

Calcium carbonate



Calcium Carbonate (CaCO_3) is also known as limestone. It is an important natural resource which can only be obtained through quarrying.

Calcium carbonate can be used in a variety of ways, most commonly in construction. The limestone quarried at the Black Mountain was burnt at a high temperature turning it into Calcium Oxide (also known as quicklime). Farmers used quicklime to help neutralise acidity in soil to enable crops to grow better.

Calcium carbonate is made from the remains of millions upon millions of tiny creatures that sank to the bottom of a shallow tropical sea when they died just over 300 million years ago, when Britain was on the equator! Over time these remains have formed a sedimentary rock. It is common to find fossils within the limestone.

