# Diamond Pier®

# **Observational Evidence**

Forest Lake, MN May, 2011

Pin Foundations, Inc. 8607 58<sup>th</sup> Ave NW Gig Harbor, WA 98332

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## Reference:

**DP-50** Evaluation Services Report, ESR-1895 Minnesota Building Code (MBC) Minnesota Rules Section 1300.0110, Subpart 13 - Alternate materials, design and methods of construction and equipment.

# Site Observation Form

Brian Wald 1623 12th Avenue SE Forest Lake,Mn55025

5/3/2011

Builder or Contracting Firm:

Kevin Torgerson, Sumner Homes, Inc. 37825 Jeffery Ave., North Branch, MN 55056-5919

History of the site:

Malvane

The home/building was built in:

### **Past Project General Information**

The house at 1623 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Forest Lake, Mn was designed on a sloping grade and has a walkout lower level in the rear of the house. The grade drops approximately 8 feet from the front of the house to the back and continues to slope another 2' back to a channel connected to forest Lake. The channel rests approximately 100 feet behind the house. The area is known to have poor draining clay soils.

A new deck was constructed in 2010 to replace an existing deck that was damaged due to frost heave Jacking. The previous deck was supported by 8 individual concrete piers 42" inches deep which all heaved several inches. Several neighboring homes have severe frost heave issues.

### Proposed Project Information:

The new deck constructed in 2010 was built utilizing the Diamond Pier DP 50 foundation system. The new deck is attached to the north side of the home above the walkout basement. A brick patio was installed under the deck surrounded by mulch landscaping which covers the Diamond Pier DP 50 system. The Diamond Pier DP 50 system was buried 6 inches below grade. The area under the deck was stripped of the soil and prepared with grade 5 compacted stone. Drainage tile was installed to capture water from the roof and the new brick patio in order to drain it away from the area.

### Observational Information:

Visual signs show significant heaving is occurring in many neighboring properties along the canal which is connected to Forest Lake. The homeowner noted that heaving has been a common problem in the neighborhood over the years. Several code compliant 42 inch deep concrete piers are heaving. The new patio installed in 2010 showed signs of heaving. Observation of the Diamond Piers showed no signs of heaving over the winter of 2010-2011. All Diamond Pier DP-50s installed on this site held in frost pressures strong enough to heave previously installed concrete piers.

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Summar	y Conc	usion:

Our observational conclusions show the Diamond Pier DP 50 resisting frost heave pressures better than 42" conventional concrete piers.

### IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA WASHINGTON COUNTY

### STATEMENT OF TRUTH

Petitioner: Pin Foundations, Inc.

8607 58<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW

And Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Witness: Kevin Torgerson/ Sumner Homes, Inc.

37825 Jeffery Ave

North Branch, MN 55056-5919

Case File No.

### STATEMENT OF TRUTH

WHERE WITHNESS TESTIFIES THE FOLLOWING TO BE TRUE

Comes now the Witness who states on oath: "I believe that the facts stated in this statement are true." The diligent research and observation has been made and the Witness verifies the following documents.

Kevin Torgerson/Sumner Homes, Inc.

Witness: (Check all that apply)

The Petitioner has made the following efforts to observe and document and I deem the following to be true  $\,$ 

### History of Site:

The house at 1623 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Forest Lake, MN was designed on a sloping grade and has a walkout lower level in the rear of the house. The grade drops approximately 8 feet from the front of the house to the back and continues to slope another 2' back to a channel connected to forest Lake. The channel is approximately 100 feet behind the house. The area is known to have poor draining clay soils. A new deck was constructed in 2010 to replace an existing deck that was damaged due to frost heave Jacking. The previous deck was supported by 8 individual concrete piers 42" inches deep which all heaved several inches. Several neighboring homes have severe frost heave issues.

### **Current Site**

The new deck constructed in 2010 was built utilizing the Diamond Pier DP 50 foundation system. The new deck is attached to the north side of the home above the walkout basement. A brick patio was installed under the deck surrounded by mulch landscaping which covers the Diamond Pier DP 50 system. The Diamond Pier DP 50 system was buried 6 inches below grade. The area under the deck was stripped of the soil and prepared with grade 5 compacted stone. Drainage tile was installed to capture water from the roof and the new brick patio in order to drain it away from the area.

