

Specifications for Cement Sidewalks.

The following specifications for cement sidewalks were presented at the convention of the National Cement Users' Association, held at Buffalo, January 21-23, by the committee on sidewalks, streets and floors.

The ground base should be made as solid and permanent as possible. Where excavations or fills are made, all wood or other materials which will decompose should be removed and replaced with earth or other filling like the rest of the foundation.

Fills of clay or other material which will settle after heavy rains or deep freezing should be tamped solid in layers not more than 6 inches in

thickness, so as to insure a solid embankment which will remain firm after the walk is laid.

Embankments should not be less than 2 1/2 feet wider than the walk which is to be built. When porous material, such as coal ashes, granulated slag or gravel, is used, under drains of agricultural tile should be laid to the curb drains or gutters so as to prevent water accumulating and freezing under the walk and breaking the blocks.

The position of shade trees should not be less than 4 feet from the walk. Carolina poplar, elm or shade trees whose roots run near the surface of the ground, should not be less than 10 feet from the walk.

Lines and grades should be given by a civil engineer; the stakes to be not over 25 feet apart and far enough from the walk line so that an inspector may see that the walk is laid to line grade.

The mould strips should be firmly blocked under the ends of the centre

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