



# East Crindledykes Quarry



## What will I see?

East Crindledykes is an old quarry which used to work a thick layer of limestone called the Great Limestone. **The rocks in it have been bent and buckled into “folds” by earthquakes.**

## How old is it?

The limestone dates from Carboniferous times 330 million years ago.

## Did you know?

These rocks were folded when all of Britain and Europe were part of the building of an enormous mountain chain 300 million years ago.

## Why it is here?

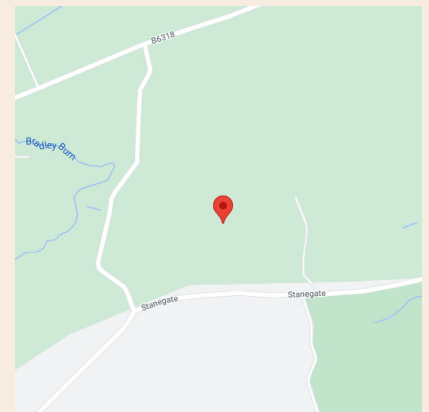
The limestone is here because all of **northern England was once covered by shallow tropical seas**. It is the billions of shells and corals that lived in those seas that make all limestones. The quarry is here because lime is valuable for making acid soils more fertile and because it is an essential ingredient of cement. Just west of the quarry is a restored limekiln where they used to burn the limestone to make lime.

## And wildlife?

Limestone bedrock produces a very particular set of plants. Here they include: fairy flax, small scabious, **hairy rock-cress**, salad burnet, cowslip, hoary plantain and quaking grass.

## Where is it?

On the road north of Bardon Mill known as the Stanegate [NY784 672].



## Want to know more?

- NNP Geodiversity Audit
- Onshore GeoIndex
- iGeology
- Geological history of Northumbria
- Northumberland Wildlife Trust
- British Geological Survey