Observational Information:

Visual signs show significant heaving is occurring in many neighboring properties along the

canal which is connected to Forest Lake. The homeowner noted that heaving has been a common problem in the neighborhood over the years. Several code compliant 42 inch deep concrete piers are heaving. The new patio installed in 2010 showed signs of heaving. Observation of the Diamond Piers showed no signs of heaving over the winter of 2010-2011.

All Diamond Pier DP-50s installed on this site held in frost pressures strong enough to heave all previously installed concrete piers. Our observational conclusions show the Diamond Pier DP 50 resisting frost heave pressures better than 42" conventional concrete piers.

Other

Somesta Homes, Inc.

Signature

Sworn to and subscribed before me,

This of ,

# Soil Type Aerial Map

1623 12th Avenue SE, Forest Lake, MN

860C - Urban land-Hayden-Kingsley complex



### Washington County, Minnesota

# 860C—Urban land-Hayden-Kingsley complex, 3 to 15 percent slopes

### Map Unit Setting

Elevation: 700 to 1,600 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 27 to 33 inches Mean annual air temperature: 39 to 46 degrees F

Frost-free period: 135 to 180 days

### Map Unit Composition

Urban land: 55 percent

Hayden and similar soils: 25 percent Kingsley and similar soils: 15 percent

### **Description of Urban Land**

### Setting

Landform: Moraines

Landform position (two-dimensional): Shoulder

Down-slope shape: Linear Across-slope shape: Linear

### **Description of Hayden**

### Setting

Landform: Moraines

Landform position (two-dimensional): Shoulder

Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex

Parent material: Till

### Properties and qualities

Slope: 3 to 15 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Well drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high to high (0.57 to 1.98 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 25 percent Available water capacity: High (about 10.0 inches)

### Interpretive groups

Land capability (nonirrigated): 3e

### Typical profile

0 to 9 inches: Fine sandy loam 9 to 15 inches: Fine sandy loam 15 to 50 inches: Clay loam 50 to 60 inches: Loam



### **Description of Kingsley**

### Setting

Landform: Moraines

Landform position (two-dimensional): Shoulder, backslope

Down-slope shape: Convex Across-slope shape: Convex

Parent material: Till

### Properties and qualities

Slope: 3 to 15 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Well drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water

(Ksat): Moderately low to moderately high (0.14 to 0.57 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None Frequency of ponding: None

Available water capacity: Moderate (about 8.5 inches)

### Interpretive groups

Land capability (nonirrigated): 3e

### Typical profile

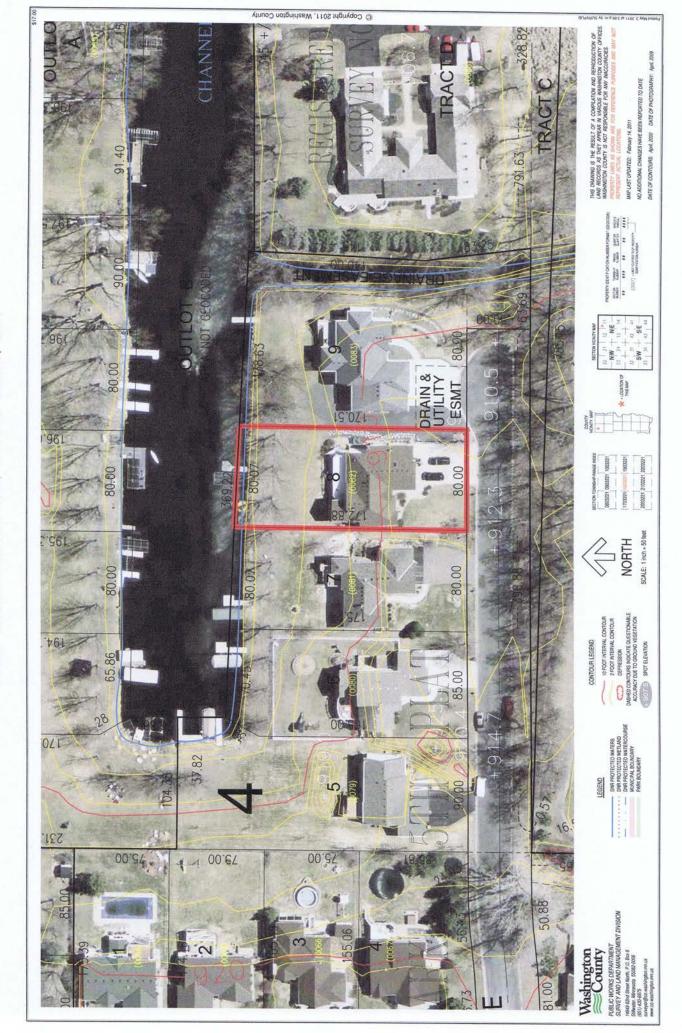
0 to 8 inches: Sandy loam 8 to 39 inches: Sandy loam 39 to 60 inches: Sandy loam

