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Beneath the village of Combe Down, just south of the world famous city of Bath, lies evidence of the creation of that city in the form of a vast labyrinth of underground stone quarries dating from the 18th to the 20th centuries. Ten years of innovative work by Oxford Archaeology have surveyed and analysed these quarries, setting the archaeological evidence in the context of the documentary history, and painting a picture of a modest local industry galvanised in the 18th century by the vision and drive of entrepreneur Ralph Allen. Allen championed technical innovation and provided massive investment and his mines produced the materials for the likes of architect John Wood to create the famous buildings that have come to symbolise the 'Golden Age' of Georgian Bath.



A cartway in Ralph Allen's mid 18th century quarry under Combe Down



**Bath & North East
Somerset Council**



£25.00

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