

Condition Assessment

F07 – Stone Wall

This guidance note provides further detail on the method for undertaking the condition assessment for Stone Walls (F07)

Definition

A built Structure of natural stone or stone blocks, mostly of traditional dry stone wall construction. This also includes mortared walls where they form a field boundary.

If the wall does not fit the definitions above as it no longer functions as an effective boundary but is traceable due to remnant features see if the boundary is a 'Relict (out of use) boundary (H05)' on page 85 of the FEP Handbook. If this is the case use the condition assessment indicated.

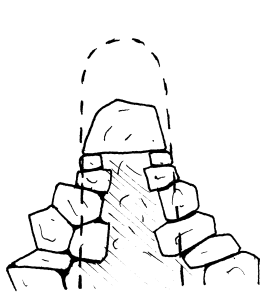
How to mark boundaries on the map

Walls should be numbered so they can be referred to accurately in the Environmental Data Sheet (part 2 of the FEP form). The same numbering series should be used for all field boundaries; hedges, walls and water-filled ditches – see example map. The numbering system should be based on a 'node to node' approach, with individual boundaries being identified by surveying between an end point and an intersection with another boundary or feature. However, where a field is surrounded by a wall which is in the same condition along its entire length and is not linked to other walls then the whole wall should be given the same number. If it is not clear where boundaries end these should be indicated using a short red line.

The 'node to node' approach

To ensure that each length of wall surveyed is clearly identifiable it is necessary to define the end points. These relate to the section between two ends (nodes/connections), or between an end and no wall, or an end and another type of boundary.

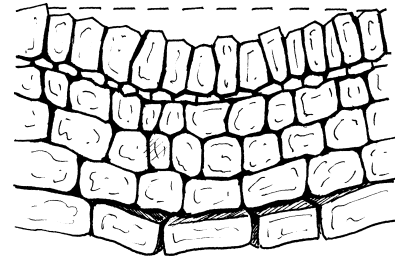
Bulging, slumping and bellying



Slumping



Bellying

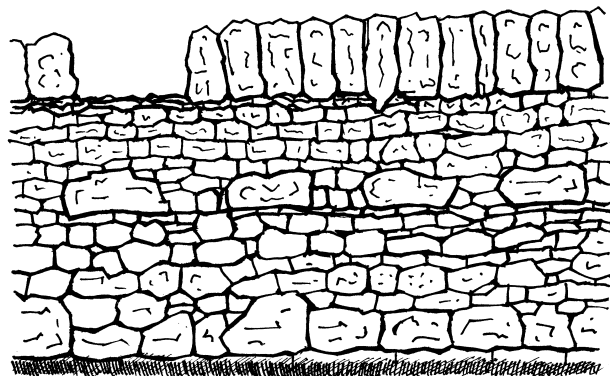


Bulging

Condition assessment

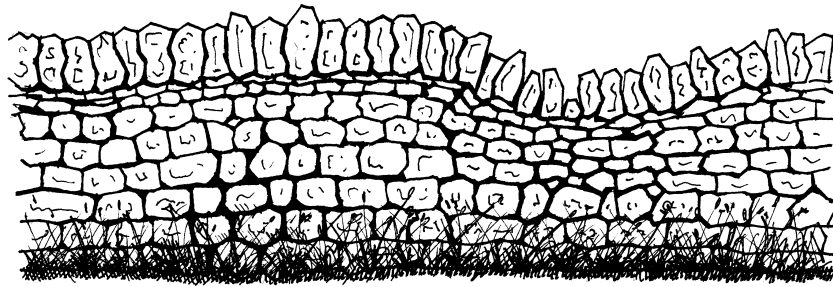
1	Continuity	Full height wall to below top stones and no gaps along the length of the boundary.
2	Materials	Any repair or maintenance carried out has been in traditional materials used in the original construction and style characteristic of the local area.
3	Structure	Minor signs of bulging, slumping or bellying are acceptable, but wall not in danger of collapse.
4	Completeness	Some top stones can be displaced but at least 75% must be present.

Condition A Example – Full height wall to below top stones and no gaps along the length of the boundary. All materials used in any repair or maintenance in traditional materials in the original construction and style characteristic of the local area. No signs of bulging, slumping or bellying. Some top stones missing, but more than 75% present.



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Condition B Example – Full height wall to below top stones and more than 75% of top stones present. No gaps along the length of the boundary. All materials used in any repair or maintenance in traditional materials in the original construction and style of the local area. BUT signs of bulging, slumping or bellying and section of wall in danger of collapse.



Condition C Example – All materials used in any repair or maintenance in traditional materials in the original construction and style characteristic of the local area. BUT gaps along the length of the boundary. Major signs of bulging, slumping or bellying and less than 75% of top stones present.

