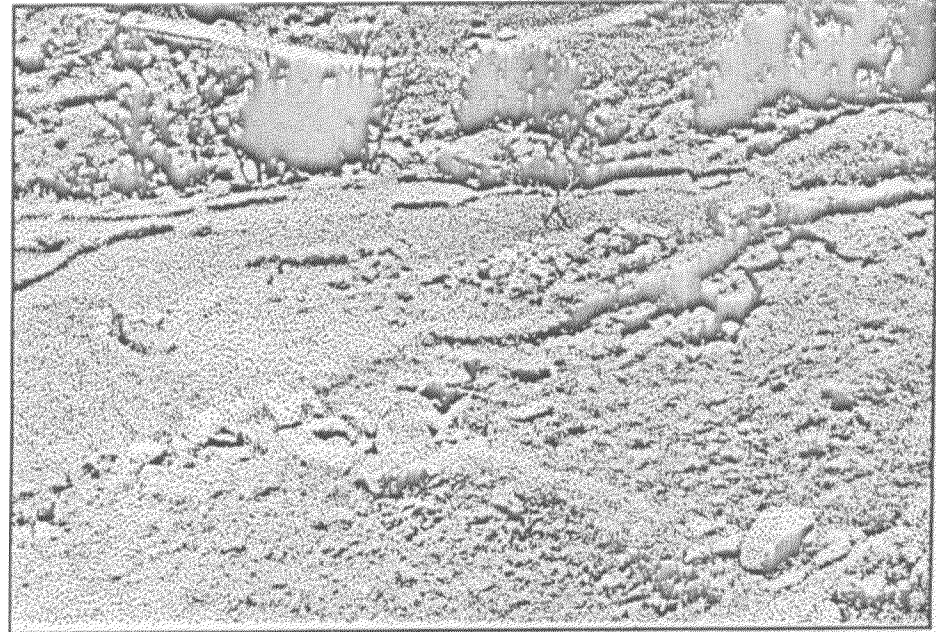


SETTLEMENT

Subsidence and settlement of the hill-slopes has taken place at many locations like this field just below the settlement of Kishanpur. The settlement here is because of the collapse of the dry-stone retaining wall. In other locations it is because of the formation of fissures or instability of old landslides. The risk of slope failure would increase rapidly with snow-melt and the following monsoon of 1992.



Collapsed house that killed three people in Huri village, Bhatwari Tahsil, Uttarkashi District



Settlement of terrace and collapse of retaining wall: Village Kishanpur, Bhatwari Tahsil, Uttarkashi District

This house with a slate roof and random rubble stone walls collapsed killing three people. The main causes of this failure was the opening of a crack in the ground 10 cm wide behind the rear wall of the house and the subsequent collapse of the rear wall and the far gable. This was further aggravated by the collapse of the roof rafters that were not tied by a wall plate or timber tie beam at roof level. The collapse was limited to the first floor which was occupied. The intermediate floor was undamaged and cattle were penned in the rooms on the ground floor.

This building is one of a series that have been devastated around the central court in Maneri. This has collapsed due to settlement of the lower storey and resultant collapse of the upper masonry wall and then the intermediate RCC slab.



Collapse of building due to failure of masonry wall and settlement of ground storey: Village Maneri, Bhatwari Tahsil, Uttarkashi District