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Ashlar stones of the district Saale-Orla (Part 1)

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Abstract

Until the 20th century limestones and sandstones (Zechstein to Buntsandstein) were excavated in the northern part of the district Saale-Orla-Kreis normally in small stone quarries. They were used as broken, cut or building stones. From middle age to the beginning of the 19th century limestones of Werra-sequence were regional important.

In the southern part of district Saale-Orla-Kreis metabasalt (Diabas), quartzite and greywacke of Lower Paleozoic age were locally exploited, often as crushed products. When the fissures were adequate and the material has the right quality, ashlar stones could be produced and substituted. Shales often were uses. Especially the slate productions (Dachschiefer) from Wurzbach and Blintendorf were well known. In the second part of the 20th century limestone of Upper Devonian age (“Marble of Saalburg”) was widely uses in the GDR