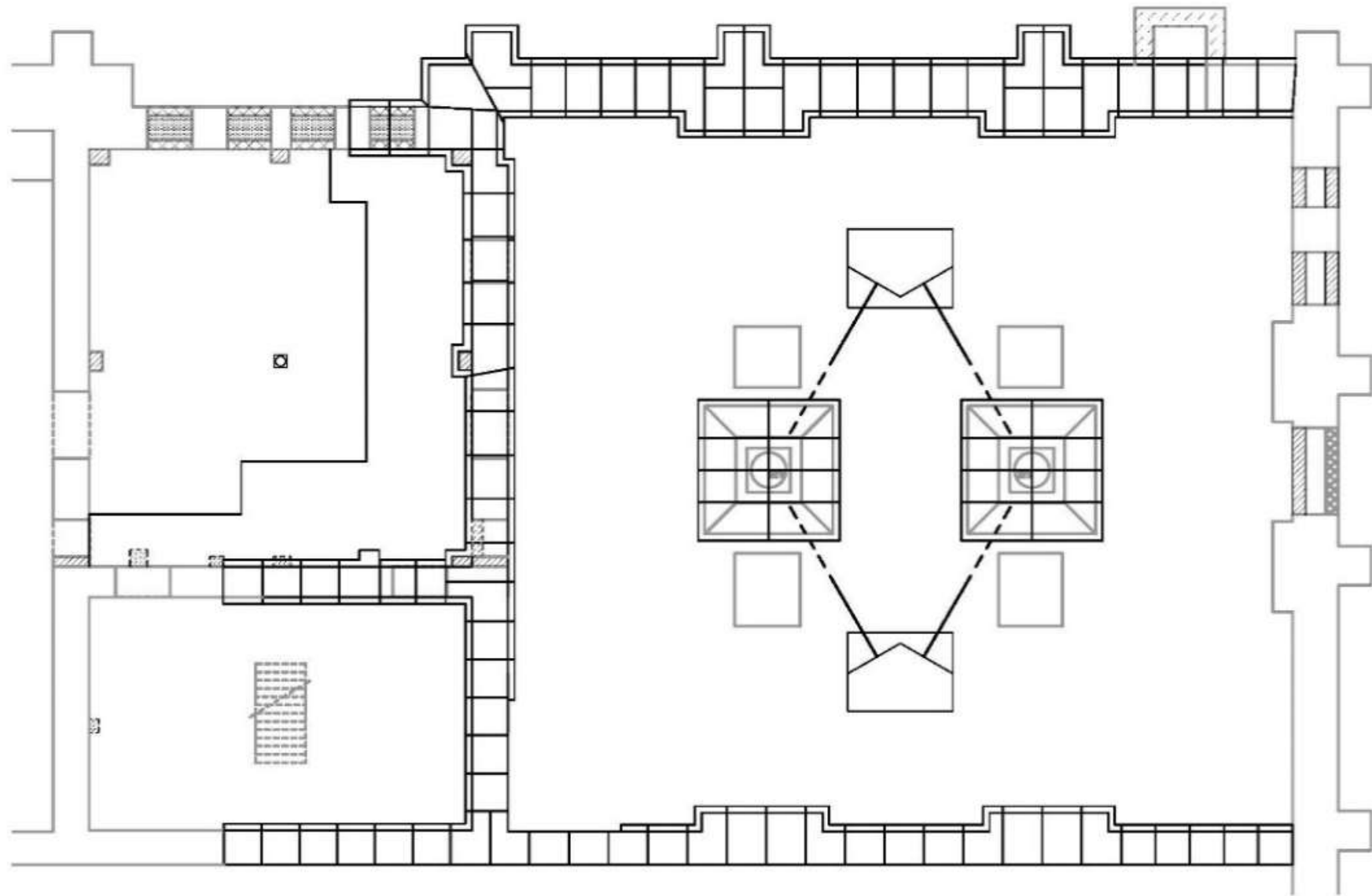
Individual Spread Footing Underpinning