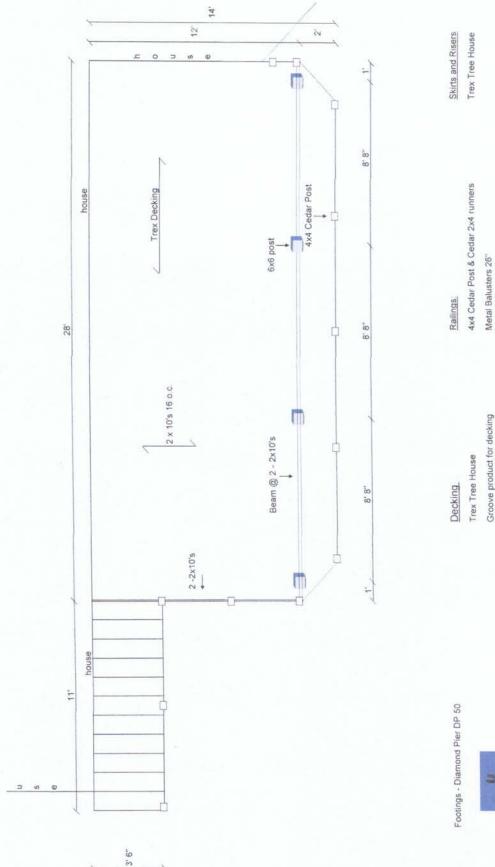
### **Data Source Information**

Soil Survey Area: Washington County, Minnesota

Survey Area Data: Version 6, Aug 2, 2010

# Contour Map Topographical Contol







Decking

Trex Tree House
Groove product for decking
Non Groove for last deck board
Non Groove for last stair fread
Hidden Fasteners

Top Rail - non grooved Trex Tree House

# **Tributary Load Analysis**

Date: May 4, 2011

Project: Wald Residence

lake Forest, MN

Project Size:

14 x 28

Sq. Ft.

392.00

Total Load Req.

60 lbs per sq. ft.

**Total Load** 

23,520 lbs

50%

% of area

% of area

supported by single beam

supported by the

dwelling

line

50%

11,760

Total load

Total load

supported by

supported by the

the single

dwelling

beam line

# of Posts

4

11,760

Equal weight

yes

distribution

between posts

Load to each

post

2,940

lbs.

