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Little Rock Stone Co.'s Quarry



J. W. Carmean, manager of the Little Rock Stone Company, whose plant and office are located about one mile west of Pulaski Heights station on the Rock Island lines, announces that its business is growing by leaps and bounds. The plant formerly was operated under the name of the Blue Trap Quarry, which was owned by the Saline Bauxite Company.

Since Mr. Carmean took charge of the plant, he has spent a large sum equipping it and converting it into a modern plant. Mr. Carmean said he has a daily output of more than 600 tons of crushed rock, which will equal about 13 car loads.

The feature of the plant is that all the rock is carefully handpicked, assuring the contractors and builders of the best materials the market affords. The plant employs about 45 persons and has 10 trucks in its service.

Few people of Little Rock have seen the quarry, and very few know where it is located and how to get there. The above picture will give one an idea of the size of the quarry. The picture shows workmen and trucks handling the rock just after a blast. The

rock is loaded onto the trucks, which haul it about two city blocks to the giant crushers. The wall of rock that is shown in the picture is 96 feet high and solid. About 10 days is required to drill a hole in the rock for the hundreds of pounds of explosives required to remove the tons of rock.

Another feature of the plant is its crushers. This part of the plant was built on the hillside, 85 feet above the railroad tracks. All the rock that goes through the crushers is delivered to the bins by gravity, as well as to the cars on the loading racks. This is considered a time saver, as when the rock has to be raised to the cars by machinery, often some of the rock gets into the gears or belts and causes considerable delay and at the same time it will damage the machinery which in some cases requires several days for a replacement part to reach the crusher.

Mr. Carmean says that the plant is one of the best arranged in the state to handle its work in a first-class manner. The firm owns 40 acres of the hills and rocks on the Heights, and tons of rock will be obtained from these holdings.

Stone Company May Get Part of Fort Roots Reservation.

Gazette 1-31-28
Washington, Jan. 30.—(AP)—Transfer of a portion of United States Veterans Hospital No. 78's reservation, North Little Rock, to the Big Rock Stone and Material Company, is provided in a bill introduced in the Senate today by Senator Robinson, Democrat, Arkansas. The bill provides that the stone and rock company shall in turn transfer certain lands to the government.

Land referred to in the above dispatch is nearly a mile from the hospital buildings, and will not be used for quarry purposes, officials of the Big Rock Stone and Material Company said last night. About five and a half acres are involved, the hospital desiring to exchange small adjacent tracts to gain additional tillable acreage to use in connection with agricultural and poultry work carried on by patients.

Gazette Incorporation Matters. 3/23/28
The Anderson Stone Company of Fort Smith filed articles of incorporation in the office of Secretary of State Jim B. Higgins yesterday. The company is capitalized at \$50,000. A. N. Sicard, H. C. Bass and Hayden Anderson St. are the incorporators.

Willford Crushed Stone Company, Memphis, Tenn., entered state, naming H. C. Martin as agent in charge of its office at Willford, Ark. The company will use all its capital stock, \$50,000, in this state. *Gazette* 3-29-28

Road Building Materials of Arkansas Tested at University.

Gazette 6/24/28
Fayetteville, June 23.—(AP)—Finding that the economic value of road building materials of Arkansas had increased with the expanding road program of the state, and that little definite information was available concerning this resource, the engineering experiment station of the University of Arkansas undertook four years ago to make a survey of these materials.

The results of that survey, embracing the testing of more than 5,000 samples of materials from 57 Arkansas counties and from five neighboring states, have just been published by the university in an 82-page bulletin. Other states represented in the survey are Oklahoma, Louisiana, Tennessee, Missouri and Texas.

The testing was done in the materials laboratory of the university's Engineering College under the direction of W. R. Spencer, professor of civil engineering.

Gazette Incorporation Matters.
The Union Stone Company of El Dorado, capitalized at \$15,000, filed articles of incorporation in the office of the secretary of state yesterday. J. W. Russell, Helen Russell and George M. LeCroy are the incorporators. *Gazette* 6/24/28

Cobble-stones Are Popular in Ozarks

By TOM SHIRAS.
The hundreds of cobblestone buildings, including residences, garages, business buildings, hotels, schoolhouses and what not in the Ozarks, got their inception from Hollister, Mo., in Taney county, where the first cobblestone building in the sector was built. This type of construction seems to fit into the general aesthetic scheme of the hill country and lends a new beauty to its highways and towns. Probably one-half of all the new buildings erected in the Ozarks during the last five years have been constructed from field and creek washed stone, material once scorned as valueless.

