How Do You Spell "Cremation"?

by Milton V. Lyndes

The answer to the question of how you spell cremation is definitely not R-E-L-I-E-F.

In the monument business if you don’t know how to spell the word cremation you may have a lot of catching up to do. There are some retail monument dealers who really have very few cremations within their market area, but our surveys show that the concept of cremation is beginning to affect the business of the majority of retail monument dealers in the United States.

About one-third of all retail monument dealers report that their business is not being hurt by cremations. Most of the rest of the retailers are feeling the impact to varying degrees.

I will state categorically that the increase in the number of cremations may very well have influenced your business without your even knowing about it. Furthermore, the increase in the number of cremations—even in the most conservative parts of our country—will cut into the sales of retail monument dealers to a greater extent than they may realize today.

Every state retail monument dealer organization should include on its annual convention program a review and update of cremation trends in that immediate area. The biggest problem the monument business faces in regard to cremation is the problem of apathy. The spectre of lost sales can be far more serious than some of the other no-monument trends that have taken place slowly but surely over the years.

If you are a retail monument dealer, talk to your local cemetery manager about cremations. Talk to your local funeral director about the same subject. Keep abreast as to what is happening. Can your business benefit in any way from the increasing number of cremations that will be taking place in your area during the coming year?

State, regional and national monument organizations should place this subject at the highest priority in order to provide guidance to their members as to the proper course of action to be taken as time goes on.

"How do you spell cremation?" If you operate a crematory or you sell a service or product that benefits from cremations, then you spell it "R-E-L-I-E-F." If you are selling a product or service that is losing out after a cremation takes place, then the only way you can spell it is "D-A-N-G-E-R."
A scene from "The Stone Whistle" describes the way huge 20-plus ton blocks of Barre granite are cut into granite slabs of varying thicknesses.

The Barre Granite Association has made arrangements to have the very popular 16mm film, "The Stone Whistle," converted to a one-half inch VHS video tape format. This is available for loan or sale. Of course, we also have the beautiful color 16mm movie film as well.

The film price is $175.
The video tape price is $85.

The BGA sent out follow-up questionnaires to persons and organizations who viewed the film. We asked how many people saw the film, whether it served its purpose and provided for other comments. Here are some of the recent replies from people who have seen "The Stone Whistle":

"Excellent! Very informative and interesting to both high school level and adults. I did not realize how much went into the carving, and I sure enjoyed the scenery."—Midwest School, Midwest, Wyoming.

continued on next page
"We showed the film three different times and it opened some ideas for future employment for some of our students."—Mercer County V.T.C., Princeton, West Virginia.

"Good teaching aid—thank you very much for making it available to us."—Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau School District, Galvesville, Wisconsin.

"It was an outstanding film. It was very educational in that students learned about mining of granite and about Vermont. A very, very good film."—Apollo High School, Owensboro, Kentucky.

These are just a few of the many comments about the BGA-produced film that stars John Forsythe, who is presently the star of one of television's top programs—Dynasty.

The film explores the human need to be remembered which lies deep inside each of us. Forsythe takes us on a delightful trip through the beautiful Vermont countryside and the rich Barre granite quarries. The story of this remarkable granite is followed from its bed-rock in the quarry through the meticulous process that produces magnificently carved monuments. The film also touches on the religious significance of monuments, how they are personalized and the infinite care and detail that go into the execution of every world-famous Barre granite memorial.

The film is available through Modern Talking Pictures and RHR Filmedia, Inc. Contact us at the Barre Granite Association, P.O. Box 481, Barre, VT 05641 for further details on obtaining a copy of this very popular industry motion picture, in full color, either on 16mm film or one-half inch VHS video tape. This is the perfect answer to program needs for fraternal and civic organizations, church groups and private clubs.

Above: Film Director, Lowell Wentworth gives last minute instructions to Forsythe, Rouleau and young Susan Jayne.

