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Glossary of terms

The following terms are used throughout this document.

Term	Definition
AP40 and AP65	Aggregate specification relating to grading
Building platform	A prepared mass of compacted soil to provide a base on which to construct a dwelling (refer to sections 5.2 and 15.1.3). For properties potentially affected by flooding (refer to section 8.4).
Deep piles	Non-3604 piles (driven, bored or screw) that are designed to transmit foundation loads to a deeper bearing stratum.
Foundation damage	In the context of this document, damage (differential settlement, cracking, stretching, tilting, twisting) to foundation elements (individually or collectively) resulting from land or structure movement (vertical or horizontal) attributable to the earthquake sequence. Refer also to Table 2.2 and 2.3.
Foundations	Building element that transmits loads from the structure directly to the ground.
Geotechnical ultimate bearing capacity	The 'geotechnical ultimate' bearing capacity is the calculated ultimate bearing capacity of the soil in geotechnical terms. The 'structural' (or 'dependable', 'allowable', 'reduced') ultimate limit state bearing capacity' is the geotechnical ultimate bearing multiplied by a strength reduction factor (normally in the vicinity of 0.5), to be compared with fully factored loads as per AS/NZS 1170. The 'allowable bearing capacity' is the geotechnical ultimate limit state bearing capacity divided by a factor of safety (often 3), to be compared with unfactored working loads (ie. the old 'working stress' method),
Good ground	Ground that has static bearing capacity (geotechnical ultimate) of 300 kPa or better and is free of other hazards, as defined in NZS 3604:2011.
Heavy roof	A roof with roofing material exceeding 20 kg/m ² but not exceeding 60 kg/m ² of roof area (eg, concrete and clay tiles).
Heavy wall cladding	A wall cladding having a mass exceeding 80 kg/m ² , but not exceeding 220 kg/m ² of wall area. Typical examples are clay and concrete masonry veneers.
Lateral stretch	The degree of lateral stretching of the ground which may occur across a building footprint in an earthquake, as opposed to global lateral movement, where the entire superstructure and foundation is able to move as one along with the global movement of the block
Light roof	A roof with roofing material not exceeding 20 kg/m ² of roof area (eg, sheet metal roofing and metal tiles)
Light wall cladding	A wall cladding having a mass not exceeding 30 kg/m ² . Typical examples are weatherboards.
Medium wall cladding	A wall cladding having a mass exceeding 30 kg/m ² but not exceeding 80 kg/m ² of wall area (a typical example is stucco cladding).

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Term	Definition
NZS 3604	All references in this document to NZS 3604 are to the most recent publication of NZS 3604, this being NZS 3604:2011, unless specifically stated. References include modifications made to NZS 3604 in Acceptable Solution B1/AS1.
Piles	A block or column-like member used to transmit loads from the building and its contents to the ground (from NZS 3604:2011). Generally, house piles are founded at a shallow depth (<1.2 m) when the ground is 'good ground' as defined in NZS 3604. However, the presence of poor soils and liquefiable soils below the house may result in the need to install piles founded at significantly greater depths.
Scala penetrometer	Hand held penetrometer test primarily used in New Zealand and Australia, using equipment manufactured in accordance with NZS 4402 Test 6.5.2:1988 (sometimes incorrectly referred to as 'DCP').
Readily repairable	Refer definition in Part B, section 8.2.3
Slab-on-grade	Also known as slab-on-ground (refer to NZS 3604).
Superstructure	That portion of the dwelling above the underside of the wall bottom plate.
Type A dwelling	Timber-framed suspended timber floor structures supported only on shallow piles.
Type B dwelling	Timber-framed suspended timber floor structures with perimeter concrete foundation and shallow piles in the interior space.
Type C dwelling	Timber-framed dwelling on concrete slab-on-grade ground floor.

List of acronyms

The following acronyms are used throughout this document.

Acronym	Definition
AEP	Annual exceedence probability
AS	Acceptable solution
ASCE	American Society of Civil Engineers
BCA	Building consent authority
BRANZ	Building Research Association of New Zealand
CBR	California bearing ratio
CCC	Christchurch City Council
CERA	Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority
CFA	Continuous Flight Augur (piles)
CPEng.	Chartered Professional Engineer
CPT	Cone penetrometer test
DBH	Department of Building and Housing (now part of MBIE)
DC	Dynamic compaction
DPC	Damp proof course
DPM	Damp proof membrane
DPT	Dynamic penetrometer test
DSM	Deep soil mixing
EAG	Engineering Advisory Group
EECA	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority
EERI	Earthquake Engineering Research Institute
EIFS	Exterior insulation finishing system
ELS	Earthquake Loadings Standard
EQC	Earthquake Commission
FC	Fines content
FFL	Finished floor level
Fletcher EQR	Fletcher Construction – Earthquake Recovery
FMA	Flood management area
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration – for geotechnical research and publications
GNS Science	New Zealand Crown Research Institute that focuses on geology, geophysics (including seismology and volcanology), and nuclear science (particularly isotope science and carbon dating)

Acronym	Definition
IL	Importance level
IPENZ	Institute of Professional Engineers New Zealand
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging – a measuring device
LBP	Licensed building practitioner
LFA	Localised flooding area
LMG	Low mobility grout
MASW	Multi-channel analysis of surface waves
MBIE	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
MSF	Magnitude scaling factor
NZGS	New Zealand Geotechnical Society
NZS	New Zealand Standard
PGA	Peak ground acceleration
PMO	Project management office
QPID	Quotable value property identification number
RBW	Restricted Building Work
RIC	Rapid Impact Compaction
RMA	Resource Management Act
SCJ	Shrinkage control joint
SHS	Square hollow section
SLS	Serviceability limit state (refer to AS/NZS 1170)
SPT	Standard penetration test (refer to NZS 4406.6.51:1988)
SWS	Swedish Weight Sounding
TC	Technical category
t-m	tonne-metres
ULS	Ultimate limit state
VM	Verification method (refer to AS/NZS 1170)
vs	versus eg, cost vs benefits