



GLOSSARY OF ARCHITECTURAL TERMS

Revised 2/2001

abutment. An intersection of walls where the stones of the two walls do not overlap or intermix; the end of one wall is built against the face of the other.

basal stones. The lowest stones in the continuous face of a wall (Figure 3).

cell wall. An above-ground wall constructed to block in an above-ground kiva; these walls usually form a square or rectangle, and the kiva is constructed within them. The kiva may have a separate upper lining wall, or the upper portion of the cell wall may also serve as the kiva's upper lining wall.

chinking. Small stones or sherds in the mortar joints of a masonry wall (Figure 3).

tabular: relatively thin and flat, as in a piece of stone

spall: a flake of stone

chunk: an irregular piece of stone that is not tabular or a spall

closing material. Vegetal material used in roof construction; it rests on the beams and/or shakes and is beneath the mud, daub, or loose dirt layer.

courses. Horizontal rows of building stones exposed on the face of a wall.

coursing. The degree of consistency with which masonry courses are laid.

coursed-patterned: a fully coursed wall in which the stones have been sorted by size and/or shape; this technique produces a repeated pattern that has a decorative effect

fully coursed: stones are laid in distinct rows and tend to overlap the joints of the adjacent courses, virtually eliminating running joints (Figure 3); the courses tend to be uniform in thickness

semicoursed: stones are laid in somewhat distinct rows but lack consistency; stone sizes tend to be more uniform than in uncoursed walls, and running joints are less common

uncoursed: stones are placed without forming distinct rows; stone sizes usually vary considerably and running joints are common

cross section. In masonry, the configuration of a wall through its thickness (Figure 4).

compound: a wall that includes both single-stone and double-stone masonry

compound with core: a compound wall in which the areas of double-stone masonry are separated by a rubble core

double bonded: a double-stone wall in which the majority of stones overlap each other in the wall interior

double stone with core: a wall two stones wide with a rubble core; the wall stones do not overlap on the interior

double stone: a wall that is two adjacent stones wide with no overlap on the inside of the wall (in effect, two adjacent single-stone walls)

single stone: a wall that is a single stone wide

dressed stone. A building stone that has been shaped; shaping may include flaking, pecking, groove-and-snapping, or grinding.

footing. A wall section below the basal stones. A footing may be made from any materials, but it must not be a continuation of the wall masonry. Footings are frequently laid in a trench but may occur in any vertical relationship to a floor surface. Materials usually differ in size or shape from those used in the wall (Figure 5).

foundation. The surface upon which a wall is constructed; possibilities include bedrock, cultural fill, and undisturbed natural sediment (Figure 5).

jacal wall. A wall constructed of a framework of vertical poles, usually tied together with horizontal poles and plastered with mud or covered with daub; we do not distinguish between jacal and wattle-and-daub.

joints. In masonry, the spaces between stones.

ledge. An offset in a masonry wall where the upper face is recessed from the lower face.

lintel. A horizontal crosspiece at the top of a wall opening.

masonry construction. An architectural construction method in which stones are laid on top of one another.

dry-laid: stones were laid without mortar

dry-laid/daubed: stones were dry-laid walls but had daub pressed into the joints

wet-laid: stones were set in wet mortar

mortar. A bonding material used with masonry, wood, or other materials, joining them into a unified mass.

form: the position of the mortar relative to the joint at the face of the wall, when viewed in cross section (Figure 6)

concave: the mortar surface is indented into the joint (does not extend out to the face of the wall)

extruded: the mortar surface is convex at the joint (extends beyond the stones at the wall face)

flush: the mortar surface is even with the masonry face at the joint

texture: the relative coarseness or fineness of the material used as mortar

color: determined using a Munsell color chart

plaster. A mixture of sediment and water used to cover structural surfaces.

primary beams (vigas). Main roof support beams that span the length or width of a structure and support the remainder of the roof (Figure 7).

running joint. A joint that runs vertically for several courses in a masonry wall (Figure 3).

secondary beams (latillas). Roof construction beams that rest on the primary beams and span the distances between the primary beams or between the primary beams and the walls of the structure (Figure 7).

shake. A long, narrow, thin piece of wood that has been split from a larger piece of wood; these are frequently layered on top of secondary beams in roof construction (Figure 7).

sill. A horizontal crosspiece at the bottom of a wall opening.

shaped slab. A slab that exhibits evidence of marginal and/or surficial modification(s).

slab. A relatively thin, flat, broad stone.

socket. In a wall face, an opening that held a roof support beam (Figure 7).

tabular. The shape designation of a stone that is at least three times as long as it is high.

tied. A term applied to walls that abut, except in a few places where a single stone overlaps from one wall into the other.

veneer. A wall facing or covering of stone or stone and mortar that does not contribute to the support of the wall.

vertical slab. A slab that is set on its side or end.

wattle-and-daub. This is the same as jacal except that the pole framework is woven together before the application of mud or daub; this method is lumped with jacal for our purposes.

