INTRODUCTION

Swanworth Quarry has been operated by Suttle Stone Quarries since 2011 and prior to then it was operated by Tarmac for 30 years. The quarry originally commenced working before the advent of the planning system in the early 1900's and was substantially developed during the Second World War for the construction of defence related works.

The quarry produces a range of construction materials including various sizes of aggregate, Gabion stone, rock armour, rockery stone and agricultural lime using modern, efficient, part renewably powered processing plant. Recycled aggregates are also produced and stone has been cut for dimension stone.

Swanworth is the only source of limestone aggregates in Dorset outside of Portland. Half the limestone aggregates produced in Dorset come from Swanworth and if the quarry were to cease operating the Purbeck, Bournemouth and Poole market for limestone aggregate would have to be served from Portland which is an additional 20 miles away or from the Mendips which is almost 40 miles further away.

The Suttles business also operates a building stone quarry at California Quarry near Swanage, an aggregate recycling depot in Mannings Heath, Poole and a specialised civil engineering contractor known as Suttle Projects.

There are over 30 employees based at Swanworth Quarry including five employees in the quarry, three employees in the workshop, ten office and sales staff and 15 heavy goods vehicle drivers. Suttles employs almost 80 additional people in other activities at Mannings Heath, California Farm Quarry and Suttle Projects.

The total expenditure at Swanworth Quarry amounts to over £4.0 million per year on such things as transport, wages, fuel, business rates and quarry purchases. A substantial amount of the annual expenditure directly benefits the local economy.

QUARRY EXTENSION

At the end of 2019 the consented reserves of limestone at Swanworth Quarry amounted to less than 200,000 tonnes which is sufficient for less than two years production.

The proposed quarry extension would provide 2.4 million tonnes of additional limestone sufficient for a further 19 – 20 years extraction at a rate of 125,000 tonnes per year.

The quarry extension is identified for future limestone extraction in the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Sites Plan that was adopted in December 2019.

There are no proposals to alter the method of working at the quarry, the depth of extraction, the operational hours, the site access, or the permitted level of output from the site.

The extension would be developed from south to north in three phases with limestone being extracted by conventional drilling and blasting as occurs currently.

There would be no new processing plant required for the extension site as the current plant within the existing quarry would be utilised.

Access to the extension site would be via the existing quarry with a new vehicular bridge being constructed across the Coombe and a cutting through to the extraction area. The bridge would avoid vehicles interfering with the Purbeck Way footpath and stream located in the base of the Coombe. The cutting through the field would ensure that vehicles would be below ground level to provide screening.

Site Context

- Swanworth Quarry extracts 50% of limestone aggregates in Dorset.

- Should extraction at Swanworth cease, the Purbeck, Bournemouth, and Poole market for limestone aggregate would have to be served from Portland – a distance of an additional 20 miles or the Mendips, an additional 40 miles.

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

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SWANWORTH QUARRY

Site Location

- Located within the Purbeck District of Dorset between the villages of Kingston and Langton Matravers, Swanworth Quarry is the only source of limestone aggregates in Dorset outside of Portland.

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Existing Quarry

- The quarry has been operated by Suttle Stone Quarries Ltd. since 2011 before which it was operated by Tarmac for approximately 30 years.

- Active extraction has been taking place at the quarry since the early 1900s, but current planning consent dates from 1994. This was renewed in 2013.

- The planning permission carries an extensive list of conditions including for the post-operational restoration of the quarry.

- The quarry produces a range of construction materials including various sizes of aggregate, Gabion stone, rock armour, rockery stone and agricultural lime using modern, efficient processing plant.

- Recycled aggregates are also produced, and stone has been cut for dimension stone.

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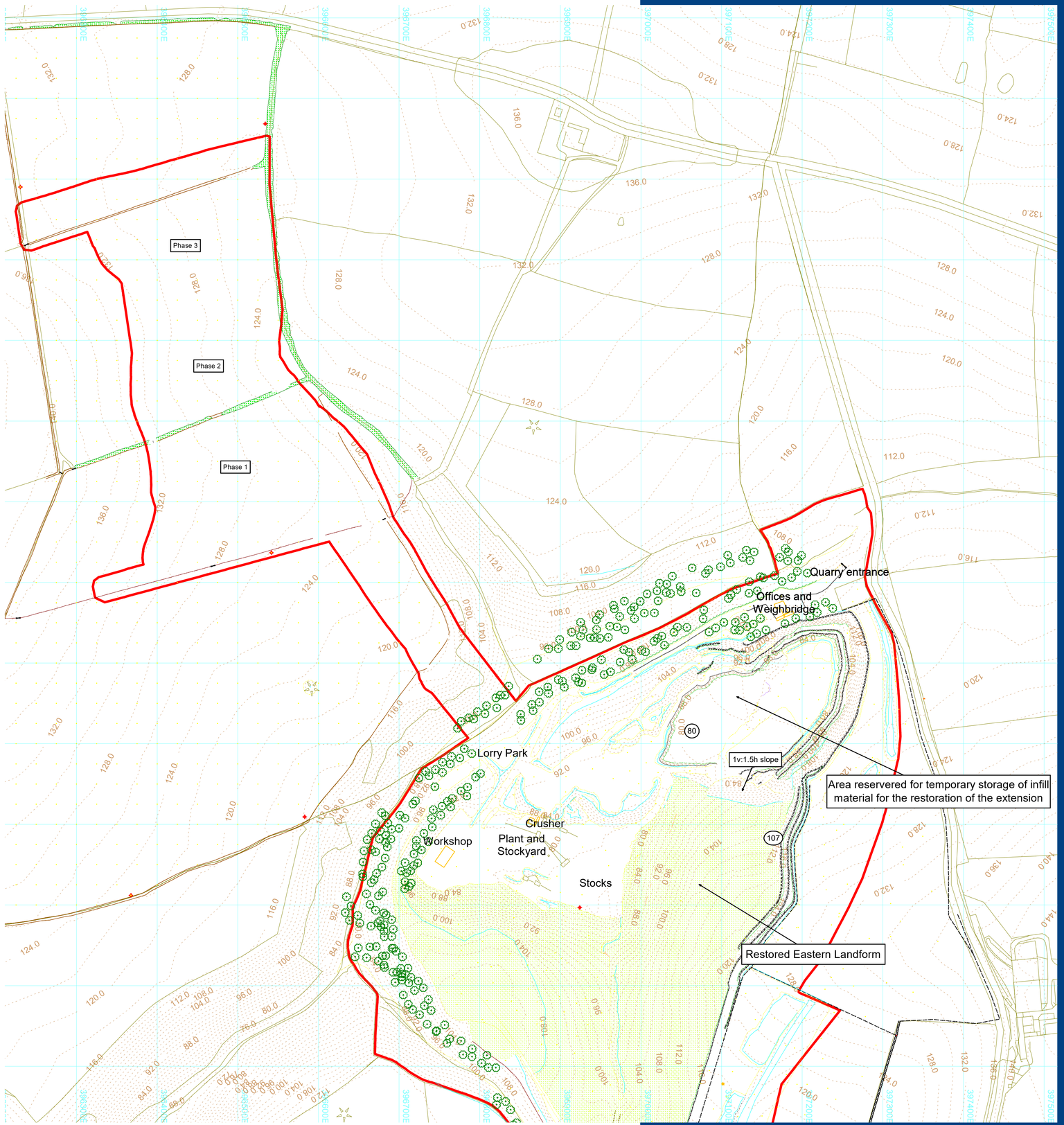
SWANWORTH QUARRY



