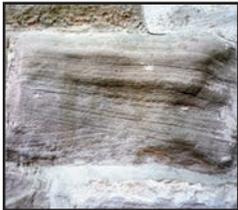




Many of the older buildings used **cobble stones** taken from the rivers: very variable in origin, many were transported by ice and later rounded by river erosion.



Triassic St Bees Sandstone 250 Million years ago. This sandstone is easy to shape and has been widely used for door and window surrounds.



Carboniferous Hensingham Grit 320Ma, possibly from Brigham quarry. This coarse sandstone laid down in an ancient river system frequently shows cross bedding, and can be seen in some quoins



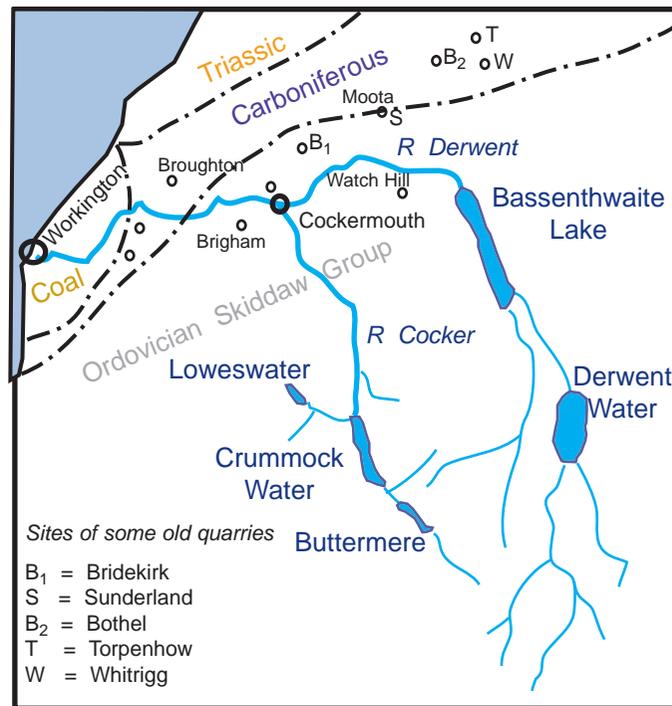
White cross-bedded sandstone (Orebank Sandstone) 350Ma
Carboniferous, possibly from Broughton Crags quarry. Also makes some good freestone.



Ordovician Skiddaw Group, 470Ma. Mill on Isel Rd, These ancient muds and siltstones, now metamorphosed into slates, were quarried at locally, and form distinctive dark grey flat plates of building stone.

Most of Cockermouth is built of sedimentary rocks, many laid down, usually horizontally, in layers or beds by ancient rivers or seas. Look for the thickness of the layers and the shape of the individual grains.

COCKERMOUTH LOCATION MAP
showing sources of the rivers Cocker and Derwent, and indicating geological groups



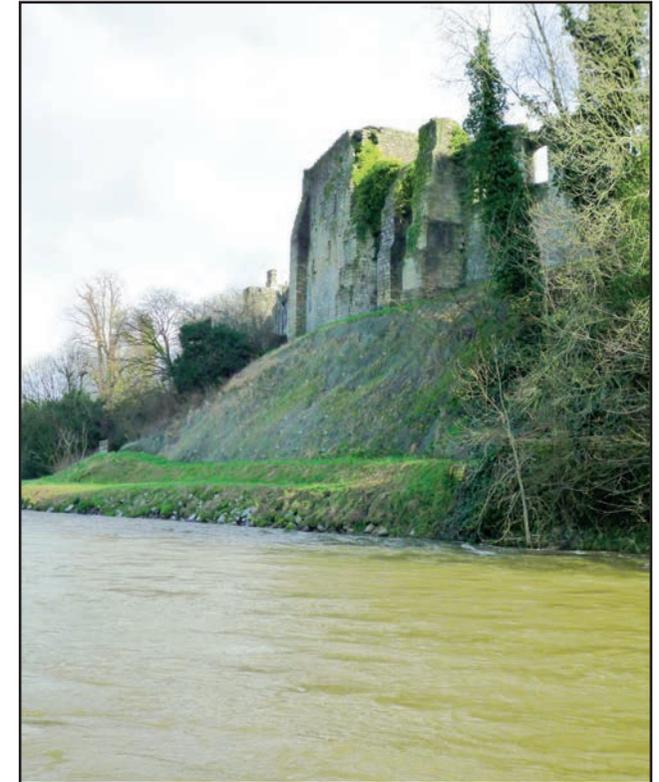
Cumberland Geological Society



This leaflet was produced with help from Cumberland Geological Society, and Cumbria GeoConservation. To learn more about geology visit their web sites, and join the CGS. www.cumbriageoconservation.org.uk

COCKERMOUTH ROCKS

A stroll round Cockermouth in search of geology



Cockermouth Castle above the River Derwent

Cockermouth is classified as an architectural gem with 105 listed buildings, most of which are rendered for weather proofing and painted for decoration. This is a search for the stones which built Cockermouth. Stone for older buildings was quarried locally. A good start is to look at the stone walls and backs of older buildings

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