

Soils and foundations special inspection checklist

The ground gets covered as fast as it is inspected. The independent inspector verifies the bearing surface, witnesses the fill and compaction testing, and records deep-foundation installation while it can still be seen.

Who runs it: A third-party or owner's-rep geotechnical/special inspector, with the earthwork or foundation crew and the testing lab.
When: At subgrade and bearing exposure, during fill placement and compaction, and throughout pile or pier installation.

Subgrade and bearing

- ☐ Bearing surface verified against the geotechnical report
Material and condition consistent with the report's bearing assumptions; unsuitable material removed.
- ☐ Excavation depth, dimensions and dewatering confirmed
Depth and plan dimensions match the documents; the excavation is stable and dry.

Engineered fill and compaction

- ☐ Fill material approved for use
Imported or reused material matches what the report and specification allow.
- ☐ Lift thickness and moisture controlled during placement
Lifts within the specified thickness; moisture conditioning observed.
- ☐ In-place density testing witnessed at the specified frequency
Tests performed at the required locations and lifts; passing results recorded before the next lift.

Deep foundations

- ☐ Pile or pier location, plumbness and dimensions verified
Position and alignment within tolerance before and during installation.
- ☐ Installation records capture the capacity evidence
Driving resistance, drilling logs or load-test data recorded as the documents require.