



Solidifying your Foundation - Below Grade Drainage and its Importance

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American Institute of Architects **Keene Summary**

Moisture presents the greatest obstacle to constructing a lasting foundation. Since a structure's foundation is both the most important aspect of the building, and the least visible, it presents a unique challenge to architects and builders. Hydrostatic pressure destroys foundations over time. The most effective weapon in an architect's toolbox to mitigating moisture is a dimple drain.

Dimple drains, and comparable systems, create a space for water to flow away from a foundation, relieving hydrostatic pressure. While historic drainage methods provide temporary drainage, they fail in the long run.

The historic drainage method, piling aggregate beside your foundation and backfilling, will certainly provide sufficient drainage initially. However, over time soil will clog the aggregate, and allow water to settle alongside your foundation, and thus fail. Dimple drains solve this problem. Dimple drains are protected from soil by a fabric geotextile, which allows water to pass through, but not soil.

Dimple drains fit easily into any structure's design. Dimple drains require less space, handling and time than aggregate making them the most cost effective drainage system in the market.



Call TODAY to set up a lunch meeting

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Learning Objectives

- ✓ Understanding hydrostatic pressure and why it's a danger to building foundations
- ✓ Identify historical, current and future methods to drain a foundation
- ✓ Understanding how drainage affects energy use in a structure
- ✓ Evaluating how drainage systems fit into the design of a structure

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