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Identifying Common Issues and Symptoms of residential foundations
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* Understanding Flood Risk and Its Impact on Residential Foundations

Okay, let's talk about floods and how they mess with our houses, especially those foundations we all rely on. Bowed walls suggest pressure issues that need foundation wall repair service [home foundation repair service](#) ventilation. When we're thinking about managing flood risk by strategically elevating homes, understanding the nitty-gritty of flood risk and its impact is absolutely crucial.

Think of it this way: a flood isn't just water. It's a force, a relentless push against everything in its path. And for residential foundations, that can spell disaster. Waterlogged soil weakens, hydrostatic pressure builds up, and suddenly your foundation is facing stresses it wasn't designed to handle. Cracks appear, walls bow, and before you know it, you've got serious structural problems.

But it's not just the immediate physical damage. Consider the long-term effects. Constant exposure to moisture can lead to mold, which can impact your health and devalue your property. Repeated flooding can also accelerate the deterioration of building materials, meaning more costly repairs down the line. And then there's the emotional toll – the stress and anxiety of knowing your home is vulnerable, the disruption of your life every time it rains heavily.

So, when we talk about strategically elevating homes, we're not just talking about lifting a building. We're talking about mitigating all these risks. We need to understand the specific flood patterns in an area, the soil composition, and the vulnerabilities of the existing foundation. By understanding these factors, we can make informed decisions about the best elevation techniques and materials to use. It's about protecting not just the structure, but also the people who live inside and their peace of mind. Ultimately, it's about building resilience in the face of a growing environmental challenge.

* The Role of Elevation in Flood Mitigation for Homes

Okay, let's talk about how lifting your house can help keep the floodwaters out. It seems pretty obvious, right? But the role elevation plays in managing flood risk is actually a cornerstone of smarter building and planning, especially when you're thinking about homes in flood-prone areas.

Think of it this way: Flood maps show where the water's likely to go during a big storm. That's your baseline risk. But elevation is your defense. By raising the lowest floor of your house – whether it's on pilings, stilts, or even just a raised foundation – you're essentially creating a buffer zone. You're putting space between your living room and the potential floodwaters.

This isn't just about keeping your furniture dry, although that's a definite perk. It's about protecting the structural integrity of your home. Water damage weakens foundations, promotes mold growth, and can ultimately make a house uninhabitable. Elevating a home reduces the chances of these things happening in the first place.

Beyond the physical protection, elevation can also have a significant impact on your flood insurance premiums. Insurance companies recognize that elevated homes are less likely to suffer damage, and that translates into lower costs for the homeowner. So, while there's an upfront investment in raising

your house, you can actually recoup some of that cost over time through savings on insurance.

The key is to approach elevation strategically. It's not just about randomly lifting a house. It's about understanding the flood risk in your specific area, knowing how high you need to raise the house to be safe, and choosing the right elevation method for your property and budget. Sometimes, this means working with engineers and architects who specialize in flood mitigation.

Ultimately, elevating your home is a proactive way to take control of your flood risk. It's a simple concept, but it can make a world of difference in keeping your property – and your peace of mind – safe during a flood.

*** Types of Foundation Elevation Techniques Employed by Repair Services**

Okay, let's talk about how those foundation repair folks actually *lift* houses to protect them from flooding. It's not like they're all using the same magic wand, you know? Different situations call for different tricks, and a good repair service will have a few up their sleeve.

First off, you've got the classic, the "bread and butter" of house raising: *jacking*. Think of it like changing a tire, just on a *massive* scale. Hydraulic jacks are strategically placed beneath the house's foundation, and they're raised incrementally, together, to lift the whole darn thing. It's slow, it's meticulous, and it requires a whole lot of precision to make sure your house doesn't, you know, crack in half. This is usually paired with temporary support structures like cribbing (interlocking timbers) to hold the house up as it's being raised.

Then there's *piering*. This is often used when the existing foundation is already damaged or weak. Basically, they drive steel or concrete piers deep into the ground until they hit stable soil or bedrock. These piers then act as the new, stronger support for the house. The house is then lifted and secured to these piers. Think of it like building new, super-strong legs for your house.

