

MYSTERY ROCK A

01 *Description of Location*

Backyard – not *in-situ*. Being used for garden edging. It was originally from a quarry near Oamaru.

02 *Picture / Photo*



03 *Colour*

White

04 *Texture*

Rough to touch - like sandpaper. Grainy

05 *Hardness*

Soft - it crumbles against harder rocks

06 *Lustre*

Dull with sparkly bits

07 *Streak*

White

08 *Fracture / Cleavage*

No fracture – it breaks at random angles – no pattern to how it breaks

09 *Other*

This rock is made from millions of tiny fossils

SOLUTION

KNOW WHAT IT IS?

Yes, it's limestone.

You may have this in your garden... It is often used when building houses and even sometimes garden walls... Maybe your house is built from it? Sometimes it is bare and sometimes it is painted. Limestone can be carved into beautiful sculptures; these can be in people's gardens or inside their homes.

WHAT IS LIMESTONE?

Limestone is created when creatures living in water die and fall to the bottom of the seafloor. They become covered with more creatures that have also died and fallen to the bottom of the seafloor. Over time these deposits become compacted and turned into limestone (yes it's made of lots and lots of fossils!).

WHERE CAN WE SEE LIMESTONE IN THE WAITAKI WHITESTONE GEOPARK?

- Wai O Toura Reserve
- Waipata (Earthquakes)
- Anatini
- Elephant Rocks
- Valley of the Whales
- Prydes Gully Rd Quarry