

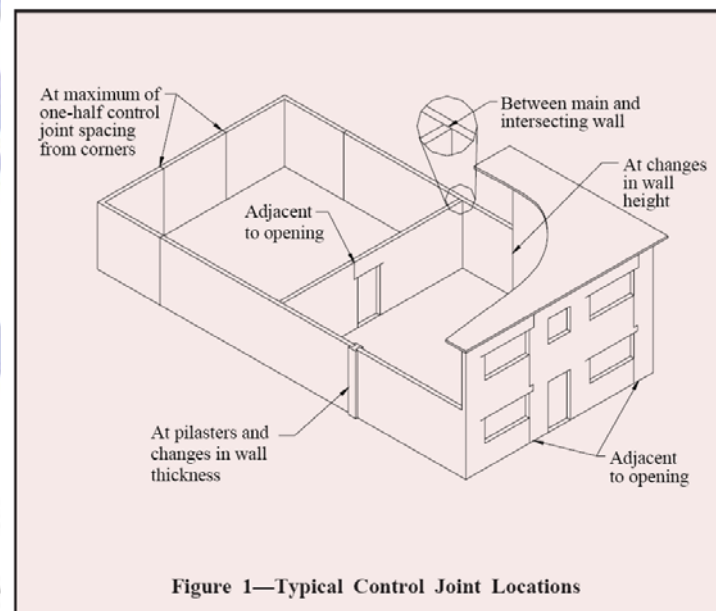
## Technical Bulletin 09-007

### Control Jointing Masonry

It is standard practice to not put horizontal joint reinforcement into masonry walls of single family residential structures. Both masonry control joints and horizontal joint reinforcement are *recommended* by the Masonry Standards Joint Committee and the National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA) as measures to limit the severity of cracking in masonry caused by Drying Shrinkage, Temperature Changes, Restraint, and Differential Movement.

In accordance with NCMA Recommendations, masonry control joints should be placed so that a segment of wall does not exceed the lesser of  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  length to height ratio or 25'-0". In addition, among other locations not applicable in this structure, control joints shall be placed at:

- Changes in wall height.
- Near one or both sides of door and window openings (generally, a control joint is placed on one side of an opening less than 6'-0" and both sides of openings greater than 6'-0").
- Adjacent to corners of walls or intersecting within a distance equal to half the control joint spacing.



TEK 10-2B © 2005 National Concrete Masonry Association (replaces TEK 10-2A)

Figure 1 - Typical Control Joint Locations - NCMA TEK 10-2B<sup>1</sup>

Reference:

<sup>1</sup> National Concrete Masonry Association. (2005). *Movement (Control) Joints for Concrete Masonry Walls –Empirical Method*.

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