

# ORIGIN and CAUSE - Retaining Wall Failure



This masonry retaining wall failed after a major rainstorm.

Due to inadequate drainage at the base, water filled up the drainage rock section behind the wall, increasing the horizontal forces on the wall.



The top of this concrete footing should have had reinforcing bars doweling into the masonry wall above. The size of the footing was also found to be inadequate. Inadequate design coupled with inadequate drainage, caused this wall to fail.



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