Sometimes, especially with slab foundations (where the house sits directly on a concrete slab), they might use a technique called *mudjacking* or *slabjacking*. This involves pumping a slurry of mud, cement, and other materials underneath the slab to lift it back into place. It's less about elevating the *entire* house and more about leveling and stabilizing a sinking foundation. While not always a full-on elevation technique for flood mitigation, it can be a crucial first step before other elevation methods are applied.

Finally, for some types of construction, especially older pier and beam houses, they might use simple *block and base* methods. This involves replacing existing, inadequate supports with new concrete blocks and a solid base, effectively raising the house a bit. This is often a less dramatic lift than jacking, but it can be sufficient in areas with lower flood risk.

The key takeaway is that there's no one-size-fits-all solution. The best technique depends on the type of foundation you have, the soil conditions, the extent of the flood risk, and, of course, your budget. Any reputable repair service will assess your specific situation and recommend the most appropriate and effective method to get your house high and dry, or at least, higher and drier, than before. Don't be afraid to ask them about the pros and cons of each approach and get a few different opinions before making a decision. It's your house, after all!

*** Assessing the Suitability of Elevation for Specific Properties**

Okay, so we're talking about managing flood risk, and a big part of that is figuring out if a property's elevation is actually **suitable** for, well, being a property in the first place. It's not just about whether the water's lapping at your doorstep today; it's about thinking long-term and considering the bigger picture.

Basically, assessing elevation suitability for a specific property boils down to a few crucial questions. First, what's the historical flood data telling us? Has this area flooded before, and how high did the water get? That's our baseline. Then, we need to factor in future flood scenarios. Climate change is real, and sea levels are rising. Extreme weather events are becoming more frequent. We need to look at projected flood maps and models to understand how elevation might need to change to keep a property safe in, say, 20, 50, or even 100 years.

Another critical element is considering the property's intended use. A simple storage shed might be okay with a lower elevation than, say, a hospital or residential home. We need to think about the impact of flooding on the people who use the property and the critical functions it serves. Is it a business that needs to stay operational during a flood? Is it a neighborhood where people rely on safe access to emergency services? These factors dramatically influence what we consider "suitable" elevation.

Finally, it's not just about the raw elevation number. The surrounding topography matters too. Is the property in a natural floodplain? Is it surrounded by higher ground that could divert water away from it? Are there existing flood control measures, like levees or drainage systems, that could mitigate risk? These are all pieces of the puzzle that need to be considered to paint a complete picture of elevation suitability.

In the end, assessing elevation suitability is a balancing act. We need to weigh the costs of raising a property against the potential costs of flooding. It's about making informed decisions based on the best available data and a realistic assessment of future risks. It is a complex process, but it is crucial to protect our communities and infrastructure from the devastating effects of floods.

*** The Process of Strategic Elevation: A Step-by-Step Overview**

Okay, so you're thinking about flood risk, right? And not just, like, sandbags in a panic, but the big picture. That's where "strategic elevation" comes in. Think of it as a deliberate, carefully planned move to higher ground, but not just for your house. We're talking about communities, infrastructure, and even entire economies.

The process? Well, it's not a one-size-fits-all deal, but you can break it down. First, **understand the risk**. Seriously, **really** understand it. That means looking at historical data, projecting future scenarios, and figuring out where the water's going to go and how high it'll get. Ignoring this step is like building a house without knowing where the fault lines are.

Next, you gotta **assess your options**. Elevation isn't the only answer. Maybe it's about reinforcing existing structures, building natural barriers, or even retreating to safer zones. But elevation, when

feasible, offers a fundamental solution. It's like saying, "Okay, water, you can rise, but we'll be waiting for you up here."

Then comes the *planning and design*. This is where the engineers and architects get to shine. How do you elevate a building, a road, a whole neighborhood, while minimizing disruption and maximizing resilience? It's a tricky balance, and it requires innovative thinking and a solid understanding of the local environment.

After that, it's all about *implementation*. And this is where the rubber meets the road. It's about securing funding, navigating regulations, and working with the community to make the vision a reality. It's a long process, often fraught with challenges, but the payoff – a safer, more resilient future – is worth it.

Finally, *monitor and adapt*. Flooding patterns change, technology evolves, and our understanding of risk deepens. So, strategic elevation isn't a one-and-done thing. It's an ongoing process of learning, adapting, and continually refining our approach to managing flood risk. It's about playing the long game, always looking for ways to stay one step ahead of the rising tide. Because, let's face it, that tide isn't going anywhere.

