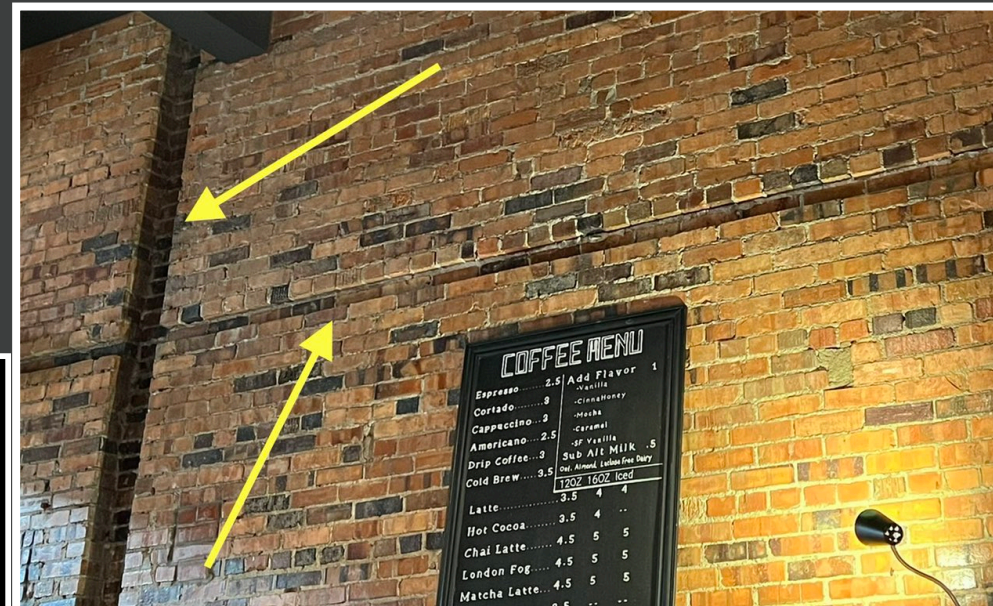


# Main Street Memo: Planes of Weakness



## Things to Know

- ▶ As defined by Chief Dunn, planes of weakness are vertical or horizontal cuts in a brick wall to allow for pipe chases or to lay a board to assist in leveling the floors.
- ▶ Understand because they cut into the integrity of the brick wall, minor movement in this area may be enough to cause a collapse on this plane.



- ▶ Both are important to watch, however a horizontal plane through the entire wall may be more likely to result in collapse with movement.
- ▶ Cracks occur in the weakest part of a wall, openings (typically windows and doors). Notice that these planes also may generate cracks.