# Weather Data Forest Lake Minnesota

October 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011

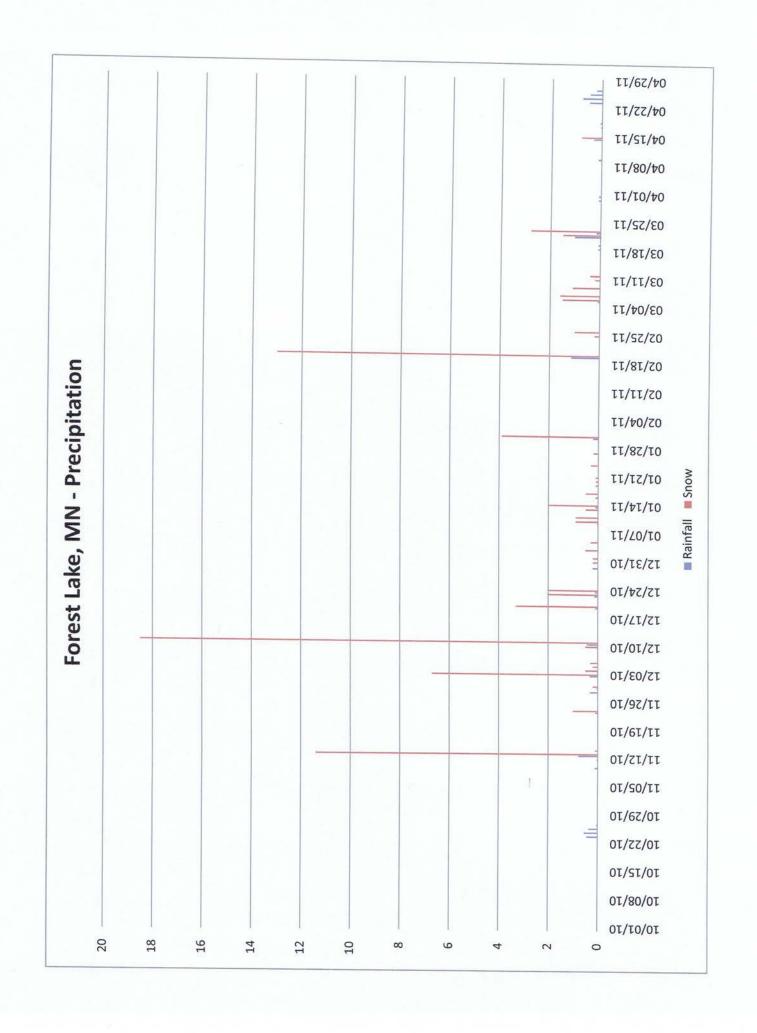
This weather summary is in reference to the observational evidence submitted regarding DP 50 Diamond Piers and their ability to resist frost heave jacking.

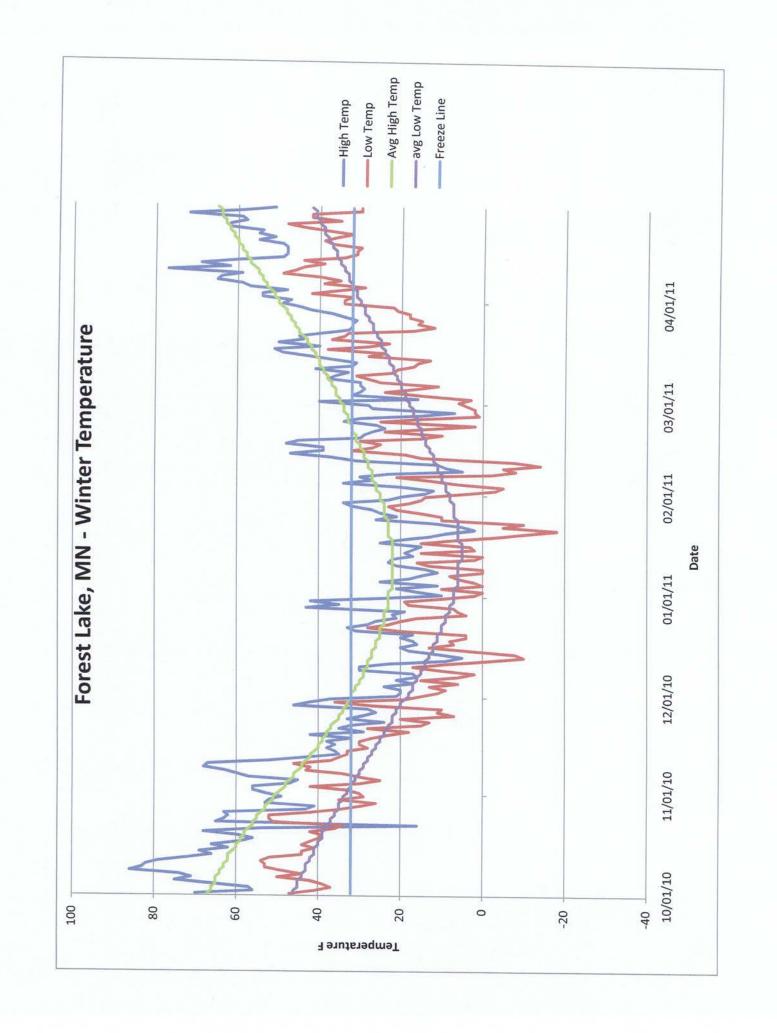
Currently frost heave forces are not measurable and hence cannot be calculated mathematically nor engineered into a product or construction methodology. Historically, observational evidence has been the basis for determining proper types of foundation systems to support structures. Frost heave is a factor of soil type, moisture content, rate of temperature drop and the amount of snow cover prior to freezing temperatures and frozen ground. Therefore, Pin Foundations, Inc. incorporates soil type, precipitation as a water equivalent, snow cover and temperature data into their observational reports.