*** Benefits of Elevation in Reducing Flood Damage and Insurance Costs**

Let's talk about why lifting things up – literally – can be a game-changer when we're trying to manage flood risk. Specifically, elevating structures. It's not just about avoiding a soggy carpet; it's about saving money, protecting your property, and frankly, giving you a whole lot less to worry about when the rain starts coming down hard.

Think of it this way: floodwaters are like unwanted guests. The higher you build your house, the less likely they are to crash the party. By elevating your home or business, you're creating a buffer zone. That buffer zone can mean the difference between a minor inconvenience and a major disaster. Water that might have surged into your living room now just flows harmlessly underneath.

And that's where the money part comes in. Flood insurance can be a hefty expense, especially if you live in a high-risk area. But guess what? Elevating your structure can significantly reduce your premiums. Insurance companies look at elevation as a key factor in assessing risk. The higher you are, the lower the risk of damage, and that translates directly into lower insurance costs. It's a long-term investment that pays off year after year.

Beyond the financial benefits, there's the peace of mind. Knowing that your home is elevated above the likely flood level lets you sleep a little easier during storm season. You're not constantly checking the weather report and frantically moving furniture. You've taken a proactive step to protect your property and your belongings.

Strategic elevation isn't a magic bullet, of course. It's just one piece of the puzzle when it comes to managing flood risk. But it's a powerful piece. It's a practical, effective, and cost-saving way to protect your investment and your sanity in the face of rising waters. So, when considering flood mitigation strategies, don't underestimate the simple, yet profound, benefits of getting your property up, up, and away from the potential flood zone.

*** Choosing the Right Residential Foundation Repair Service for Elevation Projects**

Okay, so you're thinking about raising your house to beat back the floodwaters, huh? Smart move. But before you start picturing your place floating serenely above the high water mark, let's talk about the unsung heroes of this whole operation: the foundation repair folks. Choosing the right residential foundation repair service for elevation projects isn't just about picking the cheapest quote; it's about picking a partner who can literally hold up your home's future.

Think of it like this: your foundation is the backbone of your house. If it's already creaky or showing signs of weakness, raising it is like asking a senior citizen to run a marathon. It's just not gonna end well. That's where a good foundation repair service comes in. They'll assess the existing foundation, identify any cracks, settling, or other issues, and then recommend the best course of action. Maybe it's underpinning, maybe it's reinforcing, maybe it's a complete rebuild. Whatever it is, you need someone who knows their stuff.

And here's the kicker: not all foundation repair companies are created equal, especially when it comes to elevation. Raising a house puts immense stress on the foundation, and you need a team with experience specifically in this type of project. Ask about their past elevation projects, ask about their methods for reinforcing the foundation before lifting, and definitely ask about their insurance and licensing. You want someone who's not only qualified but also insured in case something goes sideways (and let's be honest, sometimes things do).

Don't be afraid to shop around and get multiple quotes. But remember, the lowest price isn't always the best deal. You're investing in the long-term safety and stability of your home, so prioritize quality and experience over a few saved bucks. A well-chosen foundation repair service is an investment in peace of mind, knowing your elevated home is sitting on a solid, secure base, ready to weather any storm. So, do your research, ask the right questions, and choose wisely. Your house will thank you for it.

*** Long-Term Considerations and Maintenance After Elevation**

Okay, so you've gone through with it. You've elevated your home, your business, maybe even a whole community. Congratulations! You're higher, literally, and hopefully drier. But don't think you can just dust off your hands and walk away. Elevating to manage flood risk is a long-term investment, and like any investment, it needs tending to.

Think of it like this: you wouldn't buy a car and never change the oil, right? Elevation is the same. There are long-term considerations and maintenance aspects that absolutely need to be addressed to ensure your elevated structure continues to do its job, protecting you from rising waters for years to come.

For starters, regularly inspect the foundation and support structure. We're talking about the piers, posts, or whatever system is holding your building aloft. Look for signs of cracking, settling, or corrosion. Remember, these are now exposed to the elements more than they were before. Wind, rain, even just the sun beating down can take a toll. Addressing small issues early can prevent much bigger, and much more expensive, problems down the road.

Then there's the issue of accessibility. How are you getting into and out of your elevated space? Ramps, stairs, elevators – these all require regular upkeep. Handrails need to be sturdy, surfaces need to be slip-resistant, and any mechanical systems need to be serviced according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Think about folks with mobility challenges and make sure their access remains safe and reliable.