Pre-extension Topography

- The existing planning permission for the quarry allows for extraction of limestone until 2024 with a further year to allow for restoration.
- The extension area occupies land sloping to the east from approximately 132m AOD to 116m AOD.
- The southern part of the existing quarry has already been successfully restored to limestone grassland using seeds collected from local Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) grassland.

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Proposed Extension Site

- An extension to Swanworth Quarry was identified in the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Sites Plan (adopted in December 2019).

- The proposed extension would provide 2.4 million tonnes of limestone sufficient for a further 19-20 years extraction at a rate of 125,000 tonnes per year.

- The extension area is located on the lower slopes of three adjacent fields. This will limit the visibility of the quarrying operations from the surrounding landscape.

- The existing quarry and the extension area are separated by a steep coombe containing established trees and scrub. This will reduce the visual effect of coinciding views of the existing quarry and the proposed extension area.

- A temporary bridge will be constructed over the coombe to connect the existing quarry with the extension area. The bridge will be constructed using sympathetic materials and finished in a muted colour to assimilate it into its setting.

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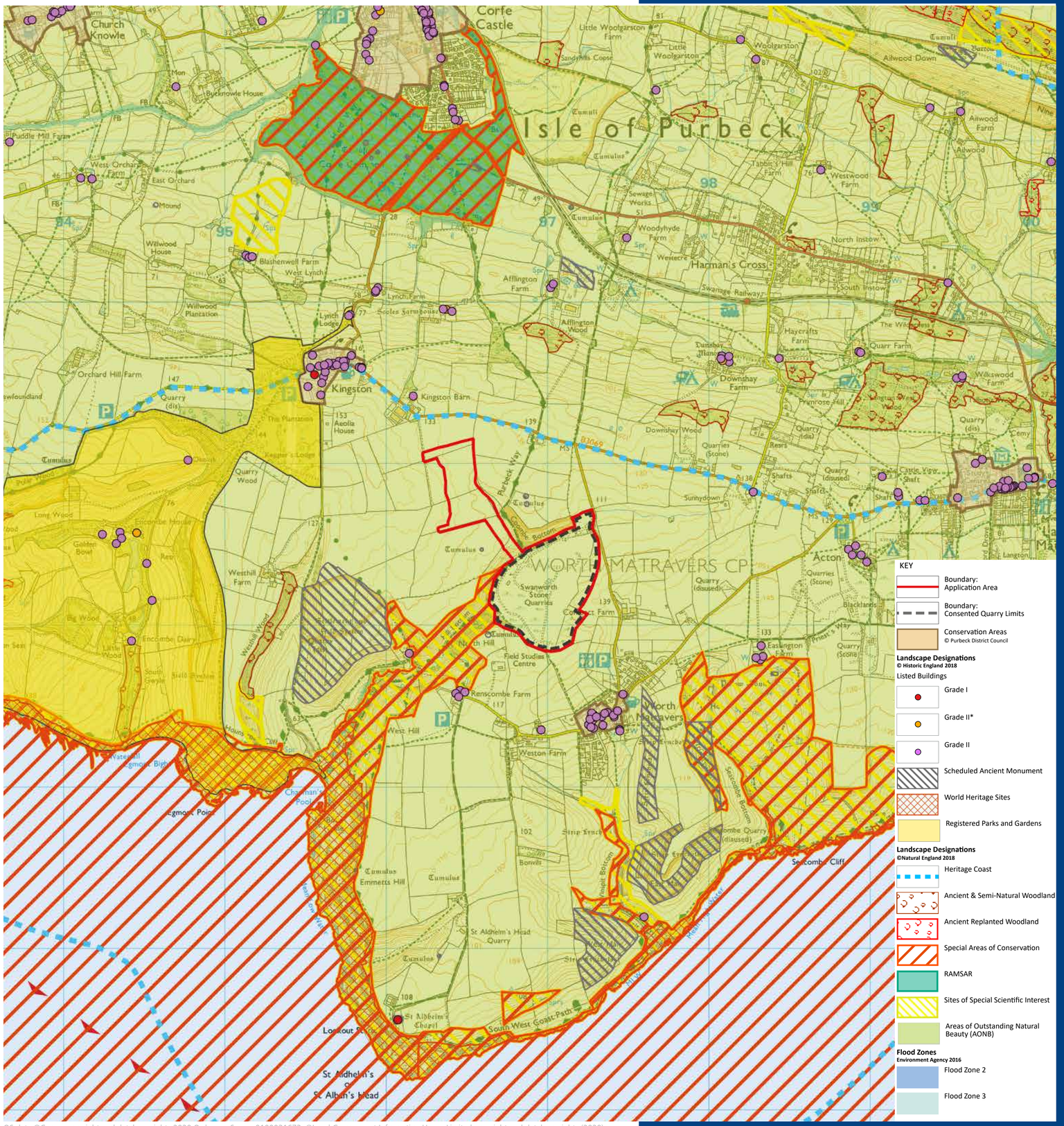
SWANWORTH QUARRY



KEY

- Boundary: Application Area
- Boundary: Consented Quarry Limits
- Conservation Areas © Purbeck District Council

Landscape Designations
© Historic England 2018

Listed Buildings
- Grade I
- Grade II*
- Grade II
- Scheduled Ancient Monument
- World Heritage Sites
- Registered Parks and Gardens

Landscape Designations
©Natural England 2018
- Heritage Coast
- Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland
- Ancient Replanted Woodland
- Special Areas of Conservation
- RAMSAR
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Flood Zones
Environment Agency 2016
- Flood Zone 2
- Flood Zone 3

Designations

- The extension area lies in the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). This designation covers much of southern Dorset from Lyme Regis in the west to Poole and Swanage in the east. There is limited intervisibility of the extension area from the remainder of the AONB.

- Similarly, whilst the extension area falls within the boundary of the Purbeck Heritage Coast, its intervisibility with the remainder of the designation is limited.

- The extension area is located approximately 1.3km from the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site (WHS). Fieldwork was established that there is no intervisibility between the WHS and the extension area due to intervening topography.