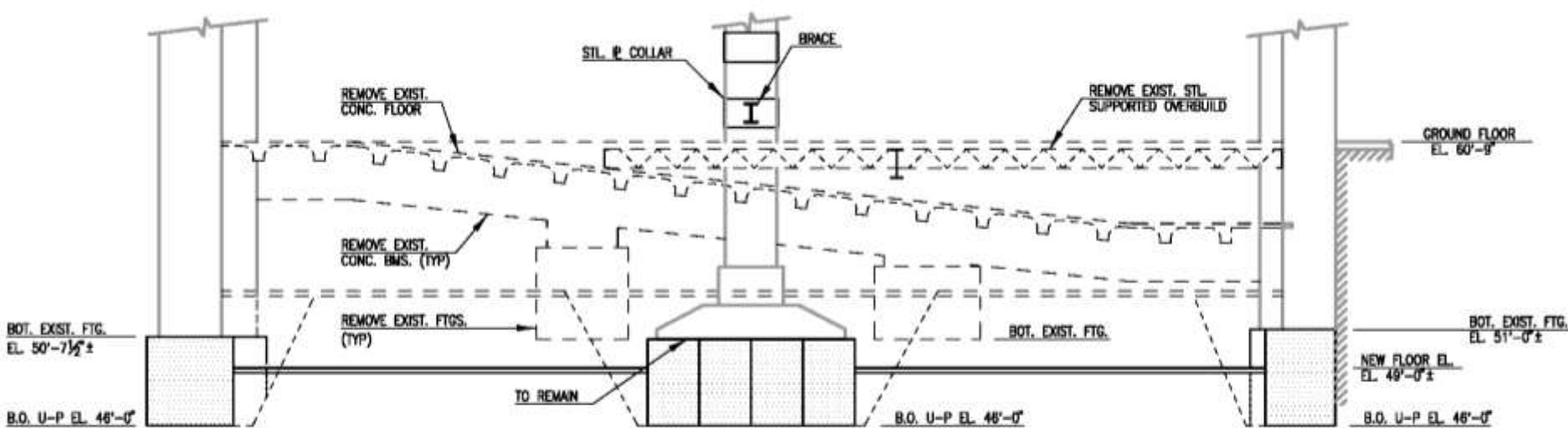
BOT. EXIST. FTG.
EL. (51'-0")



