

English Stone Forum



The English Stone Forum is a single organisation representing all interests championing English stone

Working to

- encourage greater public interest in and awareness of the stone built heritage of England and the threats it faces
- encourage the use of English stone for the public benefit
- ensure the availability of the stone required for the maintenance of the built heritage and new build

See www.englishstone.org.uk



Why use local stone?

- **Initial appearance** The geology may be correct but the appearance can be very different.



See www.englishstone.org.uk/selecting.html



Why use local stone?

- Initial appearance
- **Weathered appearance** Different stones may weather differently or support different lichens



See www.englishstone.org.uk/documents/Robinson.html



Why use local stone?



- Initial appearance
- Weathered appearance
- **Durability**

Will a substitute stone last as long as the original? Will it be compatible?

See <http://projects.bre.co.uk/ConDiv/stonelist/stonelist.html>



Why use local stone?



- Initial appearance
- Weathered appearance
- Durability
- **Technical compatibility** Stone of similar permeability must be used for repairs to avoid damage to the existing fabric. If the replacement stone doesn't have similar porosity it can shed water into the surrounding stone damaging it.

See www.englishstone.org.uk/selecting.html



Why use local stone?



- Initial appearance
- Weathered appearance
- Technical compatibility
- Durability
- **Local distinctiveness**

'But in passing through the country one sees many examples of thoroughly good ordinary country buildings, built of the mere country materials, very often of the mere stones out of the fields; and it is a very great pleasure to see the skill with which these buildings are constructed.'

William Morris

See www.englishstone.org.uk/documents/intrinsic.html



Why use local stone?



- Initial appearance
- Weathered appearance
- Technical compatibility
- Durability
- Local distinctiveness
- **New build**

‘Any traditional regional flavouring is well worth saving in a world gone sadly flat. It should be a matter of pride as well as good sense, good economics and good manners, for everyone to see to it that new works of whatever kind shall express themselves politely in accents that are recognisably regional and not harshly alien to an ancient and honourable tradition.’

Clough Williams-Ellis

See www.stone-federationgb.org.uk/



Why use local stone?



- Initial appearance
- Weathered appearance
- Technical compatibility
- Durability
- Local distinctiveness
- **New build**

In conservation areas

'The roofs and walls of traditional buildings make up the big blocks of colour and texture which set the scene in towns and villages. They give the clue to the geology of the ground beneath and, where they are directly related to the geology, they are in complete visual harmony with the landscape in which they sit.'

Barry Joyce
Derbyshire: Detail and Character

See [www.englishstone.org.uk/documents/dimension stone.html](http://www.englishstone.org.uk/documents/dimension%20stone.html)



Why use local stone?



- Initial appearance
- Weathered appearance
- Technical compatibility
- Durability
- Local distinctiveness
- New build
- **Local stone has less environmental impact**

See www.englishstone.org.uk/ESF_Portal_and_environmental.html



Sourcing local stone

• MPS 1

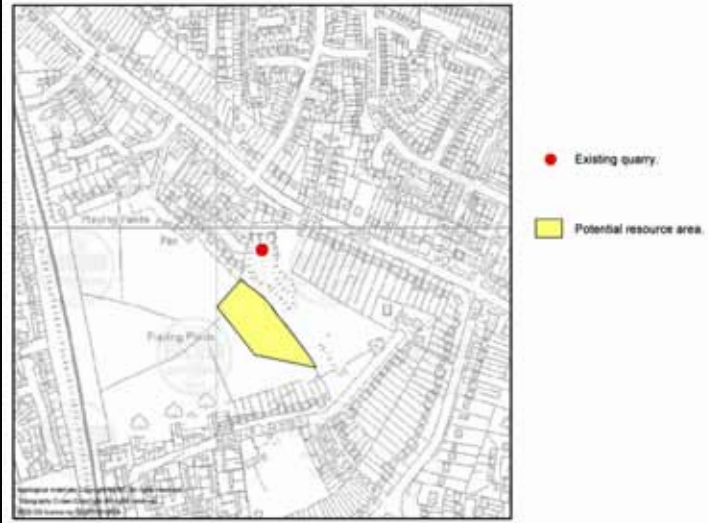
Mineral Planning Statement 1 [states](#)

“MPAs and LPAs should liaise on and have regard to the local, regional and national need for certain building and roofing stones for the conservation and restoration of England’s historic built environment where their use is specified

- because of aesthetic or technical properties [which] must be a compatible match usually from a similar lithological horizon as the stone that was originally used

- to help meet the objectives of PPG15 Planning and the Historic Environment”

It requires mineral and local planning authorities to safeguard sources of historic building stones.