Figure 3. Masonry wall attributes.

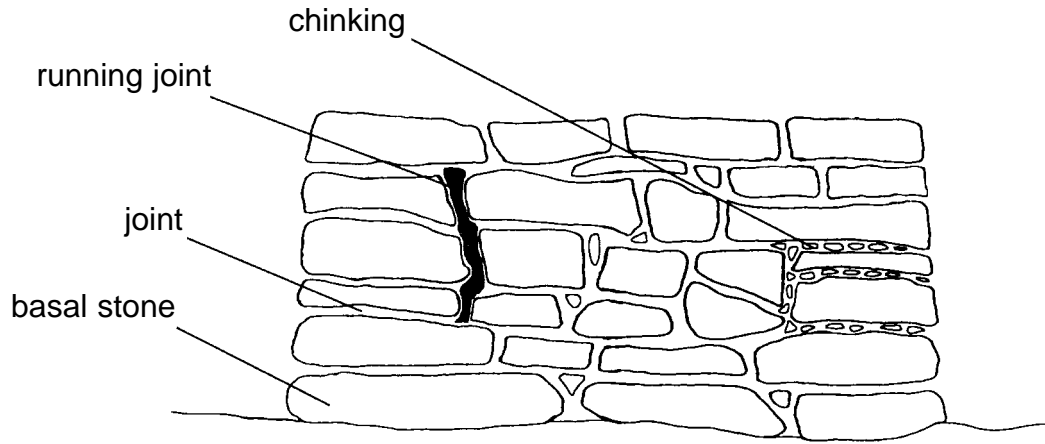
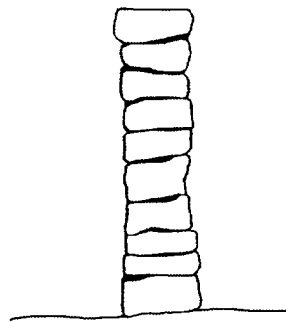
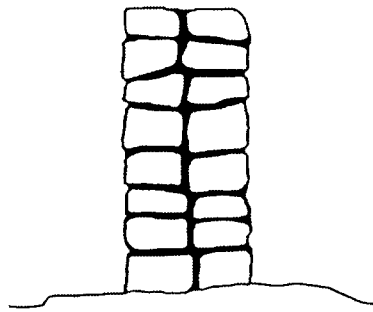


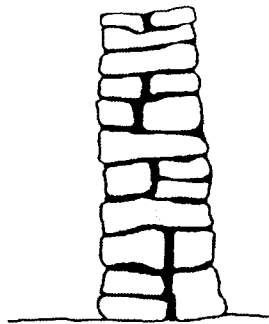
Figure 4. Wall cross-section types.