Hollister is probably the only town in the United States with an ordinance regulating all construction to certain materials and to a certain type of architecture. If you build a building in this spic and span little village that snugly down in the Turkey Creek valley, beneath a fringe of low lying, green topped mountains it must be along the lines of old English architecture. The law says so, and if you don't like the law you will have to lay the foundation of your home in some other town.

Coming into Hollister on the train, or dropping down into it, winding in and out between the over-topping hills is always a surprise to a stranger, for it is like coming suddenly onto some peaceful village hidden away in a quiet valley in the British Isles.

Like citizens in all other small towns, the citizens of Hollister differ on most questions, but they are one when it comes to the architectural lines of their town. All buildings must conform to a type, and strange to say, while most of them conform to the type, all of them in a manner are different in design. A stranger coming into the town, who is not familiar with English architecture en masse, usually thinks he has stumbled onto a moving picture set.

The primary purposes of the village of Hollister is to afford people a perfect place to live and play amid an aesthetic atmosphere not found in any other towns, village or city in the United States. This combined with all of the physical comforts, and the thousand or more contented people who live in the community, and the thousands who come to the shores of beautiful Lake Taneycomo each summer is evidence that the towns is functioning along the fundamental lines laid down in the beginning.

Most towns just grow haphazard. Hollister, as it stands today is the physical reproduction of a mental picture drawn in 1905, when the White river division was under construction between

Newport, Ark., and Joplin, Mo. The picture was seared on the William H. Johnson, and through his efforts it was drawn physically in stone and mortar.

Earlier in life Mr. Johnson was a country lawyer living at Forsyth, in Taney county, Mo. Later he moved to Springfield, Mo. He owned the land on which Hollister now stands. A man came along, bought a lot from him and erected a box store building, typical of the Ozarks in those days. Another man bought a lot and built a board shack for a restaurant. The Missouri Pacific dumped a box car off on the right of way one day, and opened up a depot in it.

Mr. Johnson came down from Springfield, and looked over his embryonic village and his aesthetic sense was outraged. If this went on, he could see in years hence, only a very drab village. Then another picture came into his mind. The picture of what Hollister looks like today.

He started in on the Missouri Pacific by asking them for a new depot—a different kind of a depot, built from creek washed boulders along old English lines. They turned a deaf ear to his entreaty but that did not discourage him. He kept right after them with facts and figures and finally won his depot; a beautiful stone edifice and the prettiest one on the White river division. For many years this depot was used as a community house for the village. Public meetings, dances and bazaars were held there, and to some extent it still serves this purpose.

New comers to the towns were shown the depot and asked to construct business houses and residences to conform to it. Several years later an ordinance was passed making it a law.

The influence of this type of building at Hollister has been felt all over north Arkansas and south Missouri. Twenty-five years ago 95 per cent of all classes of buildings were frame, the other five per cent being stone, mortar brick or concrete. Today at least 50 per cent of the buildings being erected are of cobble-stone. They do not all follow old English lines of architecture, however. Field stone, once cursed by the farmers for its interference with cultivation is a popular material, as are the larger stones taken from the creeks. Some wanting a more elaborate building have used cave crystals and different ores along with the rock. With the raw material at hand the cost of these buildings is not much more than substantial frame. This is one reason probably why they have become popular. At any rate they have given new beauty to the Ozark mountains.

BIDS FOR RIPRAP SOUGHT BY U. S.

40,000 Yards of Stone to Be Purchased by Engineer at Memphis.

Gazette 6-2-28
Arkansas in several counties will be interested in the announcement that bids for furnishing 40,000 cubic yards of riprap will be received at the office of Col. F. B. Wilby, United States engineer, in Memphis June 16, Osro Cobb, former Montgomery county representative, said yesterday.

This order for stone will be the largest the government has placed this year, Mr. Cobb said. He advocated the purchase of field stone by the government for use on levees last fall when solutions for unemployment were sought. He said yesterday that, while the government has not bought stone on as large a scale as had been desired, previous orders had relieved unemployment in some areas and had aided railroads in their struggle for revenue.

Colonel Wilby has asked for alternate proposals for delivery of the riprap, to Memphis or to government barges. Bids should be submitted in triplicate.

Stone for River Embankments Taken Near Ruddells.

Gazette 7-15-31
Melbourne, Jan. 14.—Several of the vacant houses of the little town Ruddells, on White river, which recently became a "deserted village," now are occupied by workmen and their families who are getting out stone along the bluffs on the east side of the river. The stone is used to build embankments along the Mississippi river. W. E. Womble, contractor, said about 450 carloads, 60 tons to the flat car, have been shipped to Helena the past several weeks. A force of 65 men is at work. There are sufficient loose boulders near the old Ruddell's lime plant for several hundred carloads.