Furthermore, consider the surrounding landscape. Has the elevation altered drainage patterns around your property? You don't want to create new flooding problems for yourself or your neighbors by inadvertently redirecting water flow. Monitor the area and make adjustments as needed to ensure proper drainage.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, stay informed. Flood risk is a dynamic thing. Climate change, land development, and other factors can all impact flood zones and water levels. Keep an eye on local flood maps, participate in community flood management initiatives, and be prepared to adapt your elevation strategy if necessary.

Elevating your home or business is a significant step towards managing flood risk. But it's not a one-and-done solution. By paying attention to these long-term considerations and committing to regular maintenance, you can ensure that your investment continues to protect you and your community for years to come. It's about being proactive, responsible, and ultimately, prepared for whatever the future may bring.



About structural failure

Redirect to:

- Structural integrity and failure

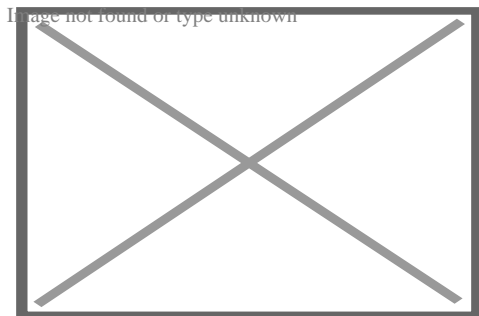
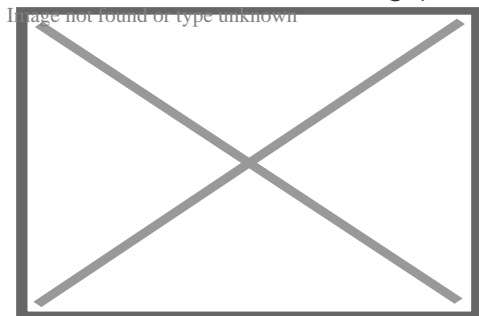
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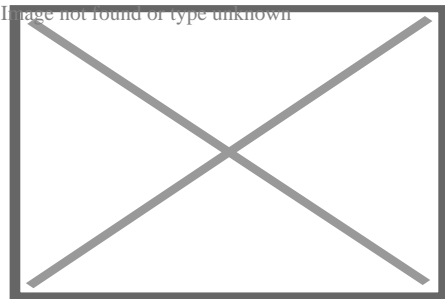
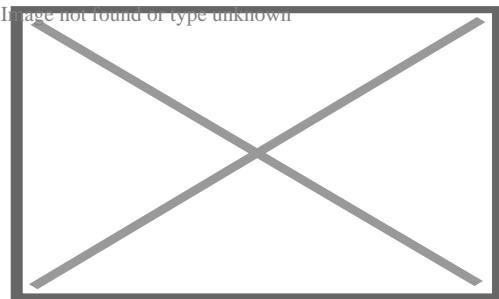
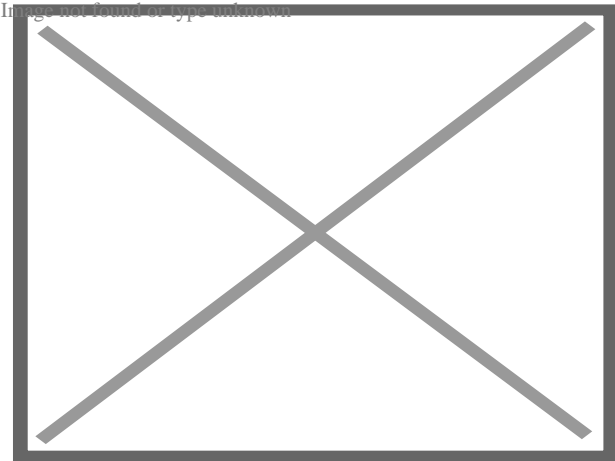
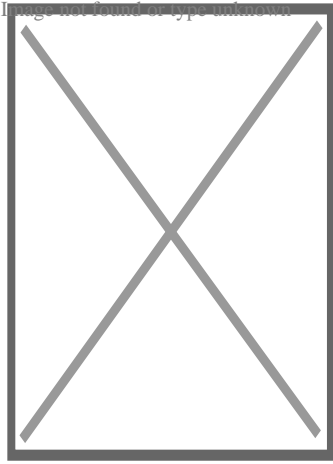
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When appropriate, protection levels are automatically sensed, described and categorized.

