



Building Stone Evaluation

Help assessing new or existing stone for projects or supply

Supply Problems – Assuring Continuing Quality

Whether you are an architect or stone supplier, you may need to know a quarry's capabilities for obtaining enough block of the right quantity and quality to supply a project or customers. IBIS can assess the local geology, environment, politics, transport and other factors and advise on how to obtain the best stone and maintain its supply. Just one bad block in a shipment can cost more than obtaining an independent check prior to shipping, whether this is at the quarry, processing works or dockside.

Architects, Designers and Specifiers – Don't be Led by Failures

Midway through a project and a stone fails one of the tests, more tests are carried out but these are going to take some time, and then another failure, what now? More tests! Unfortunately this example is one of many commonly occurring problems that could easily be avoided. Spending a fraction of the testing budget on a geological appraisal by a stone expert who can predict and resolve problems before they occur is the solution that more people are turning to.

At IBIS we are more objective regarding testing as we do not have in-house testing facilities, just long experience of who is best and what tests are actually needed. Believe it or not, just a few hours at a quarry or processing works, or even just looking at samples can be worth far more than large testing regimes that may still miss the real issues depending on the final end use. Our advice can help to cut testing budgets and re-direct some of this money to conduct more practical assessments.

Finding Stone – Gaining an Edge

Looking for a particular stone or interested in finding something new to use or sell, then IBIS can help with some of the legwork by offering independent unbiased advice on stones available around the world. If it is not already produced, we can find out if a particular country has and then exploits a chosen type(s) of stone.

IBIS offers a comprehensive service for assessing potential new stone resources, including geological appraisal of virgin land, whether this is part of an existing quarry or a completely new prospect. Beginning with walk over surveys, further exploration and assessment may be recommended including trial pitting, coring and other techniques.

IBIS also provides a consultancy service for a range of other construction materials. To discuss your needs please contact Barry Hunt, Chartered Geologist and Corporate Building, Conservation and Specialist Surveyor.

Photos, left to right: wire sawn stone faces; plug and feather extraction of block; breccia feature that has caused extraction to cease; movement of blocks limited by existing equipment capabilities; problem feature identified in stone prior to use and typical weathered stone to be avoided.