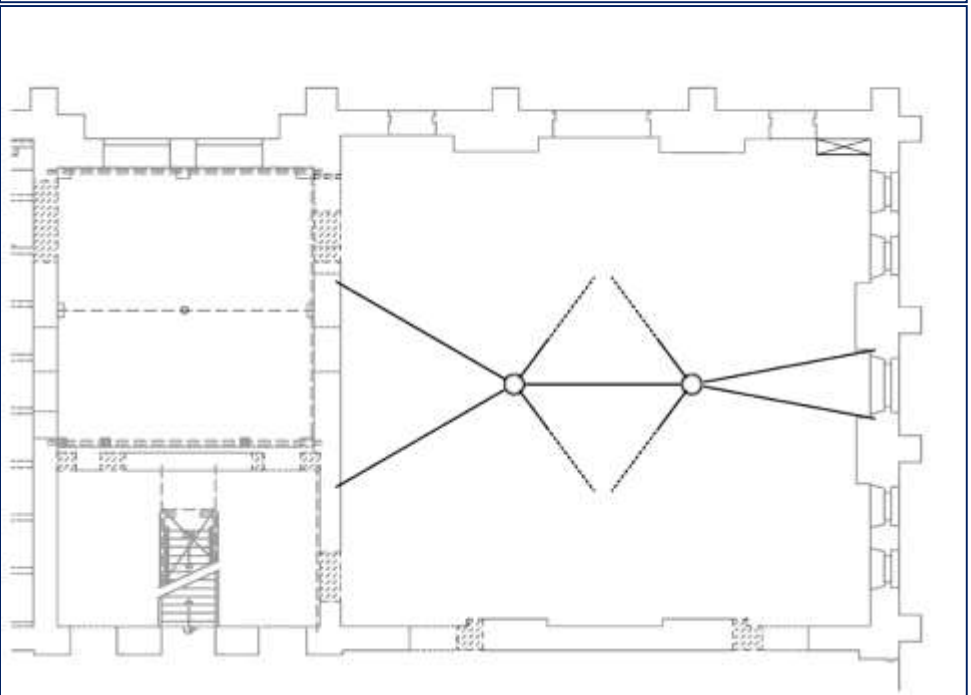
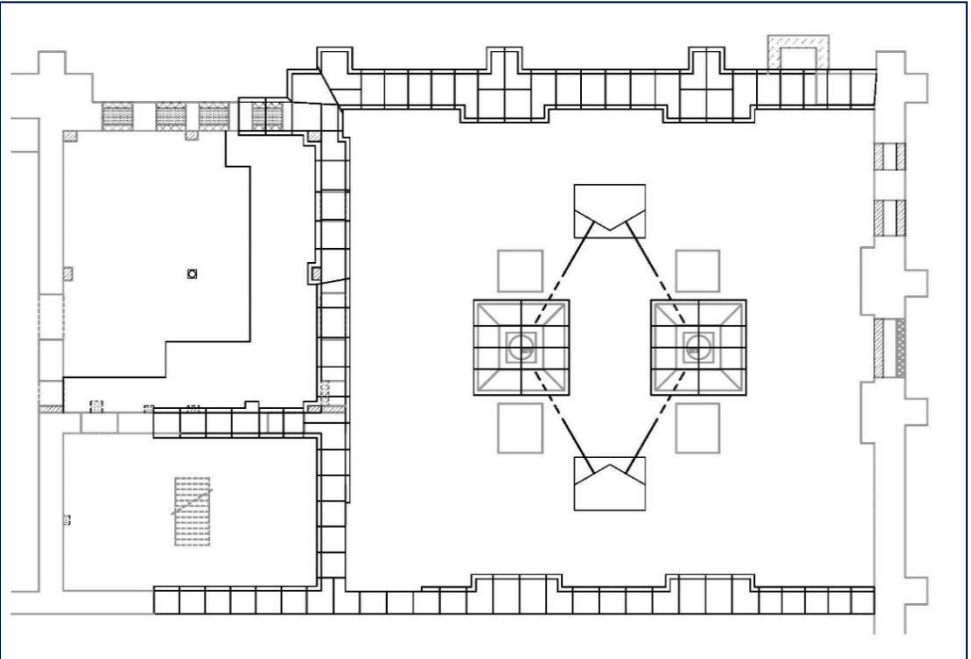
FIN. FLOOR EL. 49'-0"

