



BLACKWELL
STRUCTURAL CONSULTANTS

Does my house have subsidence?

I think that my house has subsidence – what should I do?

Subsidence is downward movement of a building which is not caused by the weight of the building (settlement is where the weight of a structure causes the ground beneath it to settle for a short period of time after construction). There are several different causes of subsidence and diagnosing the cause is not always straightforward.

Cracks in the building do not necessarily mean that it is subsiding, cracking can be caused by thermal shrinkage or expansion in masonry, failed lintels, water damage or impact damage amongst other things.

What makes you think that subsidence is taking place? What evidence do you see of movement? Is this movement recent or has it been continuing for a number of years? With these questions in mind, call one of our engineers, who will be happy to discuss your concerns and arrange to visit your property if required.