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SWANWORTH QUARRY

Zone of Significant Visibility (Land)

- Visibility analysis for the extension area shows that the Zone of Significant Visibility (ZSV) is limited to short sections of the Purbeck Way and sections of the B3069.

- In most instances, views towards the proposed extension area are oblique, filtered and fleeting. These views would decrease during the summer with foliage on intervening trees, hedgerows and other vegetation.

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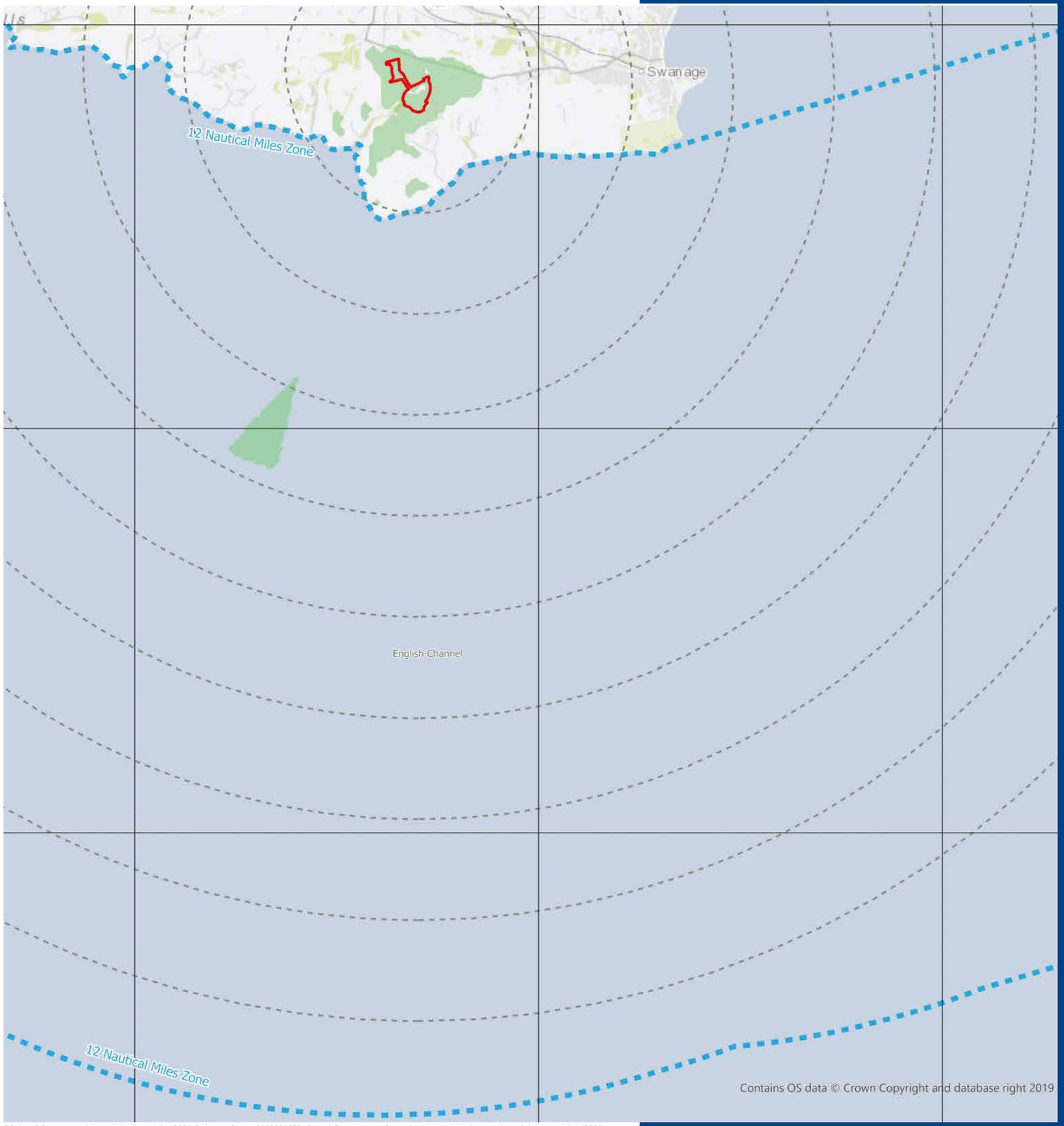

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Zone of Theoretical Visibility (Sea)

- In consultation with the Dorset AONB landscape officer, seascape analysis formed part of the visual assessment.
- A Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) was generated to a distance of 12 nautical miles from the extension area.
- The ZTV revealed that there would be no distinguishable change to the existing view as a result of the proposed extension.

Key

- Boundary: The site
- Boundary: 12 Nautical Miles Zone (Territorial Seas) - Source: Marine Regions
- Range rings at 2.5km intervals from site
- Zone of Theoretical Visibility: Extension site

