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Absorption Pit

A pit dug into permeable ground and filled with stone, bricks, or rubble material. Then covered with soil, to allow liquid effluent to soak slowly into the ground.

Accelerator

An additive which increases the rate of chemical reaction such as in curing of concrete.

Access (Site)

The area by which vehicles and pedestrians enter and leave a property.

Access Cover

A removable cover to provide access.

Accreditation

The licensing by a Statutory Authority. Also the capabilities and competence of an organisation or individual to provide a specified service.

Adhesive

A substance by which chemically bonds together materials at the surface.

Adjustable Prop

A steel prop used in scaffolding with an adjustment mechanism to raise or lower it to the supported structure.

Agreement

A contract between two or more parties written and/or oral.

Agricultural Pipe

A pipe used in the construction for sub-soil drainage. Enables the entry and discharge of ground water through openings or slots in the pipe.

Air Vent

A fixture opening in a wall to enable air to circulate to and from a confined space.

Allotment

A parcel of land for which an individual title may be issued. Usually created out of a larger subdivision.

Anchor

A device used to give stability to one part of a structure by securing it to another part or to a more stable structure.

Anti-Corrosive Paint

A coating material designed to retard the corrosion of metals.

Appreciation

The increase in the value of property caused by economic factors.

Arbitration

A process of dispute settlement under procedures set out in statutory law, under which an independent 'Arbitrator' is appointed.

Arch

A load bearing structure which spans an opening.

Arch Bar

A steel bar of rectangular cross-section used to support brickwork or blockwork over an opening.

Architrave

A decorative timber moulding around openings.

Arrestor

An apparatus set up to intercept and capture silt, sand, oil, grease and other substances.

As- Built Drawing

A drawing detailing the works as completed, detailing, all changes made from the original drawings.

Attached Pier (Engaged Pier)

A brick or masonry pier bonded into a wall, primarily used for structural purposes and is also used for decorative purposes

Attic (Attic Storey)

The accessible space within the roof space of a house.

Awning

A roof-like covering to shelter people or protect parts of a building from the effects of the sun or rain.

Awning Window

A window where the sash is hinged horizontally at the top of the window and it opens outwardly at the bottom.