

MZ23
U904
ed1 (Elizabeth Drolet)

Wall Conservation Lexicon

Broad Classification of walls

Unchanged: No observable alteration to the surface and structure of the walls, in comparison to previous documentation.

Slight change: Minor changes to the surface of the wall, with no indications of structural changes to the wall.

Moderate change: Substantial changes to the surface of the walls, with minor or no changes to the structure of the wall

Severe change: Substantial changes to the surface and structure of the wall.

Condition Issues

Cracks:

Fissures in the structure of the wall. These can be vertical or horizontal. The severity of the cracks can be determined by noting the overall length of the crack, and whether or not it is gapped (has space in between). Thin cracks with little or no space in between are fairly minor,



while long cracks with $\frac{1}{2}$ cm of space or more are severe and should be carefully monitored.

Delamination:

Partial splitting of the outer surface of the wall, causing sections to separate from the wall



surface parallel to the face of the wall.

Erosion:

The loss of the outer surface of the bricks due to contact with water. This is the result of dripping water or contact with rain, and sometimes results in smooth eroded areas of loss, or in severe cases melting of the bricks. On some walls the individual drip lines can be seen on the wall face.

**Crumbling:**

Loss of cohesion within the structure of the bricks and mortar. Results in small pieces of detached material which often falls onto lower surfaces.

**Loss:**

The complete detachment of a section (due to any cause), where the section is no longer present. Look especially for freshly broken areas, indicated by a change in color from surrounding areas. In areas of fresh loss the red brick surface will appear more strongly red, and will be clearly distinguishable from the mortar. The surface will also appear less smooth and with loose powdery material on the surface.

Separation:

Areas where a section has completely detached from the wall, but still remains in place. This is generally either a result of cracks becoming very wide and gapped, or occurs along lines where two different types of soil meet. Often separation occurs at the line between the bricks and mortar.

**Salt Damage:**

Spalling and a powdery surface caused by salts in the body of the bricks. In dry conditions, this damage can often be accompanied by the appearance of salt crystals on the surface, but this is not always the case (see below).

**Salt efflorescence:**

The presence of a whitish haze or visible salt crystals on the surface of the wall. Appears in distinct areas, and are often not easily brushed from the surface.



Previous repairs:

Modern mud plaster, applied as repairs in previous seasons. Filled with straw, and slightly more gray than the original surface of the walls.