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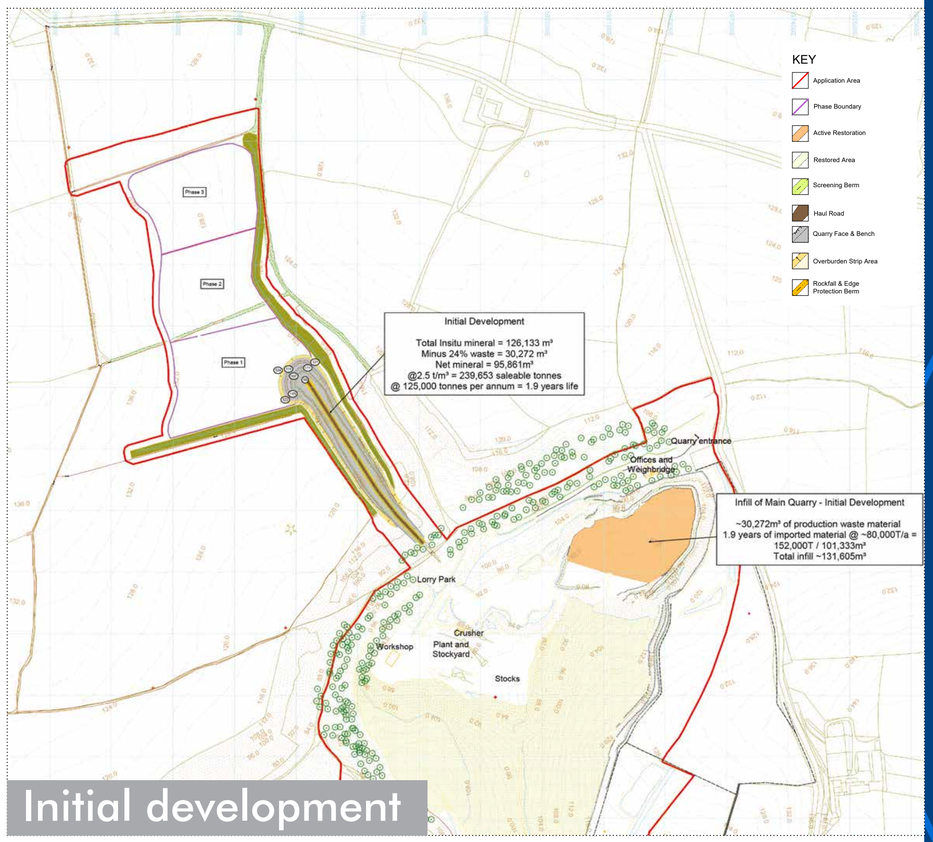
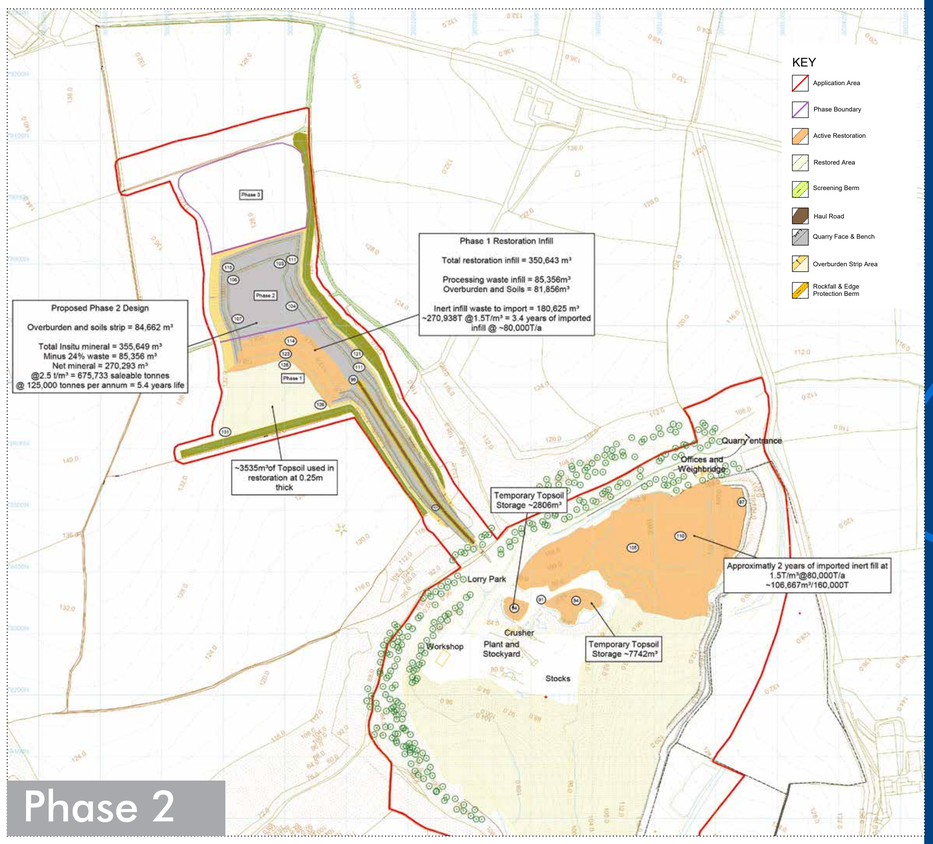
SWANWORTH QUARRY



Initial development



Phase 2

Mineral Extraction Phases

- Prior to the proposed development's operational phase, initial enabling works will include the clearance of a small area of scrub and trees to the northern edge of the coombe to facilitate the construction the gabion-faced abutments to support the connecting bridge.

- Stock-proof fencing will be erected to the western and northern boundaries of each phase as it is extracted.

- The Purbeck Way would remain unaffected and remain open during the operational phase of the quarry.

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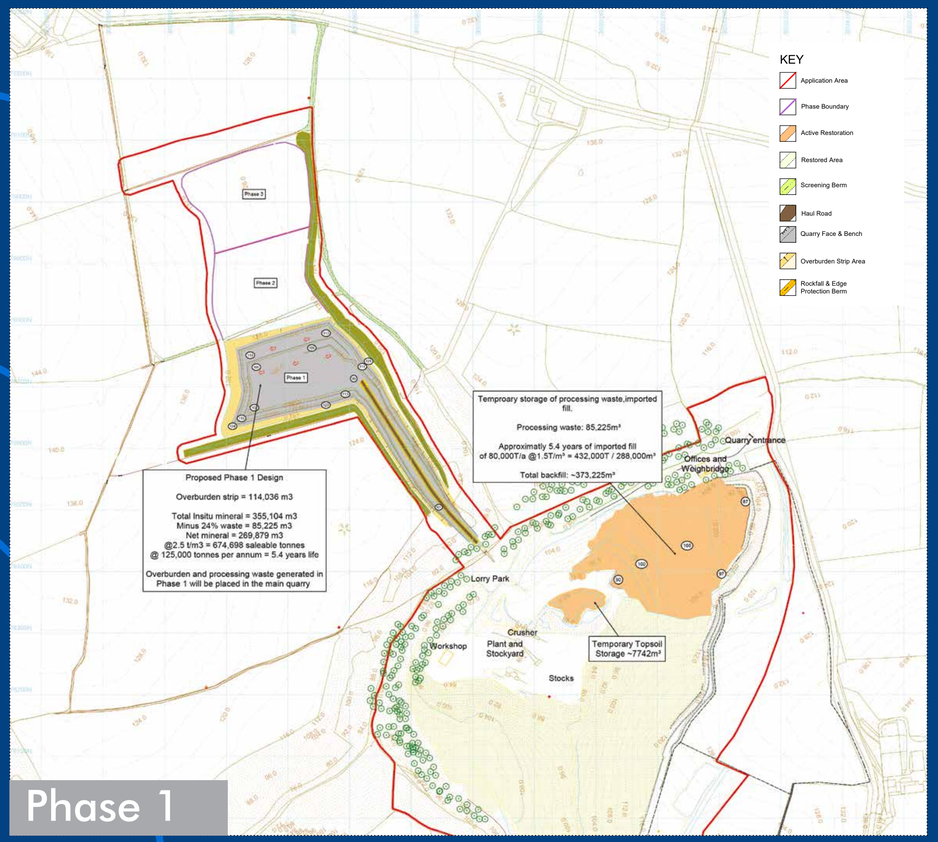
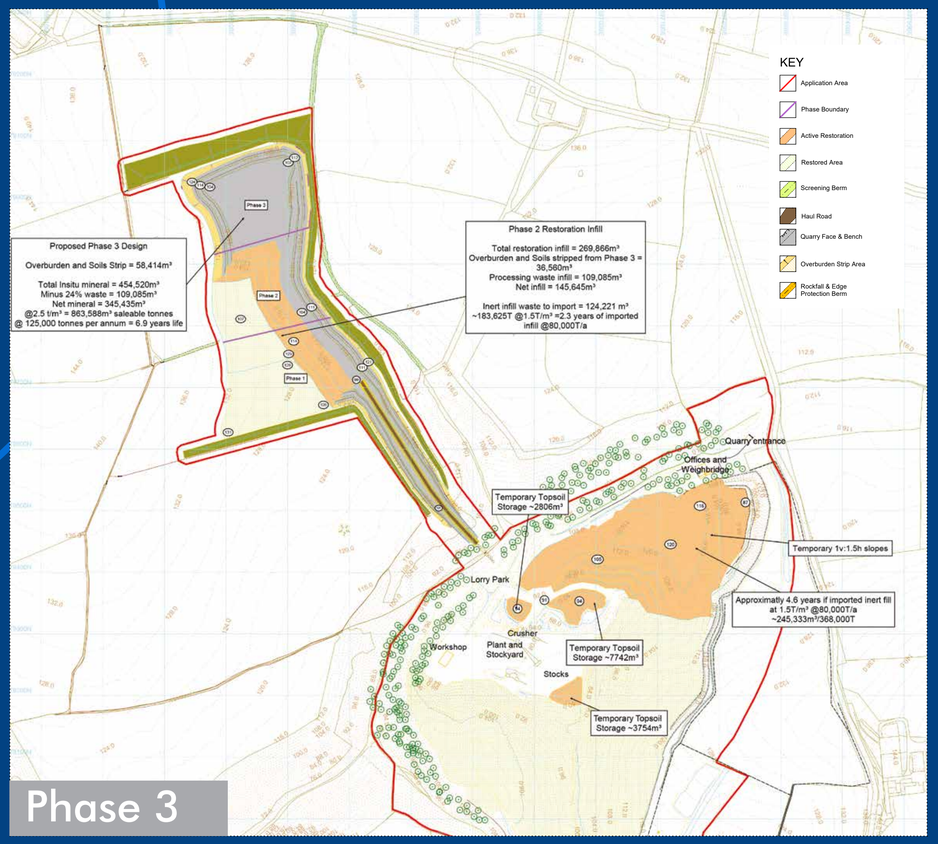


