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Abstract

A plate for use as a footing for posts in building and structures, said plate is made of steel or other suitable material with tubes affixed at angles in the plate, allowing for steel and other pins to be jack hammered into place via the tubes directly into the soil, with various fixtures of steel or other suitable material affixed on top of the plate to accommodate for the securing of posts for buildings and structures of various sizes.

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The invention relates to improvements in the provision of foundation footing for posts in buildings and structures. In particular, the invention allows the footing for posts for building and structures without the need for digging, excavation or cement.

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Posts and poles are common place in buildings and structures. However, depending on the size of the structure, significant amounts of materials and labour are required to secure the footings for posts. Until now, these problems have been dealt with by digging excessively large holes, placing the posts inside, and filling the holes with cement. The process is not only costly, it is also time consuming and laborious. In addition, swelling and contraction of cement can occur requiring further time and cost to correctly secure the footing.

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These issues are overcome by the present invention, which provides a cost effective way to ground posts of any size without the need for digging, excavation or cement. In particular, an especially designed plate made of steel or other suitable material secures pins in place that provide the strength needed to hold any post in place. The invention builds on current technologies and enables the use of a jackhammer to ground the footing instead of the usual digging and excavation. Once in place, the invention can hold posts of any size, for virtually any purpose.

The result is a fast, effective way to provide footing for posts without the need for digging, excavation or cement.

20 PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

FIG. 1 is a photograph of an embodiment of the inventions having a plate 1 and tubes 2 and 3 affixed to the plate 1 and passing through it at various angles. The tubes allow for steel and other pins to be jackhammered via the tubes directly into the soil.

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FIG. 2 is a photograph showing the plate 1 and tubes 2 and 3 affixed to the plate 1 and passing through it at various angles. A fixture 4 which may be of various shapes and sizes is affixed on top of the plate 1 to accommodate for the securing of posts for buildings and structures.

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FIG. 3 is a graphic representation of the top view of an embodiment of the invention with plate 1 and tubes 2 and 3 affixed to the plate 1 and passing through it at various angles, and a fixture 4 affixed on top of the plate 1 to accommodate for the securing of a post for buildings and structures.

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CLAIMS:

1. A footing plate comprising a planar web through which a plurality of tubes pass, said tubes being adjacent the edges of the web and being disposed at varying angles to said web, none of said angles being 90° , said tubes being sized to permit the passage therethrough of pins for fixing into underlying ground, wherein the upper face of said planar web is provided with receiving means for receiving a post or a structural beam, the receiving means being a substantially planar area central to the planar web.
2. A footing plate comprising a planar web through which a plurality of tubes pass, said tubes being adjacent the edges of the web and being disposed at varying angles to said web, none of said angles being 90° , said tubes being sized to permit the passage therethrough of pins for fixing into underlying ground, and wherein the upper face of said planar web is provided with receiving means for receiving a post or a structural beam, the receiving means being configured to maintain the post or structural beam in an upright position; optionally the receiving means being central to the planar web.
3. A footing plate comprising a planar web through which a plurality of tubes pass, said tubes being adjacent the edges of the web and being disposed at varying angles to said web, none of said angles being 90° , said tubes being sized to permit the passage therethrough of pins for fixing into underlying ground, and wherein the upper face of said planar web is provided with receiving means for receiving a post or a structural beam, the receiving means configured to substantially surround the post or structural beam.
4. A method for grounding a post or a structural beam, the method comprising:
 - providing a footing plate comprising a planar web through which a plurality of tubes pass, said tubes being adjacent the edges of the web and being disposed at varying angles to said web, none of said angles being 90° , said tubes being sized to permit the passage therethrough of pins for fixing into underlying ground, and wherein the upper face of said planar web is provided with receiving means for receiving a post or a structural beam,
 - providing a post or structural beam,