700 Cars of Stone Will Be Shipped to Helena.

Gazette 11-7-33
Kensett, Nov. 17.—Shipment to Helena of 700 cars of stone, to be loaded from various points on the Missouri and North Arkansas railroad, will begin soon. The stone will be used for government revetment work on the Mississippi river. Large quantities will be shipped from Elba, Ormond Spur, Arlberg and Leslie.

ADDITIONAL FORCE WORKS AT QUARRIES

Williams Roofing Company Reports Increase in Orders in Recent Months.

See 2-3-1934
Because of the increase in orders for roofing materials which the Williams Roofing Company has received in the past few months, the company has employed 10 additional men in the production of rock from the quarries of the Kimzey-Lawrence Company at Magnet, Hot Spring county, J. M. Williams Jr., president of the company, said yesterday.

"We have had shipped in the last 30 days 2,000,000 pounds of rock to our factory at Waterloo, Ark., to be made into roofing," Mr. Williams said. "We have also been compelled to build two new additions to our plant, which will be used in crushing rock and a storage plant, and also we have installed two extra large tanks for asphalt."

"We have shipped from our factory over 5,000,000 squares of roofing to all parts of the Southwest, and to California. We are very much pleased with our business and look for it to pick up even more during the coming year."

"We are getting good results from the Arkansas Manufacturers Campaign, as we have received letters from customers stating that they were buying roofing from us not only because we sold only quality roofing, but because we are strictly an Arkansas manufacturer, so this goes to prove that it is necessary only that manufacturers tell the people of Arkansas what they have to offer, and customers will buy it."

Special to the Gazette. Batesville, Oct. 12.—W. E. Womble & Sons of Fort Smith, with temporary offices at Batesville, have shipped 325 cars of stone during the past six weeks from 20 stations on the White River Division of the Missouri Pacific railroad, between Batesville and Zinc. The stone is consigned to the United States engineers at Helena for trans-shipment by government barges to flood control works on the Mississippi river. It is in pieces from 75 to six pounds. No machinery is used in its procurement.

Farmers and others who own acceptable stone within hauling distance of the railroad stations are given orders by the contractors for the stone in carlots. This method of procurement gives gainful employment to farmers in the drouth stricken parts of north Arkansas along White river. More than \$10,000 has been paid for the stone. About 200 more cars will be required to complete the contract unless the river rises and suspends or shuts down the job.

Many Uses Found For Various Stones From Ozarks

By TOM SHIRAS.

Batesville, Dec. 12.—When a planter from the delta section of the state, who is used to smooth, stoneless fields, comes in the rugged Arkansas Ozarks and sees the enormous amount of stone on every hand he shakes his head and mutters, "Too much rock." Yet, some of these planters are buying this stone in the shape of ground limestone, to dress their fields with, and in another half a century most of them will be using it to sweeten their soil.

All stone in the Arkansas Ozarks has a market value today! this includes the loose chunk stone of all varieties, which is used in the construction of cobblestone houses and for riprap on the Mississippi river.

Stone is one of the greatest assets the north part of the state has. Eight concerns located at different places in the Arkansas Ozarks, are using different kinds of stone as raw material. They are the Arkansas Black Marble Company, Batesville Marble and Granite Company, St. Clair Marble Company, Batesville Stone and Marble Company, Batesville White Lime Company, Silica Products Company, all of Batesville, and the White River Marble Company of Cartney, Baxter county, and the Everton Silica Sand Company, operating a glass plant at Everton, in Boone county.

The Arkansas Black Marble Company operates on the only bed of black marble in the United States. The St. Clair

Marble Company, with a quarry near Guion, in Izard county, and a cutting plant at Batesville, operates on St. Clair marble. The Batesville Stone and Marble Company operate on a Boone crystalized fine grain, colitic limestone, and the Batesville Marble and Granite Company operates on the same material. The White River Marble Company, with a quarry and plant at Cartney, operates on St. Joe marble.

These four marble families are all highly crystalized limestones, of different colors and textures and take exceptionally high finishes. They are used for monumental, building and decorative purposes.

The St. Joe marble is found in Baxter, Marion, Searcy and Boone counties, and is one of the more substantial proofs that at one time the north part of the state was covered with water. It is formed for the most part, of white, crystalized crinoids or fishbacks, cemented to gether with crystalized limestone, getting its coloring matter from iron and other mineral matters. It is found in numerous shades of red and gray. The White River Marble Company quarries a chocolate color that is very popular.