Phase 1



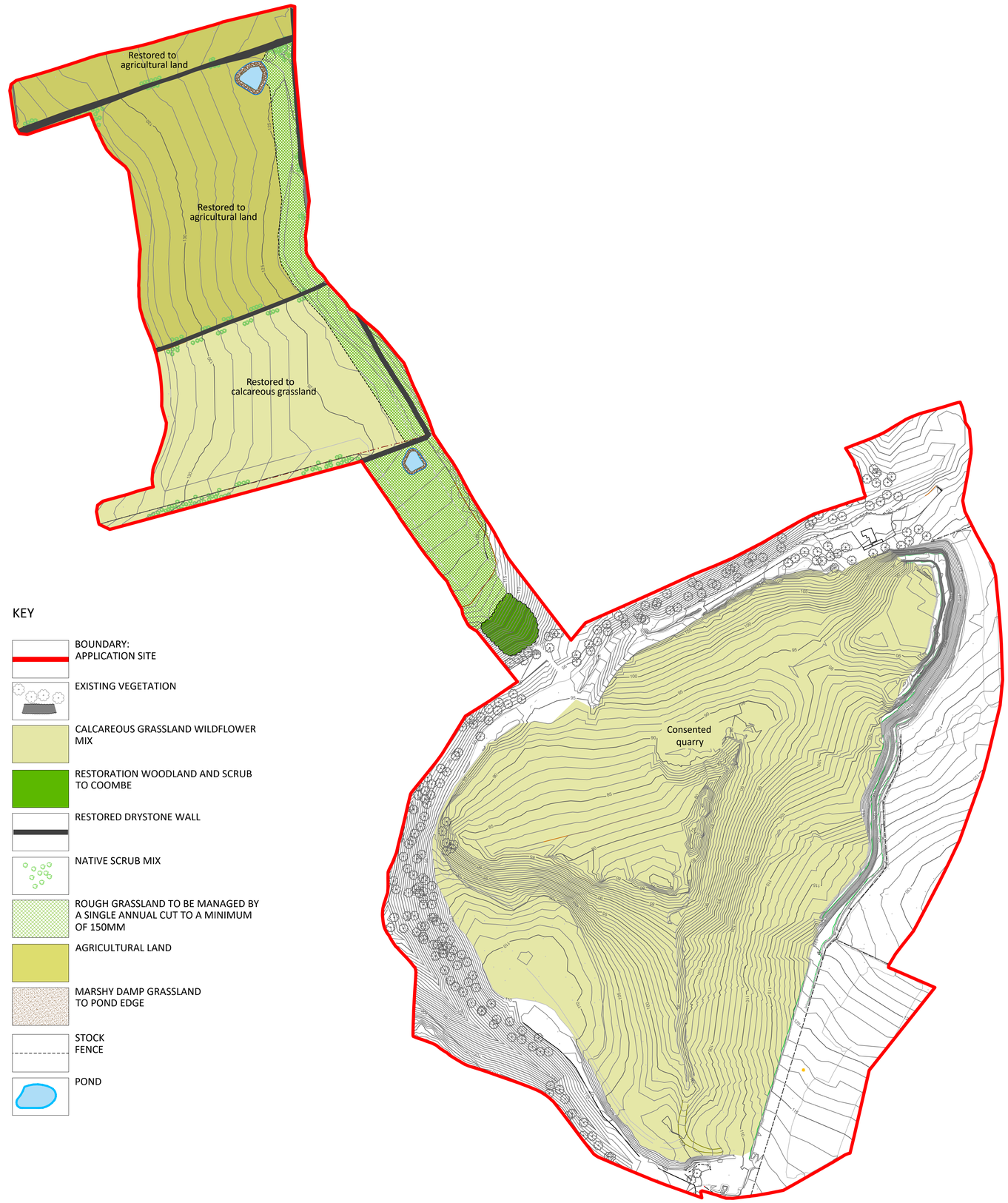
Phase 3

SWANWORTH QUARRY

Mitigation & Restoration

Mitigation measures will include:

- The sequential extraction and restoration of the extension area to return the land to agriculture and calcareous grassland at the earliest opportunity and to limit any visual effect of the extraction operations at any one time
- The use of sympathetic materials for the bridge connecting the existing quarry with the extension area to assimilate the bridge into the coombe
- The access cut to facilitate plant and vehicular movements into the extension area will initially be hydro-seeded and then restored to mature trees and shrubs
- The remainder of the extension area will be returned to agricultural land
- New habitats including ponds and calcareous grassland would be created, providing an overall net gain in terms of biodiversity and nature conservation. This would also contribute to the AONB, Heritage Coast and local landscape character management objectives
- The temporary connecting bridge over the coombe would be dismantled at the restoration phase. The sides of the coombe at the bridge's former location would be planted with native trees and scrub



