



December 7, 2007

MEMORANDUM

Bulletin G-21-07

To: All Permit Applicants

From: Thomas H. Goldsbury, P.E., C.B.O., Chief,
Building Inspection Division

Subject: Footings Supported on Fill

Both the Florida Building Code (Section 1805.2 Depth of Footings) and the Florida Building Code – Residential (R403.1.4 Footings-General-Minimum depth) require all exterior footings to be placed on undisturbed soil or compacted fill, at a minimum depth of twelve inches. It has come to our attention that in some cases, mostly residential, where fill is required in excess of the height of the original grade, that form boards are being installed prior to fill being brought in and compacted. The fill is then brought in and compacted within the limits of the form boards, see Figure 1, attached. The slab is then poured and the form boards are removed exposing the bottom of the footing to possible settlement due to lateral instability of the soil and/or washout, see Figure 2.

This method does not meet code and will not be approved effective immediately. It is understandable that all site fill/grading exterior to the slab may not be done at the time of the slab construction such that the minimum twelve inch depth of footing may not be met at that time. In such cases the minimum compacted fill requirement at slab inspection will be as shown on Figure 3 and the final condition as shown on Figure 4.

Xc: James Schock
Lesley Davidson

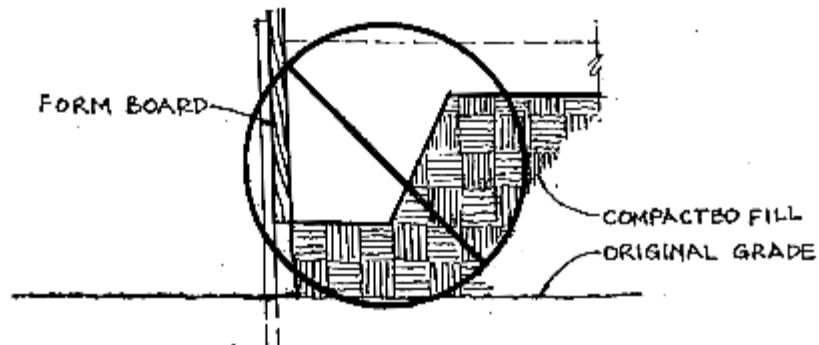


FIGURE 1 BEFORE POUR
 NTS **NOT PERMITTED**

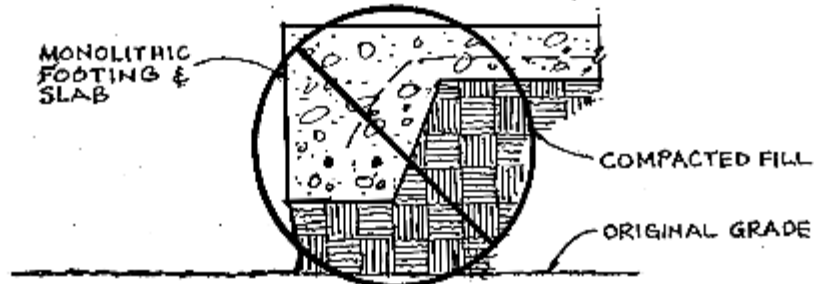


FIGURE 2 AFTER POUR, PRIOR TO SITE GRADING
 NTS **NOT PERMITTED**

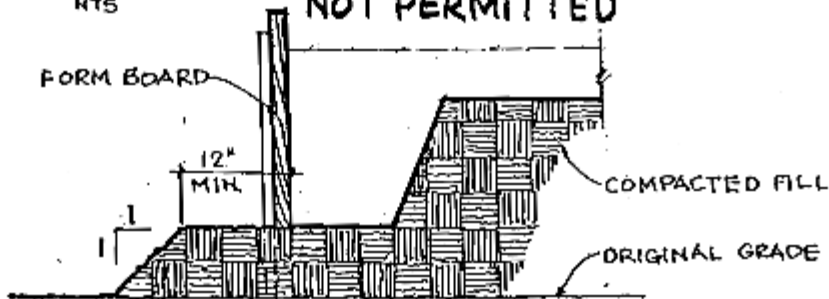


FIGURE 3 BEFORE POUR
 NTS

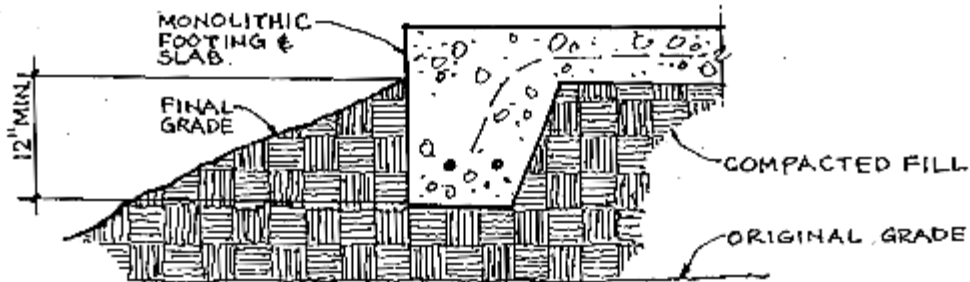


FIGURE 4 FINAL CONDITION
 NTS