The St. Clair marble is much the same character as the St. Joe, except it is of much finer grain. It is found for the most part in Izard and Independence counties, and runs in grays and pinks and in some instances is found in vari-

gated colors. It is a beautiful material for interior purposes and is used for building purposes.

The crystalized Boone limestone is more widely distributed than the St. Joe or St. Clair, being found in Independence, Izard, Stone, Baxter, Marion and Boone counties, taking its local name from the latter county. It runs in color from a white, through the light tans and grays and in some instances is found in varigated colors. It is highly crystalized, takes a fine polish and is used for both interior and exterior work. In texture the different beds run from very, very fine, to coarse, and all of it is very enduring. Some of the tombstones in the old cemetery in the rear of the Federal building in Batesville were made from this material, and after 100 years, the hair line inscriptions are as clear as they were the day they were cut.

The black marble is very rare, and north Arkansas contains the only beds of this material in the United States. It is a fine grain oolitic crystalized limestone, which way back in the dim, dim yesterdays became impregnated with asphalt, which gives it its color. Some of this black marble also contains crystalized fishback that show dead white when it is polished, giving it an uncomparable contrast. Black marble is found in Independence, Stone and Searcy counties.

Most people associate the shaping of marble with the old-fashioned hand

mallet and chisel. No doubt the stone blocks which went into the Egyptian pyramids were cut with such tools, but if the Pharaohs who ruled Egypt at that time had had the tools used by the modern finishing plants in the Arkansas Ozarks, they would have saved two-thirds of the time and nine-tenths of the labor that went into the job.

The shaping of stone is done with the same kind of tools, except much heavier, that are used in the shaping of wood. The lifting of the heavy blocks is done by power-operate derricks, which tilt their heads, grab a block of stone weighing several tons, and deposit it in the desired place.

The blocks are cut into the desired dimensions with a battery of steel saws, set in a frame. If there is a 24-inch block to be sawed into two-inch slabs, 12 saws are inserted in the frame at two-inch intervals. The frame is operated with a swinging motion, automatically lowering itself as the saws bite deeper into the stone. The saw blades have no teeth, the cutting being done with sand and friction. The sand is fed onto the block with water and runs into the saw slots, the blades grinding it back and forth.

Did you ever stand and admire a beautiful stone pillar and wonder how it was shaped? It is no mystery. It was turned on a lathe just like a wooden pillar.

How do they surface a piece of rough

stone? Wood, except and is set in a heavy, steel frame, driven back and forth across the block by powerful mechanical equipment.

Some stone also sawed with a single endless strand of 3-16 steel wire. This strand runs from a drive wheel on the engine over the face of the block being sawed, looping back over to the drive wheel again. It is held in place against the top of the block by weighted, steel pulleys on either side, which automatically force it down as the wire bites deeper. The cutting agent used in this method is also sand, which is fed into the saw slot by water.

The St. Peters sandstone which underlies sections of Independence, Izard, Boone and other north Arkansas counties, is valuable for glass making purposes and is quarried and milled for this purpose, by the two glass sand plants, one at Guion, in Izard county, the other at Everton, in Boone county.

The process of preparing sand for the glass factory market is a very intricate one, combining several mechanical processes. It is quarried first from the original sand ledge and goes to the primary crusher which reduces it to small pieces. From the crusher it goes to immense steel rolls where it is pulverized. It then passes to the screens where the small grains are sized, and from the screens to the washer, where all foreign matter is washed out. It is then passed through

a rotary drier which takes all the moisture out of it, and is ready for shipment.

The Batesville White Lime Company's plant, located at Limedale, a few miles from Batesville, is one of the largest and most modern lime plants in the South. This concern manufactures building and chemical lime, ground limestone for agricultural purposes, and crushed limestone for ballasting purposes.

Phosphate rock, used in the manufacture of chemicals and fertilizer is found in Izard, Independence and other counties in the north part of the state. Around Cushman, in Independence county, there are immense beds of low grade phosphate, which apparently have no value today, but which, some day will be utilized in commercial channels. Some of the higher grade deposits in this section are owned and have been worked in the past by the Arkansas Fertilizer Company of Little Rock.

Onyx and other stones which naturally lend themselves to art work are being neglected. One only has to see the Christmas displays of ink stands and a hundred and one other articles made of art stone to see that there is an opportunity in this line of manufacture in the hills. Nearly every cave contains a deposit of onyx. Some of the flints, hard as agate, are beautifully colored. Turkey fat, a variety of zinc ore, which gets its yellow color from cadium, makes beautiful sets for all kinds of jewelry. Then there are the black and fine grained varigated marbles suitable for art purposes.