About ceiling

For other uses, see Ceiling (disambiguation).





Various examples of ornate ceilings

A **ceiling** /ˈsiːlɪŋ/ is an overhead interior roof that covers the upper limits of a room. It is not generally considered a structural element, but a finished surface concealing the underside of the roof structure or the floor of a story above. Ceilings can be decorated to taste, and there are many examples of frescoes and artwork on ceilings, especially within religious buildings. A ceiling can also be the upper limit of a tunnel.

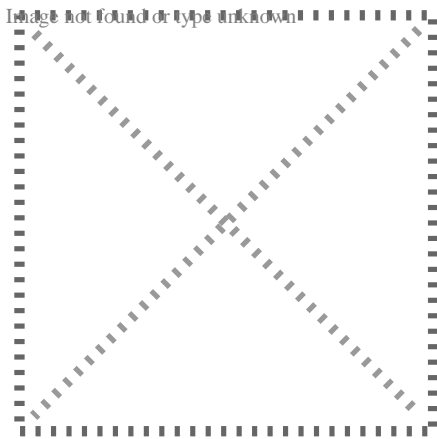
The most common type of ceiling is the dropped ceiling,^[*citation needed*] which is suspended from structural elements above. Panels of drywall are fastened either directly to the ceiling joists or to a few layers of moisture-proof plywood which are then attached to the joists. Pipework or ducts can be run in the gap above the ceiling, and insulation and fireproofing material can be placed here. Alternatively, ceilings may be spray painted instead, leaving the pipework and ducts exposed but painted, and using spray foam.

A subset of the dropped ceiling is the suspended ceiling, wherein a network of aluminum struts, as opposed to drywall, are attached to the joists, forming a series of rectangular spaces. Individual pieces of cardboard are then placed inside the bottom of those spaces so that the outer side of the cardboard, interspersed with aluminum rails, is seen as the ceiling from below. This makes it relatively easy to repair the pipes and insulation behind the ceiling, since all that is necessary is to lift off the cardboard, rather than digging through the drywall and then replacing it.

Other types of ceiling include the cathedral ceiling, the concave or barrel-shaped ceiling, the stretched ceiling and the coffered ceiling. Coving often links the ceiling to the surrounding walls. Ceilings can play a part in reducing fire hazard, and a system is available for rating the fire resistance of dropped ceilings.

Types

[edit]



California tract home with an open-beam ceiling, 1960

Ceilings are classified according to their appearance or construction. A cathedral ceiling is any tall ceiling area similar to those in a church. A dropped ceiling is one in which the finished surface is constructed anywhere from a few inches or centimeters to several feet or a few meters below the structure above it. This may be done for aesthetic purposes, such as achieving a desirable ceiling height; or practical purposes such as acoustic damping or providing a space for HVAC or piping. An inverse of this would be a raised floor. A concave or barrel-shaped ceiling is curved or rounded upward, usually for visual or acoustical value, while a coffered ceiling is divided into a grid of recessed square or octagonal panels, also called a "lacunar ceiling". A cove ceiling uses a curved plaster transition between wall and ceiling; it is named for cove molding, a molding with a concave curve.^[1] A stretched ceiling (or stretch ceiling) uses a number of individual panels using material

such as PVC fixed to a perimeter rail.[²]

Elements

[edit]

Ceilings have frequently been decorated with fresco painting, mosaic tiles and other surface treatments. While hard to execute (at least in place) a decorated ceiling has the advantage that it is largely protected from damage by fingers and dust. In the past, however, this was more than compensated for by the damage from smoke from candles or a fireplace. Many historic buildings have celebrated ceilings. Perhaps the most famous is the Sistine Chapel ceiling by Michelangelo.

Ceiling height, particularly in the case of low ceilings, may have psychological impacts. [³]

Fire-resistance rated ceilings

[edit]

The most common ceiling that contributes to fire-resistance ratings in commercial and residential construction is the dropped ceiling. In the case of a dropped ceiling, the rating is achieved by the entire system, which is both the structure above, from which the ceiling is suspended, which could be a concrete floor or a timber floor, as well as the suspension mechanism and, finally the lowest membrane or dropped ceiling. Between the structure that the dropped ceiling is suspended from and the dropped membrane, such as a T-bar ceiling or a layer of drywall, there is often some room for mechanical and electrical piping, wiring and ducting to run.

