

MINERAL

LIMESTONE

NAME, ADDRESS AND LOCATION OF QUARRY

HIGH CLOSE QUARRY, PARSONBY, ASPatria.

Date of Inspection 15-12-58

Date of planning permission 8-12-54

Quarry Operator formerly, up to 2 years ago, T. Armstrong Ltd. (Cockermouth) ^{South Street,}

A. EXISTING WORKINGS: (1) Whether Active No

(2) Acreage already permitted 24.7 acres

(3) Acreage of permitted area remaining to be worked - 13.1 est. Worked - 11.6 est.

(4) Estimated Life of (3)

This quarry has been worked some 50 years, some 20 years by the last operator. It has not been worked for the past two years. The rock dips E-W, overburden thickens rapidly westwards - some 20' on the W and S faces. The W face has been attempted on two lifts and abandoned, presumably as being uneconomic to work.

(5) End use of mineral

Not Applicable.

(6) Areas restored - In the true sense, nil. Quarry waste and overburden have been tipped on the E sector of the quarry - plateau-like with a steep face. - useless to agriculture, though, physically, its top is a level combination of field 0545.

B. PRODUCTION

Current output of stone Nil

Current output of finished products Nil

Markets Nil

Estimated level of production in the immediate future Nil

C. RESERVES

Proved (by working or test boring)

Probable (economically workable minerals)

Possible (geological evidence only)

Land under control of Minerals Undertakers

Some 11.6 acres have been worked.
Some 13 acres remains unworked of the area granted planning permission 8-12-54.
This Decision Notice gives planning permission, on principle, only, to an additional 100 acres.
Limestone Federation's 2¹/₂ maps indicate a potential additional reserve of 95.8 acres (including the 13 acres unworked). Statistically reserves seem high (95.8 - 113 acres); in practice, it seems that economic limits have already been reached. Westwards overburden thickens markedly, accompanied by faulting; southwards, overburden thickens, eastwards the deposit seems to thin and deteriorate, becoming increasingly 'dirty'.

Employment

Nil

Notes:

I interviewed [redacted], who farms High Closh. [redacted]

[redacted] was concerned about 2 points: a) possible future working over the 100 acres previously referred to - this would create marked 'severance' problems & markedly affect his farm - I told him working was most unlikely b) He wanted the speedy removal of derelict plant within the quarry, which is almost on his doorstep. He was also concerned about the inadequate protection of the 2 kiln-tops, considering them highly dangerous.

Condition 7 attached to grant of planning permission, stipulates "clearing of all pieces of plant and building material" "at the conclusion of operations and before the site is vacated." In practice some plant was dismantled 3 months ago; little has been done since. Though not visible to the general public, this condition needs enforcing, - the plant is obviously derelict and includes conveyer, grinding mill, hoppers, kilns, cabins. Tramways and roadways have already been dismantled.