

This week's astounding discovery is:

Rock Show



Can you spot these rocks in the stone walls of the farm?

You'll find rocks like these in the wall between the tearoom and the byre.

Turn over this sheet to record your discoveries.

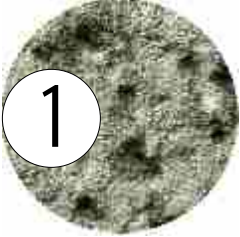


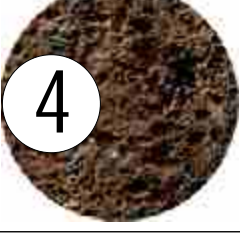





Rock Show

The people who built the Mill Farm about 200 years ago must have used lumps of stone and boulders that they found in the fields or on the riverside. All sorts of rocks were used and each have a special story to tell.

All of these rocks were formed over 300 million years old.

tick when you find a specimen

	<p>Sandstone is made from tiny grains of sand, gently washed along a river bed more than 300 million years ago. This kind of sandstone is easy to cut into square blocks and was used for forming the corners of buildings. The pattern on the surface was made by the quarryman's chisel.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<p>This sandstone must have been formed beneath a fast flowing river as it has lines of little pebbles embedded in it. Each time the river flooded, a new line of pebbles would be laid down</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<p>This soft flaky grey stone is made from volcanic dust; probably from a giant volcano that once raged in the Bathgate Hills.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<p>This volcanic rock was formed when lava cooled slowly beneath the surface of the earth. It is made of little crystals and is very hard. Fragments of this tough rock were rounded into boulders by the action of an ice sheet that covered the area 20,000 year ago.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<p>This is "spaghetti rock", made from the fossil remains of a coral reef that existed when West Lothian was covered by a shallow tropical sea, about 300 million year ago.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<p>Sandstone with black streaks, probably formed from the rotted remains of plant materials that fell into swampy water. Thicker bands of rotted plants would have formed seams of coal.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<p>A hard rusty-coloured nodule of sandstone which is rich in iron and would have formed in swampy water about 300 million years ago.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>