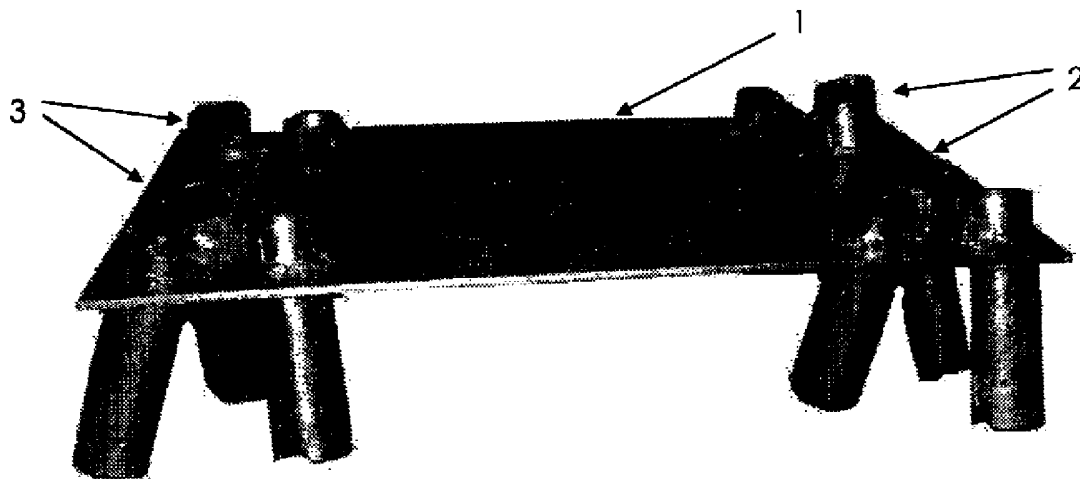
engaging the post or the structural beam with the receiving means, and

grounding the footing plate, optionally the receiving means is, or comprises, a substantially planar area central to the planar web.

5. A kit comprising the footing plate of any one of claims 1 to 3 and instructions for grounding a post or a structural beam using the footing plate.

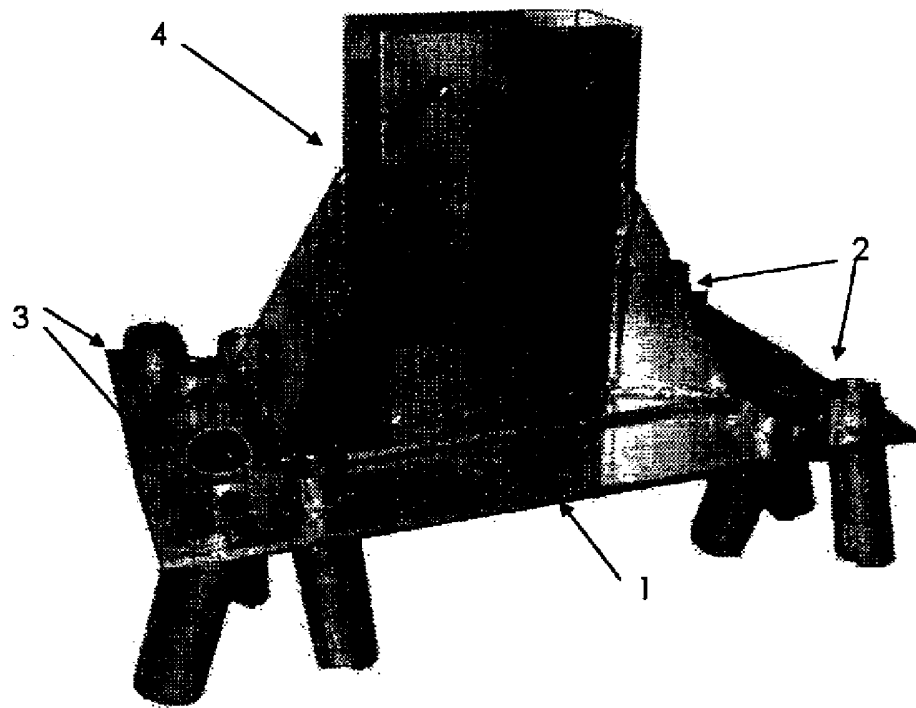
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FIGURE 1



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FIGURE 2



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FIGURE 3