An independent ceiling, however, can be constructed such that it has a stand-alone fire-resistance rating. Such systems must be tested without the benefit of being suspended from a slab above in order to prove that the resulting system is capable of holding itself up. This type of ceiling would be installed to protect items above from fire.

An unrestrained non-loadbearing ceiling undergoing a 4-hour fire test. Deflection is measured off the

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Image not found or type unknown

An unrestrained non-loadbearing ceiling undergoing a 4-hour fire test. Deflection is measured off the I-beam.

- Durasteel ceiling after successful fire test, being raised from the furnace and readied for an optional

Image not found or type unknown

Durasteel ceiling after successful fire test, being raised from the furnace and readied for an optional 45PSI (3.1 bar) hose-stream test.

Gallery

[edit]

- Gothic ceiling in the Sainte-Chapelle, Paris, 1243-1248, by Pierre de Montreuil[4]

Image not found or type unknown

Gothic ceiling in the Sainte-Chapelle, Paris, 1243-1248, by Pierre de Montreuil[4]

Renaissance ceiling of the Henry II staircase in the Louvre Palace, Paris, by Antoine Lamoignon

○

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Renaissance ceiling of the Henry II staircase in the

Louvre Palace,
Paris, by
Étienne Carmoy,
Raymond
Bidollet, Jean
Chrestien and
François
Lheureux, 1553[
5]

Renaissance ceiling of the king's bedroom in the Louvre Palace, by Francisque Scibecq de Carpi, 1556

○

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Renaissance ceiling
of the king's
bedroom in the
Louvre Palace, by
Francisque Scibecq
de Carpi, 1556^[6]

○ Baroque ceiling of the Salle des Saisons in the Louvre Palace, by Giovanni Francesco Romanelli, Michel Anguier and Pietro Sasso, mid 17th century

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Baroque
ceiling of the
Salle des
Saisons in the
Louvre Palace,
by Giovanni
Francesco
Romanelli,
Michel Anguier
and Pietro
Sasso, mid
17th century

17th century^[7]

- o Neoclassical ceiling of the Salle Duchâtel in the Louvre Palace, with The Triumph of French Painting. Apotheosis of Poussin, Le Sueur and Le Brun in the centre, by Charles Meynier, 1822, and ceilings panels with medallion portraits of French painters, 1828-1833^[8]

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Neoclassical ceiling of the Salle Duchâtel in the Louvre Palace, with The Triumph of French Painting. Apotheosis of Poussin, Le Sueur and Le Brun in the centre, by Charles Meynier, 1822, and ceilings panels with medallion portraits of French painters, 1828-1833^[8]

- o Neoclassical ceiling of the Mollien staircase in the Louvre Palace, designed by Hector Lefuel in 1857 and painted by Charles Louis Müller in 1868-1870^[9]

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Neoclassical ceiling of the Mollien staircase in the Louvre Palace, designed by Hector Lefuel in 1857 and painted by Charles Louis Müller in 1868-1870^[9]

Moorish Revival ceiling in the Nicolae T. Filitti/Nae Filitis House (Calea Dorobanților no. 18), Bucharest, Romania, de Ernest Doneaud, c.1910^[10]

○

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Moorish Revival ceiling in the Nicolae T. Filitti/Nae Filitis House (Calea Dorobanților no. 18), Bucharest, Romania, de Ernest Doneaud, c.1910^[10]

Demonstrative reconstruction of a Roman suspended ceiling in an Imperial palace of circa AD 306 at Trier, Italy

○

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Demonstrative reconstruction of a Roman suspended ceiling in an Imperial palace of circa AD 306 at Trier, Italy

○ Part of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City in Rome, showing the ceiling in relation to the other frescoes

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Part of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City in Rome, showing the ceiling in relation to the other frescoes

Ceiling of the Villa Schutzenberger from Strasbourg, France, decorated with Art Nouveau ornament

○

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Ceiling of the Villa Schutzenberger from
Strasbourg, France, decorated with Art
Nouveau ornaments