### Summary

weather data was collected from AccuWeather in the weather Channel website. See links <a href="http://www.weather.com/weather/wxclimatology/monthly/graph/55025">http://www.weather.com/weather/wxclimatology/monthly/graph/55025</a> <a href="http://www.accuweather.com/us/mn/forest-lake/55025/forecast-month.asp?mnyr=2-01-2011&view=table">http://www.accuweather.com/us/mn/forest-lake/55025/forecast-month.asp?mnyr=2-01-2011&view=table</a>

The weather data gathered for Forest Lake, Minnesota indicates slightly below normal temperatures with slightly below precipitation as a water equivalent and above-average snowfall. The long term average high and low temperature for the period October 1, through April 30, is 40° and 23° respectively. Temperature data collected from AccuWeather shows the actual average temperature from October 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011 as 38° and 22° respectively. This represents an average high temperature 2° below normal within average low temperature 1° below normal. The long term average precipitation as a water equivalent for the period October 1 through April 30 is 11.25 inches. The actual precipitation as a water equivalent for the period October 1, 2010 through April 30, 2011 is 10.64 inches. Average annual snowfall for Forest Lake Minnesota is 45 inches. Recorded snowfall for the winter of 2010-2011 is 82".

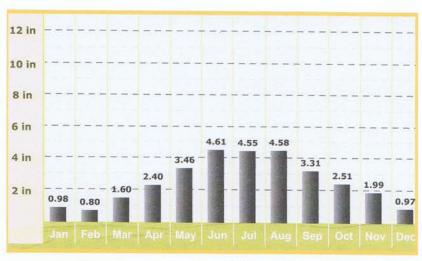




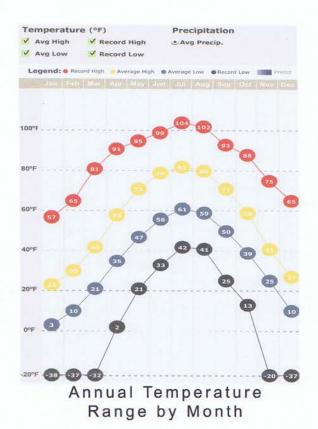
# Weather Data

Forest lake, MN

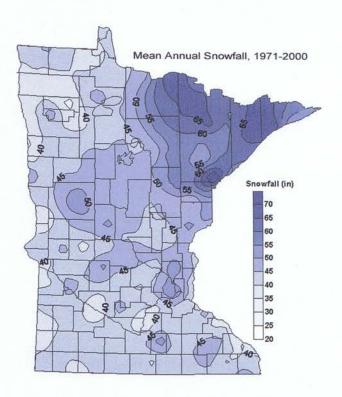
Historical Averages



Average Annual Precipitation Forest Lake, MN



Red = MonthRecord High Orange=Avg Monthly High Blue = Avg Monthly Low Blk=Month Record Low



Mean Annual Snowfall

1971-2000

# Site Photos 1632 12th Avenue SE, Forest Lake, MN







A new deck was constructed on DP-50 Diamond Piers to replace an existing deck where all 42" concrete piers had heaved several inches. DP-50 Diamond Piers resisted the frost heave pressures protecting the new structure from the negative effects of frost heave. The new deck remain level and sound.