

Crib Wall

There are thousands of square feet of crib wall holding up the Appalachian Trail on Bear Mountain. Crib walls support the tread of the Trail where the slope of the mountain is too steep, or there is a lack of soil. The crib walls on Bear Mountain are known as dry laid walls. The only things binding them together are gravity and friction. The absence of mortar actually makes the structures more stable by allowing water to drain through them. Since mortar breaks down faster than the rock it holds together, dry laid walls are much more durable.



Georgette Weir

RIGHT Gravity and friction are the only things that hold this crib wall together.



William Hladky