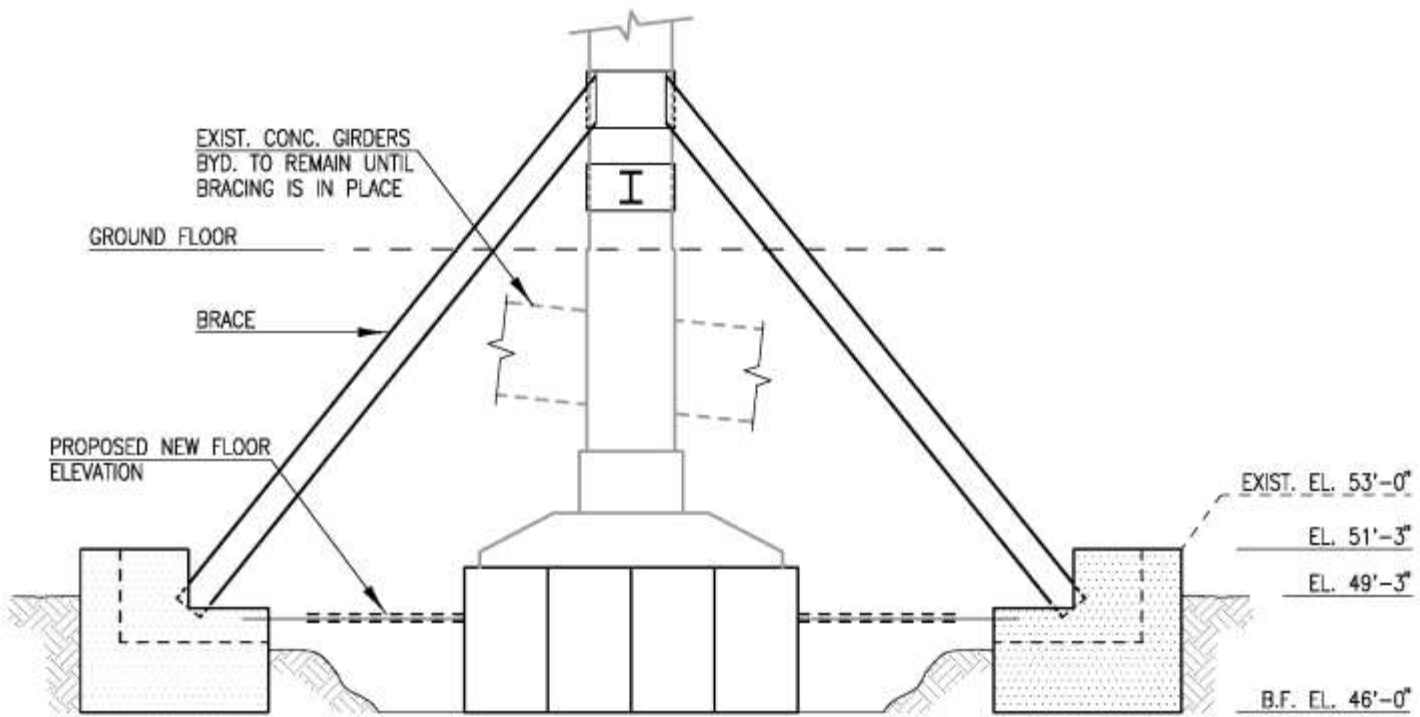
B.O. U-P EL.
46'-0"





