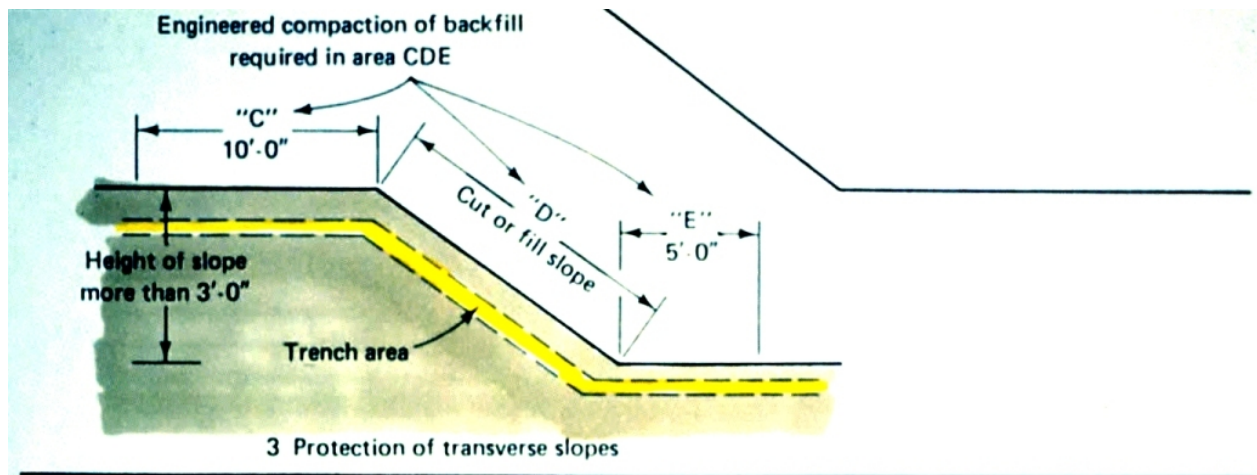


Part 4

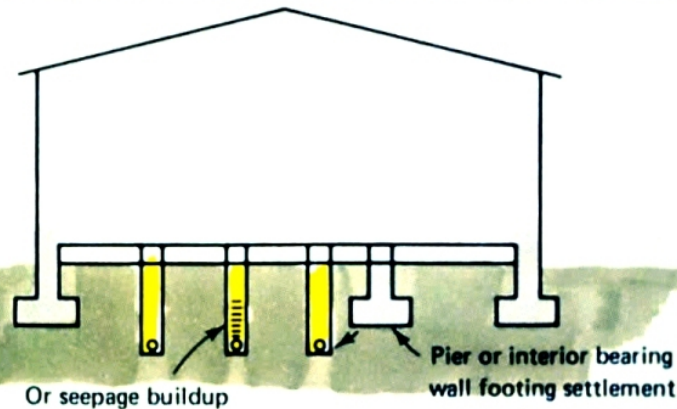
BACKFILLING UTILITY TRENCHES



- **Miss-location and under compaction of backfill in utility trenches often lead to unexpected problems, like the erosion depicted here**

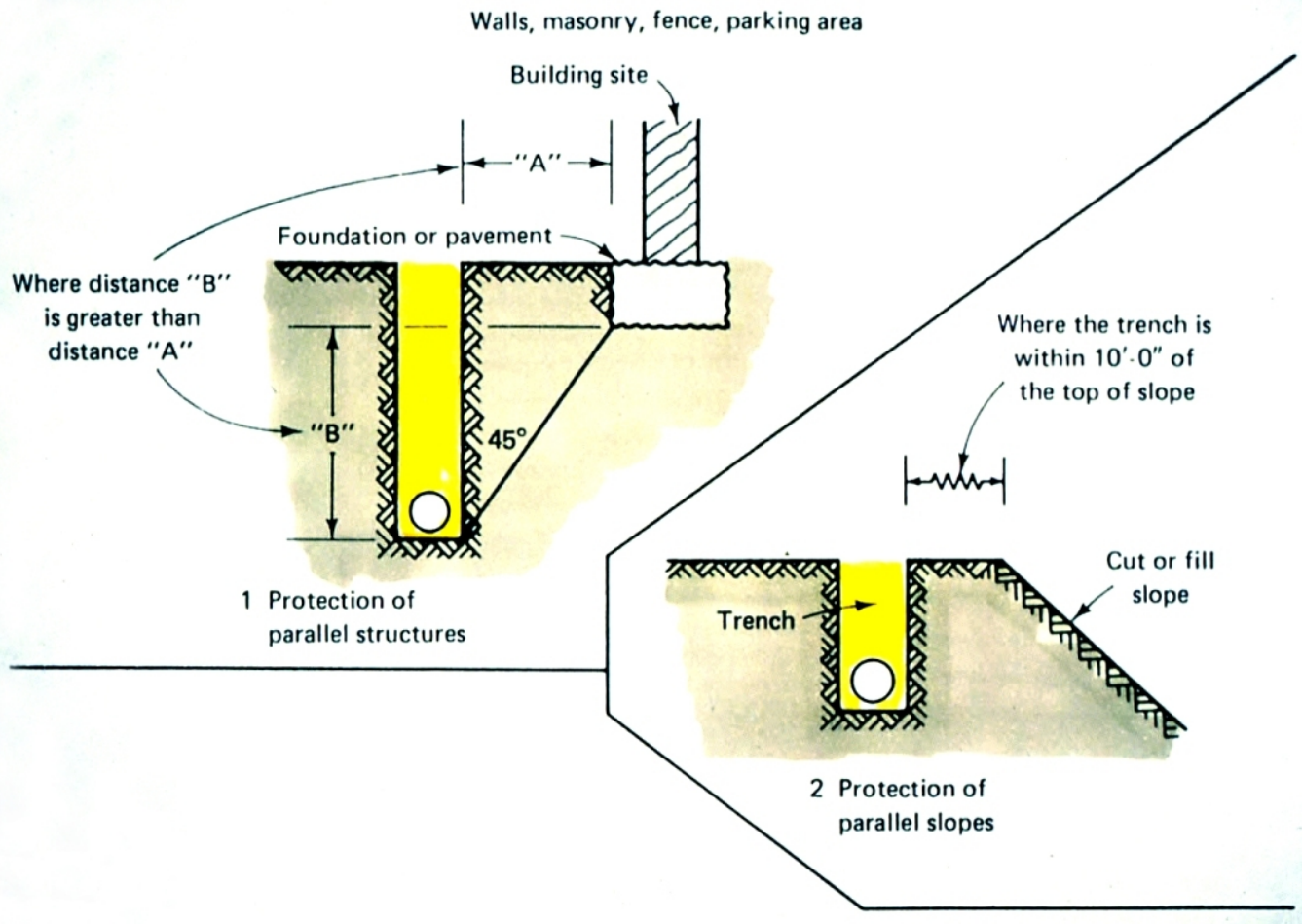


Where interior bearing walls settle into utility trenches or water builds up around plumbing fixtures due to loose trench backfills



4 Protection of house interior walls

- **Utility trenches should never be placed directly beneath structures without proper design for bridging of foundation elements**



- **Utility trenches should be located with sufficient offset from slope faces and foundation elements, as shown above**



- **Utility trenches backfill with sand or silt mixtures tend to undergo hydrocompression-induced settlement, as shown here**



- **Example of intersecting utility trenches excavated too close to the building's foundation**