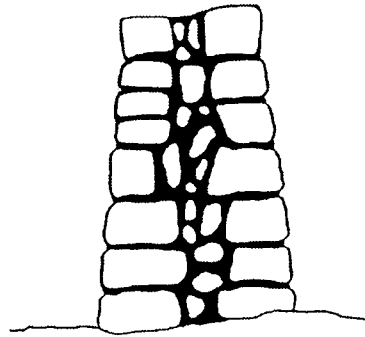
Single stone



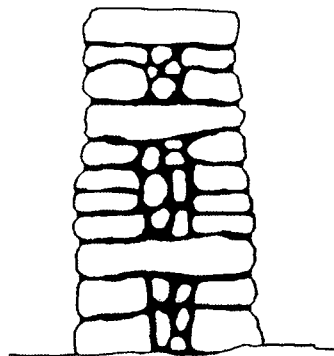
Double stone



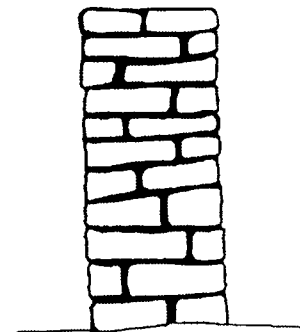
Compound



Double stone with core



Compound with core



Double bonded

**Figure 5. Wall footings and foundations:
(a–b) footings; (c) bedrock foundation; (d) raised-bedrock foundation.**

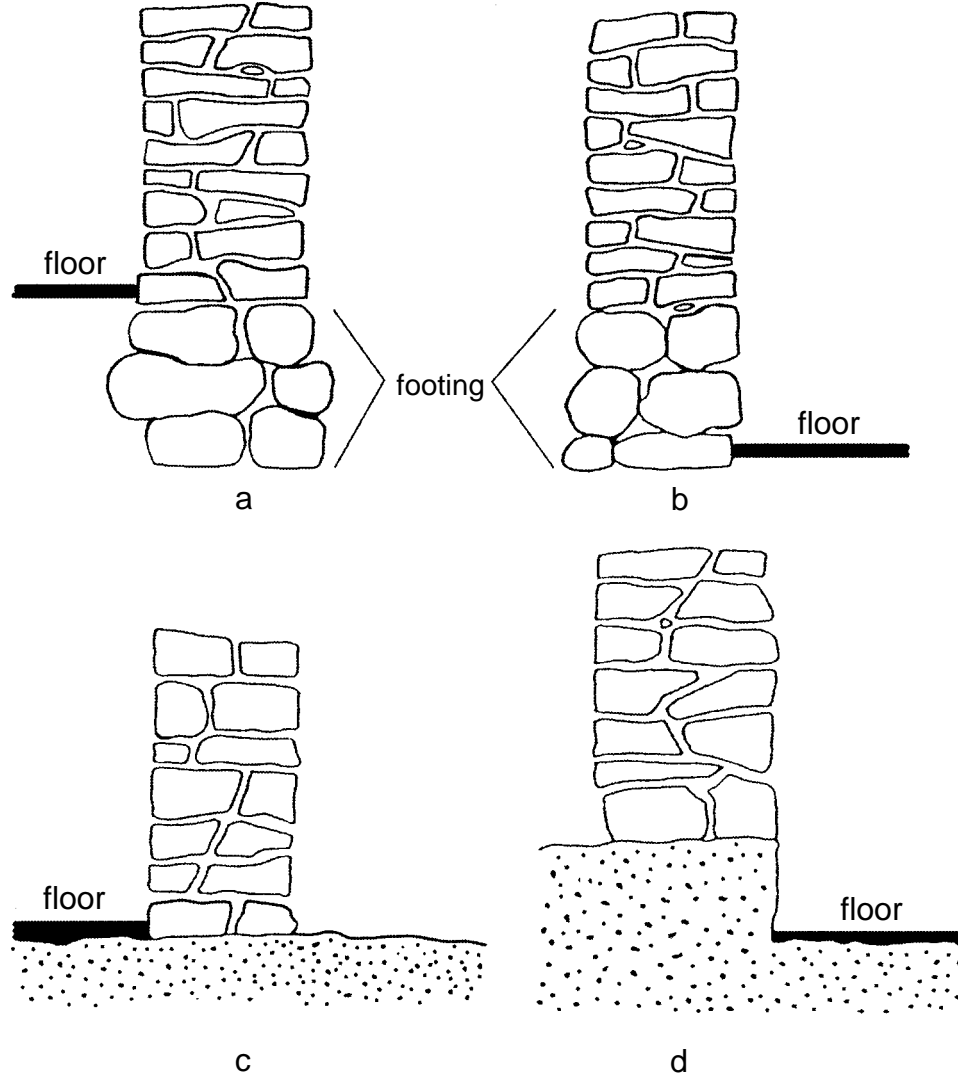


Figure 6. Mortar forms: (a) concave; (b) extruded; (c) flush.

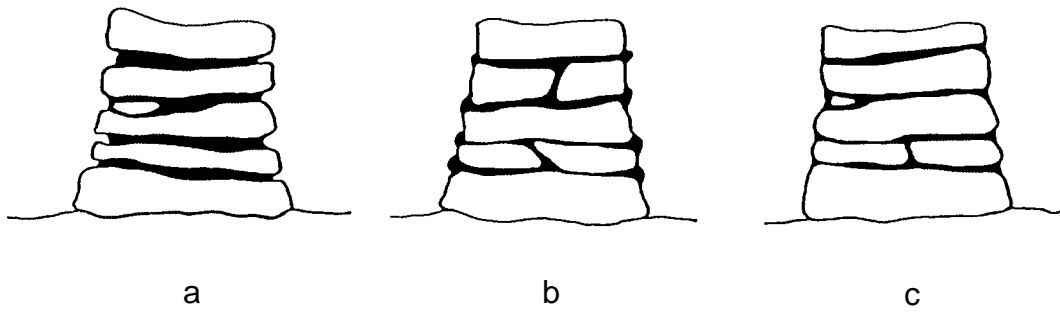


Figure 7. Roof construction elements.