- Painted ceiling in Liège, Belgium

Image not found or type unknown

Painted ceiling in Liège,
Belgium

- Traditional Chinese ceiling of Dayuan Renshou Temple at Taoyuan, Taiwan

Image not found or type unknown

Traditional Chinese ceiling of
Dayuan Renshou Temple at
Taoyuan, Taiwan

- Dropped ceiling

Image not found or type unknown

Dropped ceiling

- Wooden beam ceiling

Image not found or type unknown

Wooden beam ceiling

See also

[edit]

- Beam ceiling
- Hammerbeam roof
- Hollow-core slab
- Moulding (decorative)
- Popcorn ceiling
- Scottish Renaissance painted ceilings
- Tin ceiling
- Passive fire protection
- Fire test
- Hy-Rib

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- Merriam-Webster ceiling definition

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Rooms and spaces of a house

- Bonus room
- Common room
- Den
- Dining room
- Family room
- Garret
- Great room
- Home cinema
- Kitchen
 - dirty kitchen
 - kitchenette
- Living room
- Gynaecium
 - harem
- Andron
 - man cave
- Recreation room
 - billiard room
- Shrine
- Study
- Sunroom

Shared rooms

- Bathroom
 - toilet
- Bedroom / Guest room
 - closet
- Bedsit / Miniflat
- Boudoir
- Cabinet
- Nursery

Private rooms

Spaces

- Atrium
- Balcony
- Breezeway
- Conversation pit
- Cubby-hole
- Deck
- Elevator
 - dumbwaiter
- Entryway/Genkan
- Fireplace
 - hearth
- Foyer
- Hall
- Hallway
- Inglenook
- Lanai
- Loft
- Loggia
- Overhang
- Patio
- Porch
 - screened
 - sleeping
- Ramp
- Secret passage
- Stairs/Staircase
- Terrace
- Veranda
- Vestibule

**Technical, utility
and storage**

- Attic
- Basement
- Carport
- Cloakroom
- Closet
- Crawl space
- Electrical room
- Equipment room
- Furnace room / Boiler room
- Garage
- Janitorial closet
- Larder
- Laundry room / Utility room / Storage room
- Mechanical room / floor
- Pantry
- Root cellar
- Semi-basement
- Storm cellar / Safe room
- Studio
- Wardrobe
- Wine cellar
- Wiring closet
- Workshop

Great house areas

- Antechamber
- Ballroom
- Kitchen-related
 - butler's pantry
 - buttery
 - saucery
 - scullery
 - spicery
 - still room
- Conservatory / Orangery
- Courtyard
- Drawing room
- Great chamber
- Great hall
- Library
- Long gallery
- Lumber room
- Parlour
- Sauna
- Servants' hall
- Servants' quarters
- Smoking room
- Solar
- State room
- Swimming pool
- Turret
- Undercroft

Other

- Furniture
- Hidden room
- House
 - house plan
 - styles
 - types
- Multi-family residential
- Secondary suite
- Duplex
- Terraced
- Detached
- Semi-detached
- Townhouse
- Studio apartment

**Architectural
elements**

- Arch
- Balconet
- Baluster
- Belt course
- Bressummer
- Ceiling
- Chimney
- Colonnade / Portico
- Column
- Cornice / Eaves
- Dome
- Door
- Ell
- Floor
- Foundation
- Gable
- Gate
 - Portal
- Lighting
- Ornament
- Plumbing
- Quoins
- Roof
 - shingles
- Roof lantern
- Sill plate
- Style
 - list
- Skylight
- Threshold
- Transom
- Vault
- Wall
- Window

Related

- Backyard
- Driveway
- Front yard
- Garden
 - roof garden
- Home
- Home improvement
- Home repair
- Shed
- Tree house

-  Category: Rooms


- Germany
- United States
- France
- BnF data

Authority control databases: National  [Edit this at Wikidata](#)

- Czech Republic
 - 2
- Spain
- Israel

About Cook County


Photo




Photo



Photo



Photo



Things To Do in Cook County

Photo

Image not found or type unknown

Sand Ridge Nature Center

4.8 (96)

Photo

Image not found or type unknown

River Trail Nature Center

4.6 (235)

Photo

Palmisano (Henry) Park

4.7 (1262)

