

## CHAPTER 12

PILE FOUNDATIONS

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**12-1. General.** Bearing piles are deep foundations used to transmit foundation loads to rock or soil layers having adequate bearing capacity to support the structure and to preclude settlement resulting from consolidation of soil above these layers. When the bearing strata are below the groundwater table, and when offshore structures are being built, piles may be the most economical type of deep foundation available

because they do not require dewatering of the site. Piles also may be used to compact cohesionless soils and to serve as anchorages against lateral thrust and vertical uplift.

**12-2. Design.** The selection, design, and placement of pile foundations are discussed in detail in the latest revision of TM 5-809-7.