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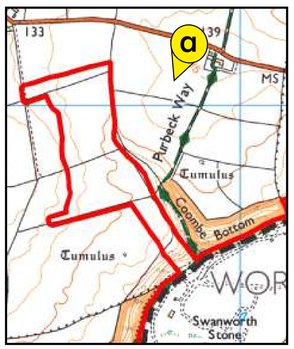
SWANWORTH QUARRY

Viewpoint a - Viewing south west from West Street (B3069)

Viewpoint a - Existing view with illustration of final extraction phase



Montage 01

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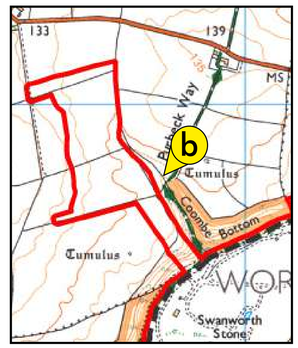
Montage 02

Viewpoint b - Viewing west-south west from Purbeck Way (PROW Bridleway SE 11/83) to the north of Coombe Bottom

Viewpoint b - Existing view with illustration of final extraction phase



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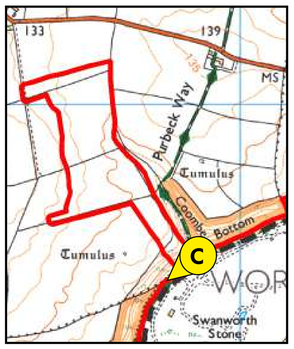
SWANWORTH QUARRY

Viewpoint c - Viewing east from PROW Bridleway SE 29/19 at the proposed location of the temporary connecting bridge between the existing quarry and the extension area

Viewpoint c - Existing view with illustration of proposed bridge



Montage 03

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Ecological Restoration

- The ecological restoration of the existing phase of Swanworth Quarry started in 1997, with the sowing of commercial seed as an experiment.

- Since then, other areas of the quarry have either been left to naturally regenerate, sown with brush harvested seeds or have been sown with hand-collected local seed.

- The aim of the restoration is to extend the area of limestone grassland, an increasingly rare habitat, that extends to the neighbouring valley at "Hill Bottom" which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

- In 2015 cattle were introduced onto the restored area to graze the grass, whilst winter grazing sheep were introduced in 2018.

- Swanworth is now self-sufficient in seed as it can provide seed from harvesting hay from the restored area. This locally sourced seed will be used throughout the future restoration plan phases.

- The existing quarry is subject to an ongoing, active management regime carried out by the current operators to maintain species diversity. The overall restoration has been successful and provides a valuable contribution to local biodiversity and nature conservation targets.

- The restored extension area will be returned to a combination of calcareous grassland, woodland, scrub and grassland replicate the existing habitats of the restored quarry.

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SWANWORTH QUARRY


Common Blue (Polyommatus icarus)


Small Blue (Cupido minimus)


Small skipper (Thymelicus sylvestris)

• Butterflies and moths

Lulworth Skipper (Thymelicus action)
Restricted to the grasslands of the south Dorset coast, this species flies in July and August. Larvae feed on Tor grass.

Small skipper (Thymelicus sylvestris)
This is a wide-spread species in England and can be seen flying in July. The larvae feed on grasses, particularly Yorkshire fog.

Common blue (Polyommatus icarus)
This is the most wide-spread blue butterfly, the males are a brilliant blue but the females tend to be rather brown. The underwings bare orange spots which are a little paler on the male. Adults fly in June and August – September. The larvae feed mostly on bird's-foot trefoil.

Small Blue (Cupido minimus)
As the name suggests this is the smallest of the blue butterflies, it has a silvery blue appearance and unlike many other blues, the underwings have no orange markings. It has a patchy distribution in the UK. Generally the adults fly in June and again in August. The larvae feed only on Kidney vetch which is plentiful at Swanworth Quarry.

Small copper (Lycaena phlaeas)
This fairly common species is unmistakable, with bright copper forewings and large black patches on the rear wings. The adults fly though-out the summer and are easily spotted in July and August. The larval food plants are Common sorrel and Sheep's sorrel.

Marbled white (Melanargia galathea)
These butterflies are typical of unimproved grasslands, particularly on chalk and limestone. The adults fly throughout July and August and are easy to spot. The larvae feed on grasses mainly fescues, Yorkshire fog and Tor grass.

Grayling (Hipparchia semele)
Inland populations of this species have declined in recent years and this is now a largely coastal species which requires dry soil with plenty of open ground. They are often found drinking at puddles. The adults fly from July – September and the larval food plants are fescue grasses.

Six-spot burnet moth (Zygaena filipendulae)
This is the commonest of the day flying burnet moths and occurs in large numbers at Swanworth quarry as their larval food plant, kidney vetch, is plentiful. They can be seen flying in July and August.

Six-belted clearwing (Bembecia ichneumoniformis)
This day flying moth is restricted to chalk and limestone grassland. The adults fly in July and August but are very hard to spot. Their larval food plants are Bird's-foot trefoil and Kidney vetch.

• Flowering plants which have established as part of the existing restoration scheme:

Small scabious (Scabiosa columbaria): Flowers July – August
Common knapweed (Centaurea nigra): Flowers June – September
Bird's-foot trefoil (Lotus corniculatus): Flowers May – September
Wild thyme (Thymus drucei): Flowers May – September
Harebell (Campanula rotundifolia): Flowers July – September
Pale flax (Linum bienne): Flowers May - September
Restharrow (Ononis repens): Flowers June – September


Bird's-foot trefoil *(Lotus corniculatus)*


Wild thyme *(Thymus polytrichus)*


Early spider orchid *(Ophrys sphegodes)*


Harebell *(Campanula rotundifolia)*

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Suttles

The Suttles' Family History on the Isle of Purbeck


G. SUTTLE & SONS
Quarry Owners & Stone Merchants
SUNNYSIDE QUARRY, LANGTON MATRAVERS
SWANAGE,
March 15th 1939
Dear Sir
Thanks for enquiry for Walling Stone
I can supply 3" to 4" Walling Stone. Delivered
D 18/- a Ton in 5 Ton Loads. The Stone will run
about 25 cwt to the Yard. We have some of the best
Walling Stone in Purbeck. If you can send Your
own Lorry it will be 6/- a Ton at the Quarry
If you want the Stone Trucked a thinner You can have it
Cash a Delivery a Bankers Reference. Yours Faithfully
G. Suttle

1930's George Suttle trades as "G. Suttle Stone and Quarry Merchants" from Sunnyside, Worth Matravers.