Driving Directions in Cook County

Driving Directions From Palmisano (Henry) Park to

Driving Directions From Lake Katherine Nature Center and Botanic Gardens to

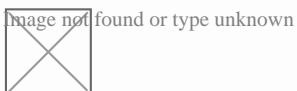
Driving Directions From Navy Pier to

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Navy+Pier/United+Structural+Systems+of+Illinois%2C+Inc/@41.8918633,-87.6050944,14z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1sunknown!2m2!1d-87.6050944!2d41.8918633!1m5!1m1!1sChIJ-wSxDtinD4gRiv4kY3RRh9U!2m2!1d-88.1396465!2d42.0637725!3e0>

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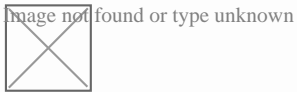
Reviews for



Jeffery James

(5)

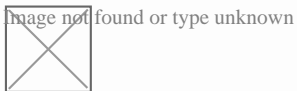
Very happy with my experience. They were prompt and followed through, and very helpful in fixing the crack in my foundation.



Sarah McNeily

(5)

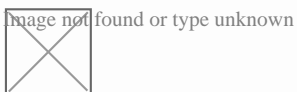
USS was excellent. They are honest, straightforward, trustworthy, and conscientious. They thoughtfully removed the flowers and flower bulbs to dig where they needed in the yard, replanted said flowers and spread the extra dirt to fill in an area of the yard. We've had other services from different companies and our yard was really a mess after. They kept the job site meticulously clean. The crew was on time and friendly. I'd recommend them any day! Thanks to Jessie and crew.



Jim de Leon

(5)

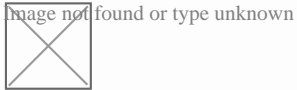
It was a pleasure to work with Rick and his crew. From the beginning, Rick listened to my concerns and what I wished to accomplish. Out of the 6 contractors that quoted the project, Rick seemed the MOST willing to accommodate my wishes. His pricing was definitely more than fair as well. I had 10 push piers installed to stabilize and lift an addition of my house. The project commenced at the date that Rick had disclosed initially and it was completed within the same time period expected (based on Rick's original assessment). The crew was well informed, courteous, and hard working. They were not loud (even while equipment was being utilized) and were well spoken. My neighbors were very impressed on how polite they were when they entered / exited my property (saying hello or good morning each day when they crossed paths). You can tell they care about the customer concerns. They ensured that the property would be put back as clean as possible by placing MANY sheets of plywood down prior to excavating. They compacted the dirt back in the holes extremely well to avoid large stock piles of soils. All the while, the main office was calling me to discuss updates and expectations of completion. They provided waivers of lien, certificates of insurance, properly acquired permits, and JULIE locates. From a construction background, I can tell you that I did not see any flaws in the way they operated and this an extremely professional company. The pictures attached show the push piers added to the foundation (pictures 1, 2 & 3), the amount of excavation (picture 4), and the restoration after dirt was placed back in the pits and compacted (pictures 5, 6 & 7). Please notice that they also sealed two large cracks and steel plated these cracks from expanding further (which you can see under my sliding glass door). I, as well as my wife, are extremely happy that we chose United Structural Systems for our contractor. I would happily tell any of my friends and family to use this contractor should the opportunity arise!



Chris Abplanalp

(5)

USS did an amazing job on my underpinning on my house, they were also very courteous to the proximity of my property line next to my neighbor. They kept things in order with all the dirt/mud they had to excavate. They were done exactly in the timeframe they indicated, and the contract was very details oriented with drawings of what would be done. Only thing that would have been nice, is they left my concrete a little muddy with boot prints but again, all-in-all a great job



Dave Kari

(5)

What a fantastic experience! Owner Rick Thomas is a trustworthy professional. Nick and the crew are hard working, knowledgeable and experienced. I interviewed every company in the area, big and small. A homeowner never wants to hear that they have foundation issues. Out of every company, I trusted USS the most, and it paid off in the end. Highly recommend.

Managing Flood Risk through Strategic Elevation [View GBP](#)

Check our other pages :

- [Monitoring Seasonal Soil Movement for Foundation Clues](#)
- [Observing Climate Trends for Anticipating Soil Swell](#)
- [Examining Sloping Floors for Underlying Settlement](#)
- [How Uneven Floors Reveal Deeper Foundation Concerns](#)
- [When Hairline Drywall Cracks Indicate Movement](#)

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