SECTION





SECTION



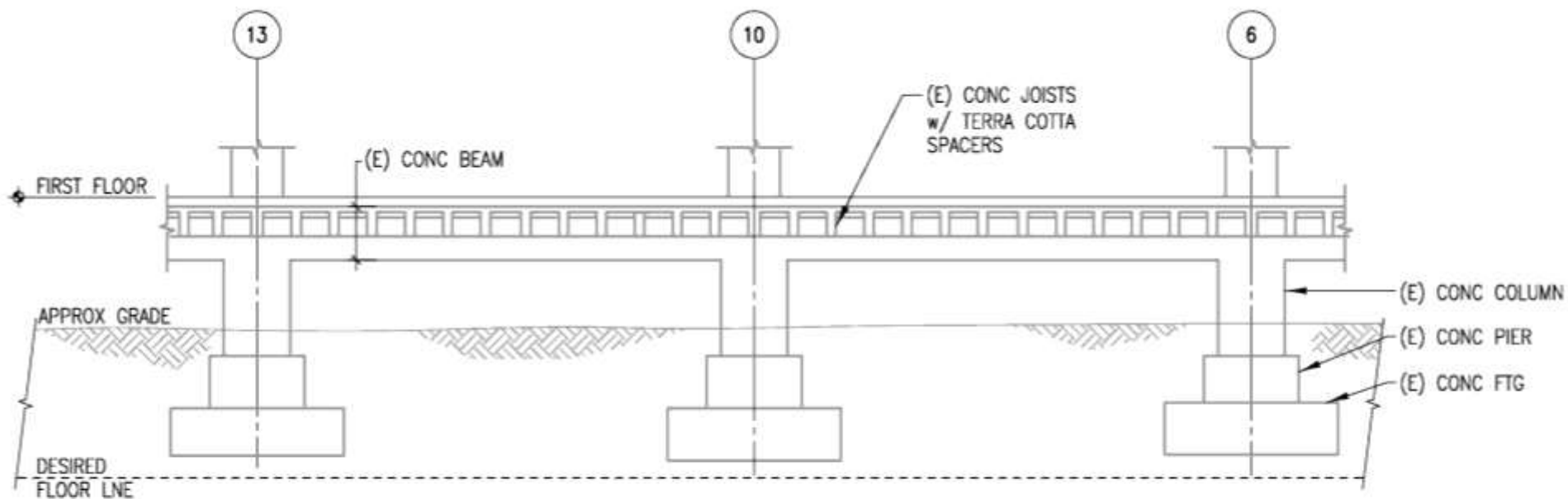






Temporary Footings & Support Beams

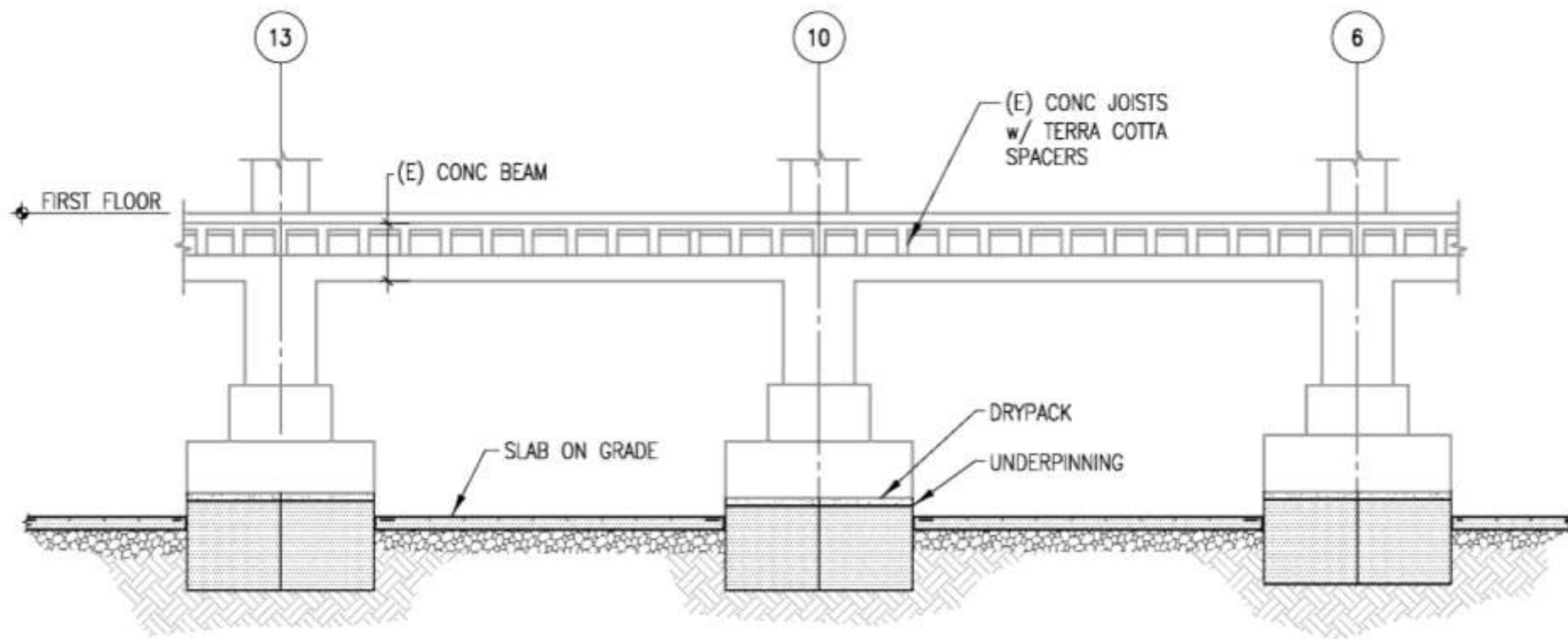




SECTION



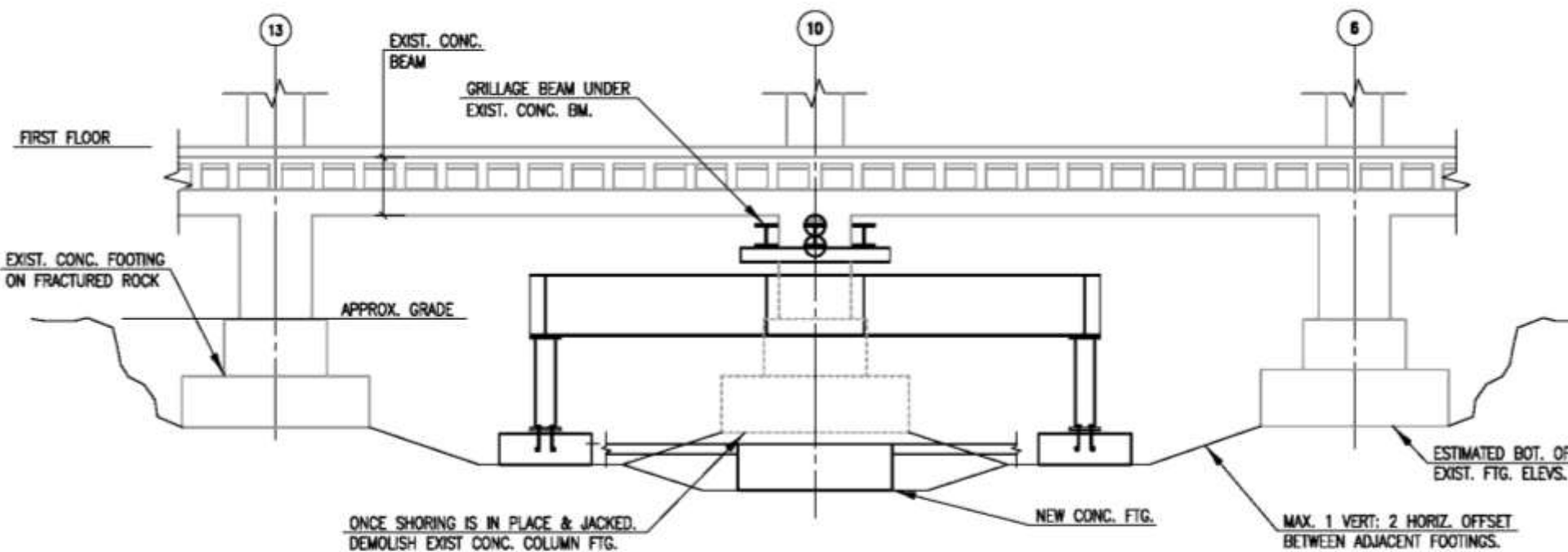
SCALE AT FULL SIZE $\frac{1}{4}"=1'-0"$



SECTION



SCALE AT FULL SIZE $\frac{1}{4}" = 1'-0"$



- NOTE:**
1. REPLACE ONE COLUMN/FOOTING AT A TIME.
 2. REPEAT DETAIL FOR OTHER FOOTINGS.

SECTION - NEW FOUNDATIONS AT INTERIOR COLUMNS

$\frac{1}{4}" = 1'-0"$

































How Not to Underpin









Second/Third
Floor Window

Third/Fourth
Floor Window





Fourth/Fifth
Floor Window

Fifth Floor
Window/Parapet



Cracking also appeared
on the interior and
through the wall
finishes.





Repairs completed
tied the wall back to
the interior framing
or the perpendicular
walls.