1961 John Suttle Starts quarrying at Mutton Hole Quarry, Swanage.

Chris Suttle and Eric 'Milky' Wellman standing on the guilotine. Swanage Quarries 1976.

1976 Chris Suttle wins concession from Swanage Town Council and starts Quarrying at Swanage Quarries.

1983 The formation of J. Suttle Transport by Chris Suttle and Billy Rudd as a separate Company to undertake haulage work for the Quarry.

Swanage Quarries 1983.

1986 The Purchase by Chris of California Quarry from S. W. Paine, 35 acres of Quarry land adjacent to the Swanage Quarries site.

1993 Roger Funnel joins the Company to be responsible for stone, aggregate and recycled stone sales. This year also sees the incorporation of J. Suttle Transport Ltd.

J Suttle Transport (Jimmy James driving) delivering block to Langston Marina, Portsmouth 1985.

1996 Suttles buy out E G Hoare, Poole based stone and Aggregate merchant and concrete recycling company, and begin trading from their site in Poole.

2002 The move out of Swanage Quarry and relocation to California Quarry following the end of the Swanage Town Council lease.

2003 The Incorporation of J. Suttle Swanage Quarries Ltd.

2005 Suttle move from Mannings Heath Road yard in Poole to new Yarrow road site.

2006 J. Suttle Transport Ltd commence trading as Suttle Stone Quarries.

2011 The purchase of Swanworth Quarry and J. Suttle Swanage Quarries to bring all elements of the business together under the Suttles banner.

The Suttle Family moved to the Isle of Purbeck in the late 1920's. Originally from the village of Bishops Auckland and Frosterly in County Durham, the family stone connections had been honed in the Frosterly "Marble" quarries.

The move to Dorset had come about by the demise of the family Dairy business in the years coming up to the depression of the late 1920's and the offer of employment at Crack Lane Quarry in Langton Matravers by a quarrying and construction Company to George Suttle (family history suggests as foreman and photo's of crack lane quarry and employees at that time appear to bear this out but there is rather more pressing evidence that it was for his explosives expertise that he was employed and this is more likely to have been his role). George was initially accompanied by his eldest son Randolph and gradually the family consisting of a total of eight boys and two girls plus his wife Elizabeth made the long trek to Dorset. Initially living in a variety of local rented homes until the opportunity came to buy the land and build the tin clad bungalow at "Sunnyside" in Haycrafts Lane.

The couple of acres of land the George had bought was stone bearing and following the demise and the closure of Crack Lane Quarry, George started a Quarry in the "back Garden". Son ,John Suttle would often complain that following a hard day at "Harden Bros" as a stone mason, he would have to sort out into walling and paving the stone that his Father had piled into one heap from his "quarry".

There is evidence that George Suttle was quarrying and selling stone from Sunnyside in 1939

John had married local girl Doris Tatchell, related to the famous Swanage "Burt" family who themselves had been instrumental in the Purbeck stone trade.

The Suttle brothers had mostly gone their own ways into various careers but John, Wilfred, Maurice and Cyril had all taken various building apprentaships and all worked for various local building firms until the partnership of J and E. W Suttle was born. E. W. being Wilfred.

We have no clear idea of when Grandfathers Quarry at Sunnyside closed but under the guise of J. and E.W. Suttle the Brothers worked together for many years and are responsible for the building of many well built and sturdy houses in the area.

Construction of new sawing shed. Swanage Quarries 1980.

In the early 1960's John Suttle had seen an opportunity to lease from the Swanage Town Council a parcel of land that had historically been quarried and the Council were currently filling with domestic refuse. John put the argument to the Council that his quarrying activity would provide them with royalty for the stone quarried plus extra space for tipping in the void created.

There was much debate at the council as this was not a "local" family and many of the other local quarrying families were keen to exclude "newcomers", but by a narrow decision a three year concession was granted to the Company and J & E.W. Suttle commenced quarrying.

Johns wife Doris was from a very local family with strong quarrying connections and roots in some of the oldest families so it is odd that this attempt to exclude them occurred. Times were difficult and the untimely death of Wilfred and the return of Maurice and Cyril to the Building industry as "Suttle Bros" left John on his own at Mutton Hole Quarry. The lack of demand and the encroaching waste filling the void made quarrying eventually impossible. John made representations to the Town Council to start quarrying on land to the South of Mutton Hole Quarry and in 1967 a concession was granted again for three years at the new site. Unfortunately the land did not have the benefit of planning permission and it was a further two years before it was granted. During the intervening period John was buying stone from the local quarries that would deal with him (especially Wellman and Harris, Ronnie Lewis at Lewis Quarries and W. T Haysom) and working it to provide "dubbers" (shaped and dressed building stone) and other masonry. Swanage Town Council agreed a further three year concession and in 1970 John worked mostly on his own supplying stone from the quarry to Harden Bros for various contracts, plus supplying a number of Builders around the County.

Chris Suttle, John's son, had not been involved with quarrying other than helping out when pressed during summer school holidays, and it was really by accident that Chris became involved.

Although he spent 4 years working in Bournemouth he did start working at Swanage Quarry, just him and his Father in 1970, and spent the next few years learning to work Purbeck Stone at both the banker and in the Quarry.

Chris tells it like this:

"My experience in the commercial world when working in Bournemouth and my ability to talk to the customers meant that I could escape the banker for a few moments by being first to answer the large black dust covered telephone that sat in our rusty galvanised iron shed which doubled as site office and chemical toilet."

The next couple of years were exciting with the purchase of a guillotine to crop stone ready for dressing or to produce large blocks (Sea Wall Dubbers) for Bournemouth Sea Front but in late 1975 John started to suffer ill health having trouble writing and lack of movement in his right arm left him writing and signing documents with his left hand. The diagnosis of a brain tumour saw John hastily interned into Southampton neurological unit. Chris was at home when the news came that John would have only six weeks left to live. John's death on boxing day 1975 at the age of sixty three although predicted by the medics at Southampton was shocking and time to decide on the future.

Chris continued to run the business for his Fathers estate, not quite sure where his future lay, but things did soon become clearer when the Council advised that the concession would be terminated in line with the terms and it would be advertised for tender in the local press. The new concession would commence on the 1st April 1976.

After a few false dawns and Chris actually initially failing to secure the concession, it was granted so on 1st April 1976 Chris commenced trading as J. Suttle Swanage Quarries.

Department of Health Building, Richmond, London.
Supplied sawn stone for road.

RNLI Lifeboat Station, Swanage

Customer- Bam Nuttall
Material- Dressed Facing Stone Using Swanworth Portland Limestone

Suttle Purbeck Stone were employed by Bam Nuttall to work for the RNLI to provide materials which were to be used to build a brand new lifeboat station in Swanage.