See www.englishstone.org.uk/documents/planning.html



Sourcing local stone

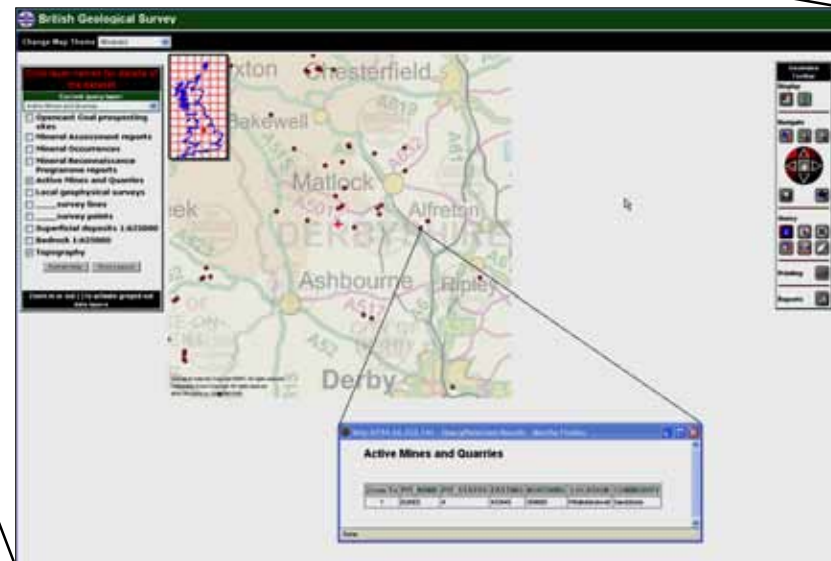
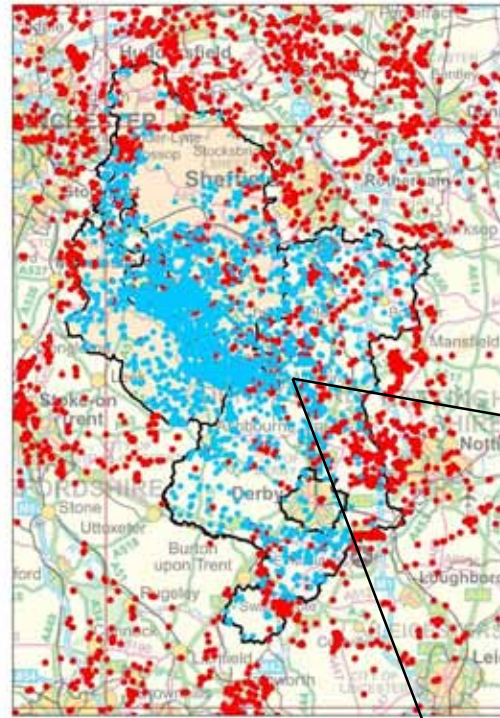
- MPS 1
- **Where did historic stones come from?**

To be able to safeguard important historic building stones we need to know where they came from.

English Heritage is researching historic stone sources with the British Geological Survey and local geological groups.

On completion of the four year study the results will be available free online.

See www.englishstone.org.uk/research.html#EBSPits



Sourcing local stone

Field name map of Grinshill



Based on 1835 tithe map

- MPS 1
- Where did historic stones come from?
- **Intrinsic value**

Once we know where the historic building stones came from it will be necessary to decide the relative importance of individual stones: their intrinsic value.

The intrinsic value of particular stones, the rarity of their exploitable sources and a means of ranking stones as locally, regionally and nationally important will allow a balance to be struck between environmental protection and historic building conservation where important quarries need to be opened or reopened.

See www.englishstone.org.uk/documents/intrinsic.html



Sourcing local stone



- MPS 1
- Where did historic stones come from?
- **Intrinsic value has two aspects:**
 - technical importance - the extent to which its properties are special in terms of its suitability to be used. Strength, porosity, fabric, cements, colour and its compatibility with the surrounding stones are all important.
 - cultural and heritage factors. These include a stone's
 - use in important buildings and its
 - distinctive appearance
 - local or regional character and continuity of use
 - thematic use
 - contribution to landscape character
 - use for local detailing

See www.englishstone.org.uk/documents/intrinsic.html



Sourcing local stone



- MPS 1
- Where did historic stones come from?
- Intrinsic value
- **Heritage quarries**

Defining the relative importance of particular stones, the extent of their historic use and their availability may lead to the designation of potential sources or quarries as locally, regionally or nationally important.

See www.englishstone.org.uk/documents/intrinsic.html



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