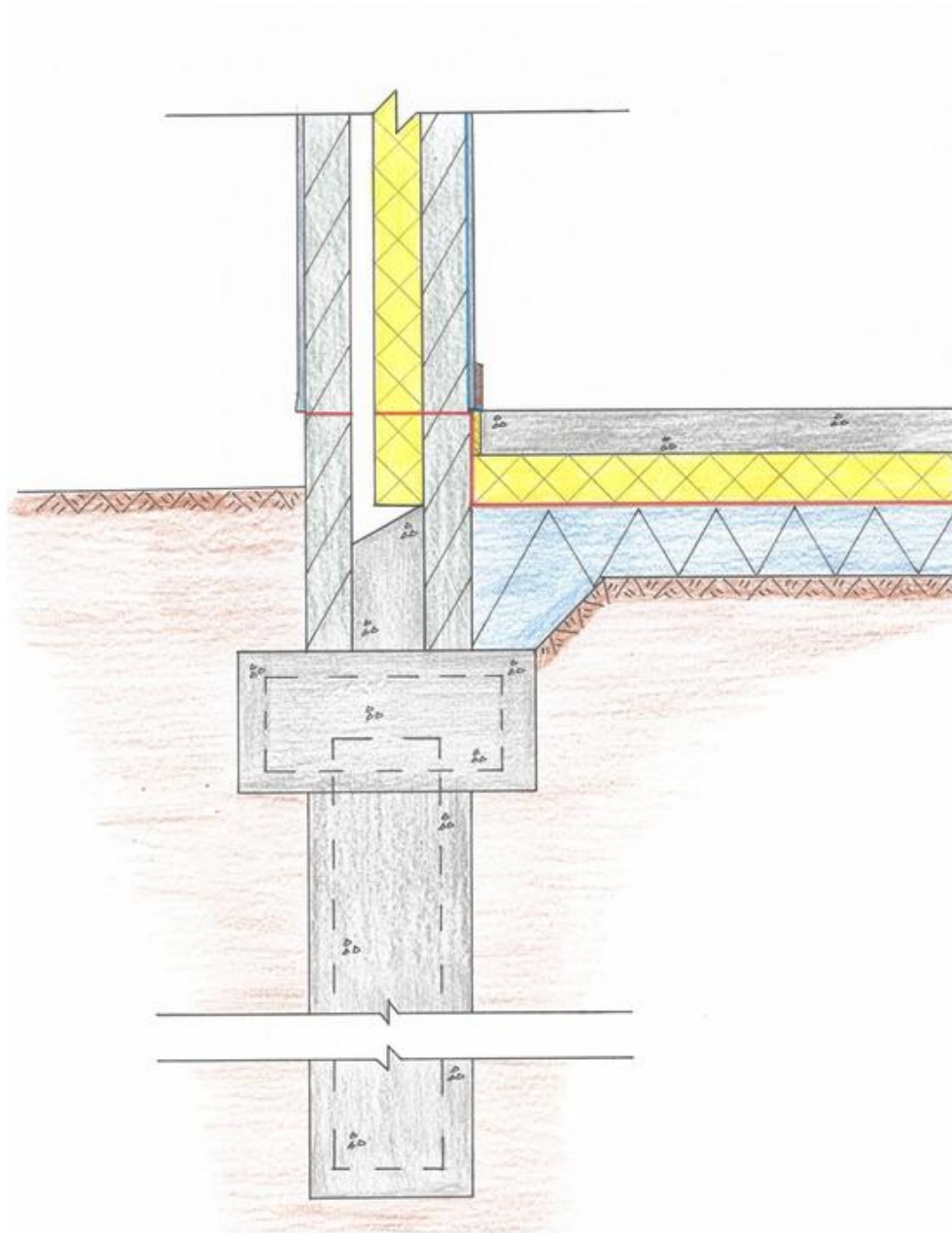
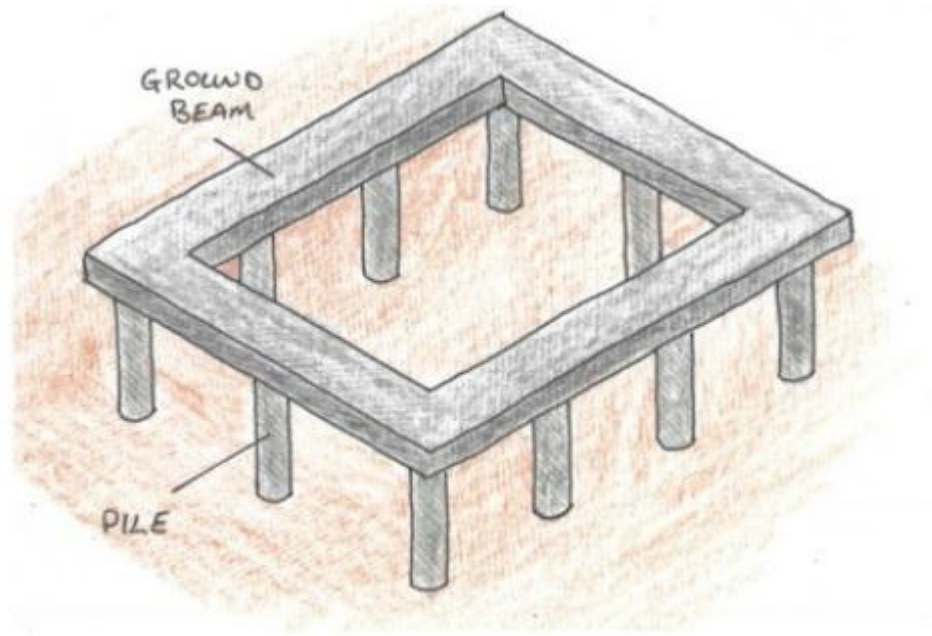