The dressed facing stone was used for the main cavity construction of the building. The window cills, Lintols, Quoins, Jambs and Plinth course were sawn out of Swanworth Portland Limestone. Suttles now retired employee, Micky Hobbs dressed a large proportion of the stone for the job.

The new lifeboat house was completed and opened in 2017 for the arrival of their new Shannon Class Lifeboat.

Poole Park, Dorset

Customer- Ebsford Environment & Borough of Poole
Material- Gabion Stone, flat revetment rock, rockery, textured coping

Quarry Manager, Nick Crocker, was instrumental in securing Suttles as a supplier for the stone landscaping materials for a project at Poole Park that included two separate jobs with different clients.

The first job was for Ebsford Environmental. We supplied 56 tonnes of Swanworth Gabion Limestone to make Gabion baskets for the internal walling of The Ark. Our California dimension stone quarry, Swanage, supplied 217 tonnes of flat revetment rock and 20 tonnes of rockery for the surroundings and finishing off with 47 linear metres of textured coping.

The second job was directly for the Borough of Poole; this was for the War Memorial in the center of the park. California quarry supplied with 218 square meter of flags and 4 sawn steps.

"Suttles experiance in this sector proved invaluable when selecting materials for this project"- Nick Crocker

Dorset Wildlife Trust Greenage Project

Customer- Dorset Wildlife Trust
Material- 20 tonnes Crushed Limestone

A charity gardening project in Swanage received a helping hand from Suttles in the form of a donation of 20 tonnes of crushed limestone. The garden, at Prospect Crescent, offers therapeutic horticulure sessions for a range of people including those recovering from mental health issues, long term unemployment and people living with dementia.
Aimed at promoting health & wellbeing in individulas, the community facility needed the crushed limestone to level the surface in a greenhouse.
Katie Wilkinson, from the Dorset Wildlife Trust said; "In order for people involved in the project to work safely, it was very important to get the floor of the greenhouse even and safe, it will make this space so much more functional and useful. It's going to be packed down nice and flat, it will allow for all sorts of raised beds and standing gardens to be established".
Katie added, " This donation from Suttles is going to be a huge help for us, it means that thoses funds can be spent on adapted tools and other things".

Royal Bournemouth Hospital Helipad Reconstruction

Customer- Royal Bournemouth Hospital
Material- 33 tonne Gabion Limestone

Swanworth quarry supplied 30 tonnes of gabion limestone for a helipad extension at Royal Bournemouth Hospital, Dorset.
This site was reconstructed so that larger helicopters could land at this location rather than being sent further afield benefiting the lives of people in need of urgent medical attention.

Gabion Stone to Poole Railway

Customer- Geoffery Osbourne Ltd
Material- Gabion Stone

Swanworth quarry supplied around 400 tonnes of Gabion Stone to reinforce a railway embankment at Holes Bay, Poole.
The project was carried out by Network Rail set out to repair and fill voids in isolated coastal locations.

National Trust Track Repairs

Customer- National Trust
Material- 300 tonnes Type 1 Dorset Limestone, 150 tonnes recycled crushed Asphalt

Suttles supply products for numerous National Trust contracts, mainly supplying limestone from our Swanworth quarry into the local area. In this particular project the New Line track at Corfe Castle was in poor condition. Rather than usuing new asphalt over the full track, the National Trust wanted to keep New Line looking as natural as possible, so we recomended Type 1 Dorset Limestone.

Crushed recycled asphalt, produced at our Poole recycling depot, was delivered in to first fill in all the potholes and to bring up the levels. Swanworth Type 1 limestone was then used to dress and surface the track which was then compacted to lock the material.

Tesimonial:

"Suttle Stone Quarries were able to supply this particular type of stone in quickly and at the quantity needed for the job. We have found that Suttles' stone binds very well and their service is excellent".

"We chose Suttles as they were the only Purbeck quarry that were able to supply the type of stone needed to upgrade 600m of track. The price was resonable and they were able to deliver stone directly to the site. The team at Suttles were able to advise on the best type of stone to use and arranged quick delivery. I am confident I will be using their services again in the future".
– Phil Stuckey, National Trust

Paving and Hard Landscaping at Sandbanks

Customer- Woodmace

A stunning installation by Suttle Purbeck Stone at a new development of nine flats in Sandbanks started out as a much smaller job.

Suttle Purbeck Stone, based at California Quarry, Swanage, was initially tasked with supplying stone for a landscaping feature for the properties – which are located on Evening Hill and offer exceptional views across Poole Harbour and to Brownsea Island.

Their brief later grew to include stone for the steps, pathways and outdoor garden area of the complex. Quarry manager, Nick Crocker, visited the site and met with colleagues from Woodmace, main contractor, Colmar and landscape architects, Camlins.

The landscaping stones weighed around 1.5 tonnes each and had to be put into place by a crane. "It went fantastically well," said Nick, "as a result of that Colmar spoke to us about other elements of the job – including the hard landscaping".

"They ordered curbs, treads, Riven paving, textured paving and sawn coping – which sits on the top of a wall like a cap to shed water.

"By the end of the project, our element of the job had quadrupled in size."

He added: "It was a wonderful showcase for our materials."

Sawyer Matt Suttle said: "Praise needs to go to Nick who turned the initial enquiry into a substantial multi-product contract, providing several months of work for the sawn workshop.

"Nick did this by identifying the needs for the whole project and showcasing our product range to the customer during their visit to our quarry, demonstrating we could supply a start to finish solution."

Woodmace director, Russell Crate, said: "The landscape architect liked it once the feature stones were in and wanted more of it.

"We do quite a bit with Suttles, and they provided a good selection of materials on time, and to the satisfaction of the client."

Suttle
Stone Quarries

Reducing our CO2 footprint

Swanworth Quarry's workshop has recently undergone installation of a 49kw, 120 panel photovoltaic (PV) solar system supported by Low Carbon Dorset and installed by Wessex Eco Energy.

Throughout the year when solar radiation is produced the panels will generate electricity to provide power for the workshop, security and fixed electrical systems within the quarry. Importantly it will also help to power the quarry's 160kW crusher motor which was upgraded to electric from diesel back in 2014, significantly reducing bills and some reliance on fossil fuel energy sources. The system will save around 25 tonnes of CO2 per year. The process, which included numerous site visits from Low Carbon Dorset's Renewable Energy Technical Officer, Dr Derek Moss, was concluded with a feasibility study and an application for £16,693 of grant funding to help towards the total costs.

Suttles also have six fully electric vehicles (EV) from brands such as Tesla, Jaguar and VW, with another on order, aswell as five plug-in hybrids (PHEV), one regenerative Hybrid and two fully electric Peugeot vans. We already have plans to extend our PHEV and EV fleet further in 2020.All these vehicles are estimated to be saving a staggering 30 tonnes of CO2 emissions each year.