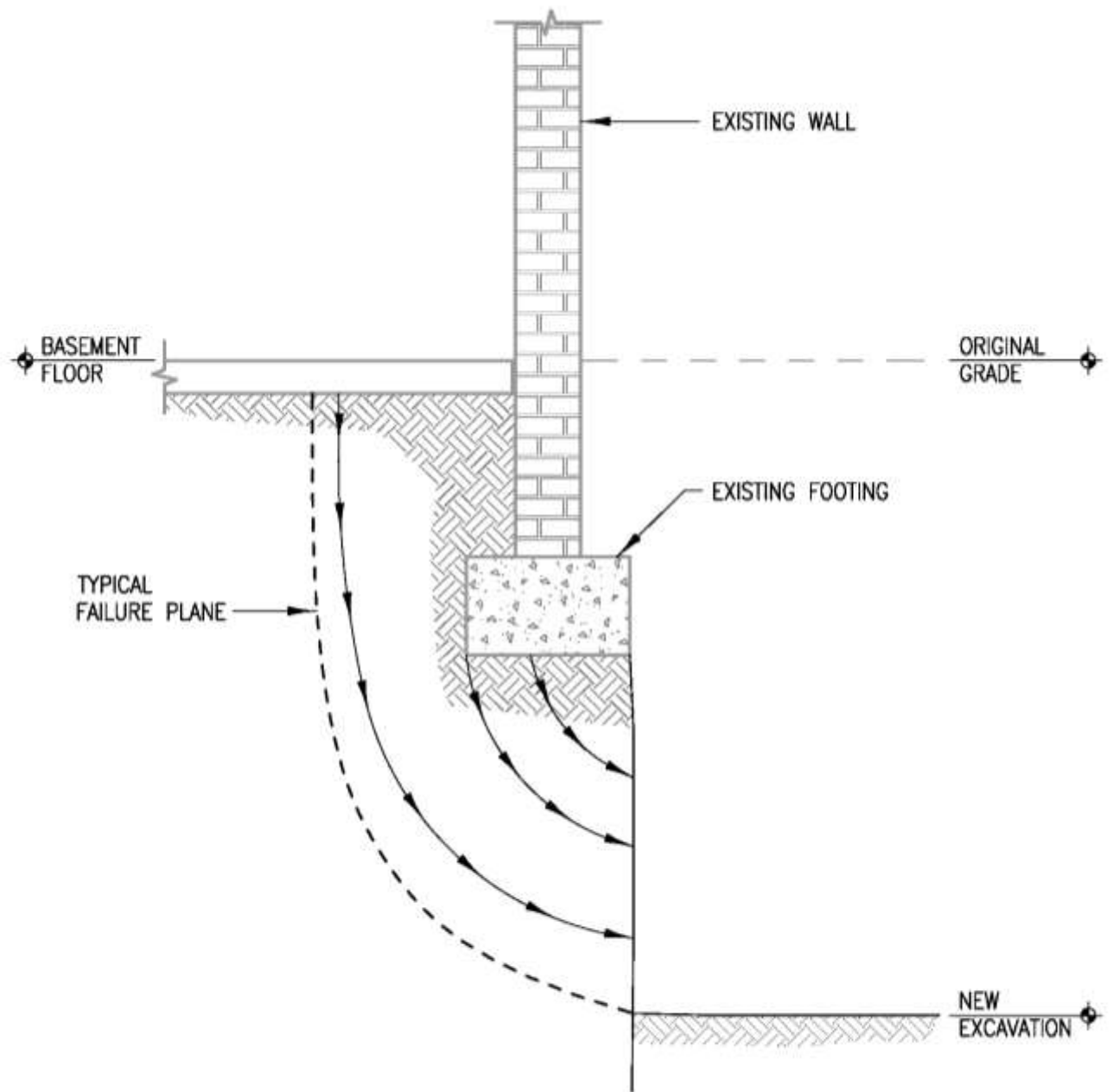
BRYN MAWR

BRYN MAWR FILM INSTITUTE

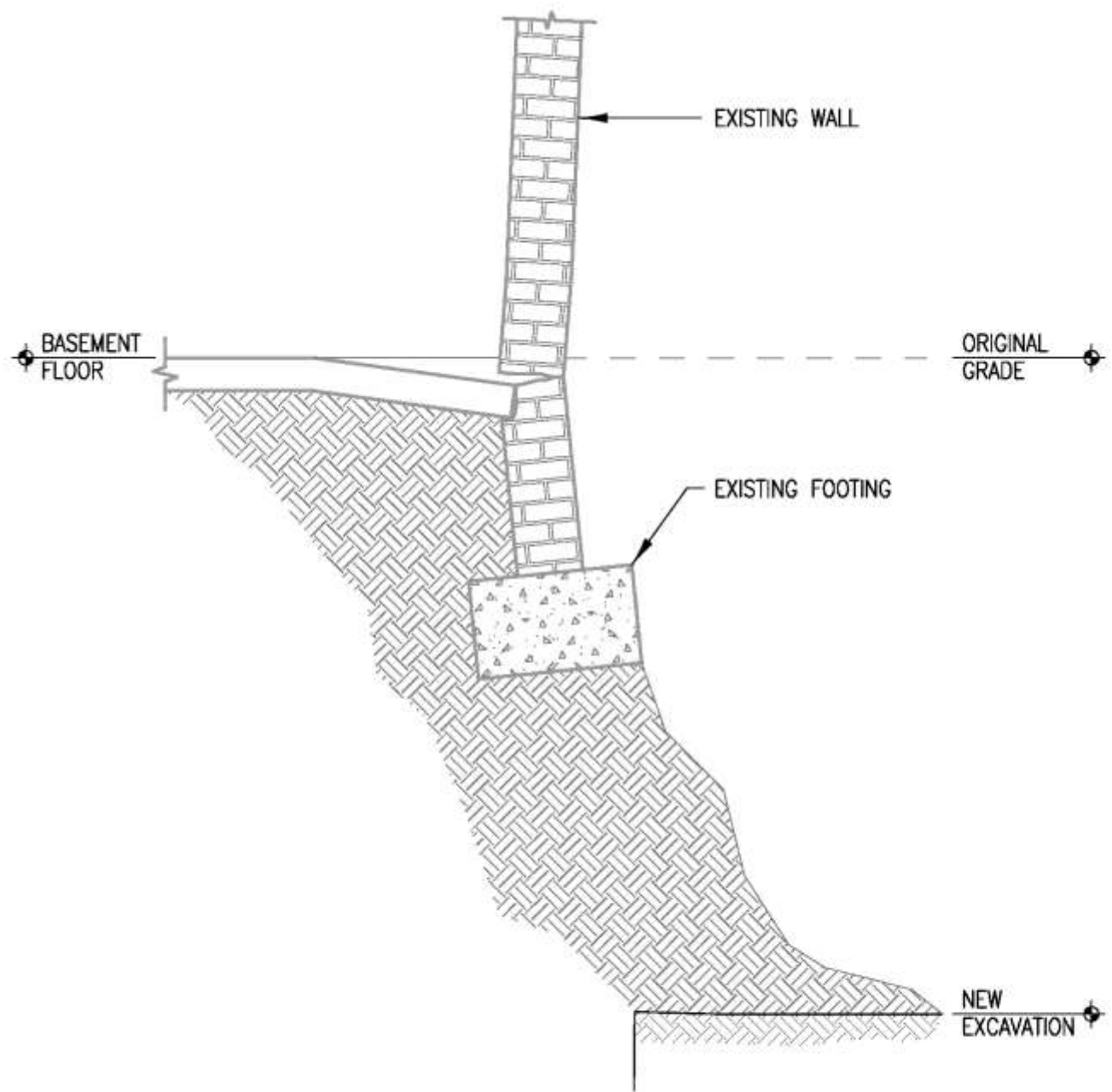
BURN AFTER READING · ELEGY
TRANSIBBERIAN

DAYLIN LEACH
THE LEFT HAND
DAYLIN LEACH
THE LEFT HAND
DAYLIN LEACH
THE LEFT HAND
DAYLIN LEACH
THE LEFT HAND





IMMEDIATELY AFTER EXCAVATION



SUBSEQUENT COLLAPSED CONDITION

Thank You!
