turning point (TP)

Temporary point on which rod readings are taken to move the leveling instrument along a survey path; a foresight (FS or +) is taken on the turning point to obtain its elevation (initially, elevation of turning point is unknown); the instrument is then moved from its position and set up at a new position beyond the turning point; a backsight (BS or +) is then taken on the turning point to determine the height of the instrument (HI); the turning point must be a firm object, such as a stone, stake, pipe, fence post, or axe head so that the elevation will not change while the instrument is being moved; if the turning point is altered while the instrument is being moved, the survey must go back to the last permanent point of known elevation (i.e., a bench mark).