# Piled Foundation

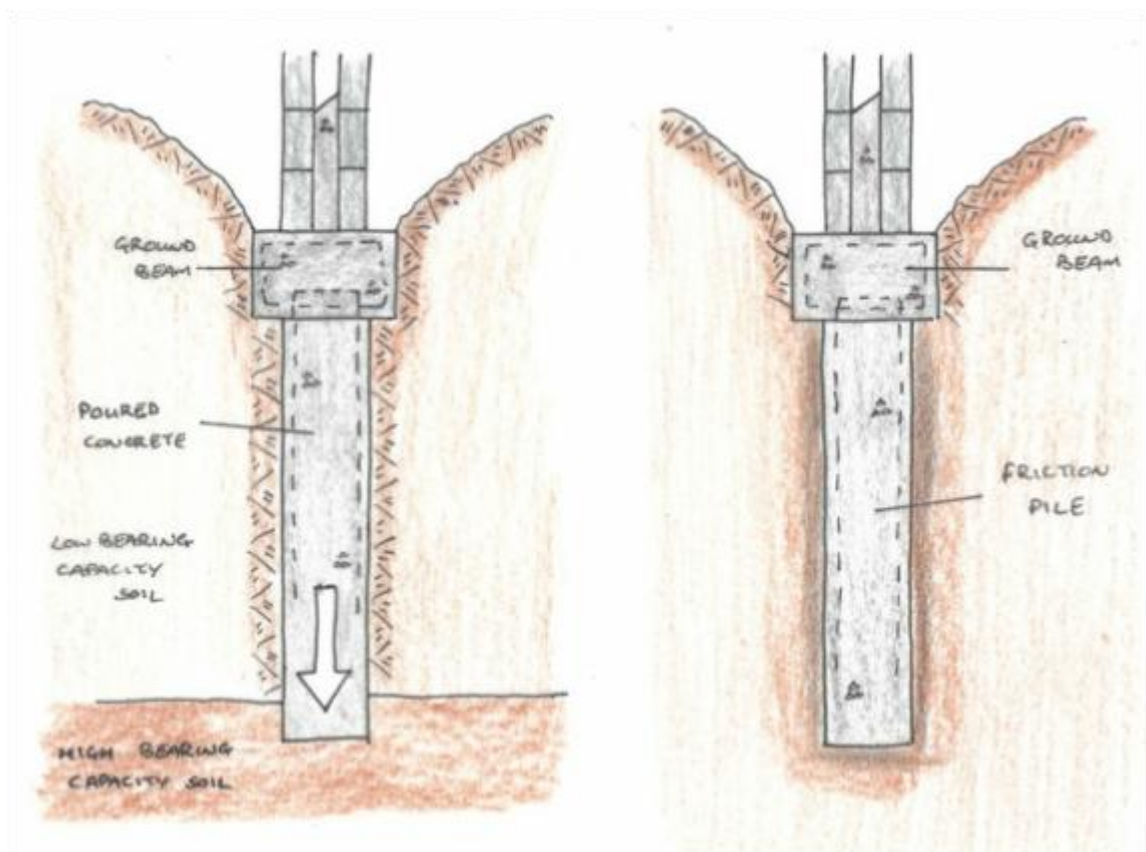


*A pile is a column of concrete that extends downward deep into the soil.*

*Piled foundations consist of a number of piles connected by a ring of concrete called a ground beam. This is similar to a strip foundation but not as wide.*



*One method of construction is to drive precast piles into the soil using specialised percussion drivers. The other method requires the drilling of a pile hole in the soil, which is then poured with concrete and reinforced with steel.*



*Once the piles are complete, the ground beam can be created. This is the surface of which the walls of the dwelling can be built.*

*A compacted hardcore base of minimum 150mm is installed to form a platform for the subfloor and the subsequent loads of the dwelling.*

*The 150mm concrete subfloor is poured on the hardcore in order to provide a strong, smooth platform for the insulation.*

*A radon barrier is installed to form a continuous seal on the entire footprint of the house.*

*A Damp Proof Course is installed in order to repel any rising moisture. It is vital that the DPC is carried up into the blockwork to form a water tight seal over the entire floor area.*

*The DPC must run through the blockwork at a minimum of 150mm above finished ground level.*

*100mm of rigid insulation is installed below the finished floor to ensure that there is no heat lost through the foundation.*

*75mm concrete screed then provides the finished floor.*