Below: John Forsythe, Susan Jayne and Ray Rouleau, Plant Manager of Rouleau Granite Company (Metro Memorials) focus on stencil cutting in "The Stone Whistle."
BGA
SEMINAR
FOR
SUCCESS II

A professional introduction to quarrying, manufacturing, monument drafting and selling designed to help the new retailer better serve the buying public.

Dear Friend:

We have prepared a five day seminar at the "Granite Center of the World" that is designed to help retail monument dealers who have entered the business within the past five years including members of their organization and sons and/or daughters who have recently joined the business.

This seminar will provide a wide range of necessary background knowledge that every successful retail monument dealer should possess. For example, here are some of the areas that will be covered.

- How granite is quarried, and how it is graded for use in various types of memorialization.
- The steps that are actually performed in the production of the monuments that you sell at retail. This includes tours of modern granite plants and the opportunity to talk with experienced manufacturers who produce the widest range of granite memorialization in the world.
- How to lay out attractive and meaningful monument lettering and symbolism.
- The basics of selling monuments to the public, and an opportunity to talk to successful retailers.
- A tour of world famous Hope Cemetery including lectures on the subject of cemetery relations and how cemeteries function.
- An opportunity (not much but some) to see the beautiful State of Vermont during September.

The Barre Granite Association has had long experience in retail monument dealer education. I know that the monument retailer relatively new to the business could never find this kind of training and information anywhere else. Your Barre friends are sharing the cost of this valuable program so that the rooms, meals, transportation and instructions will be within the reach of anyone who wishes to come.

We believe this seminar to be a real opportunity. We have a limited number of rooms; and if you are interested, we suggest you register at the earliest opportunity as I know we are going to be over subscribed for this seminar. We have been told many times the BGA Seminar For Success is the best training program in the monument industry.

Sincerely,

Milton V. Lyndes
Executive Vice President
Please return this registration and check to:  
Barre Granite Association  
51 Church Street - P.O. Box 481  
Barre, VT 05641  
(Please make check payable to the Barre Granite Association)

Your Name:__________________________________________________________

Your Company Name:____________________________________________________

Address:________________________________________________________________

State & Zip ______________________________ Phone Number ______________________________

How long have you been in the monument business? ____________________________ years

Lodging Accommodations: (please check)

_______ Single ($250 per person, includes all meals and instructions)

_______ Double ($200 per person, includes all meals and instructions)

_______ Full name of person you are sharing room with ____________________________________________

Travel Plans: (Burlington, VT, is the closest major airport—38 miles from Montpelier)

_______ My travel plans are not yet complete but I will let you know by August 17, 1984.

_______ I will arrive by automobile

_______ I will arrive by plane into __________________________ (Place, date, flight number)

_______ Please check here if you need transportation from Burlington.

We will confirm your registration by return mail.

This registration form should be returned to the Barre Granite Association by July 27, 1984. Remember, we have space for only 100 people so reply promptly. Cancellations by September 1 are refundable.

A BGA Service for New Retail Monument Dealers
AFCO Purchases Assets of Cook, Watkins & Patch

Anderson-Friberg Company has purchased the corporate name and several other assets of Cook, Watkins & Patch, Inc., a firm that had been prominent in the Barre granite industry for nearly 90 years that ceased operations in February.

The acquisition includes the Technacraft trademark, customer records, plus the entire collection of monument designs, full-size drawings, sales aids and supplies.

David Reid, former President of Cook, Watkins & Patch will join the Anderson-Friberg Sales Department. Peter Friberg, Vice President for Sales said, "David's responsibility will be covering part of our mid-west territory with heaviest concentration on Ohio and Michigan."

Friberg also said, "We are very pleased to acquire the highly respected name and sales program of Cook, Watkins & Patch, Inc., and will continue to offer their popular services to the industry."

Robert Pope, Treasurer of Anderson-Friberg said all the Cook, Watkins & Patch records and design materials have been moved to the Anderson-Friberg office and have been re-catalogued so customers will have complete information about their past orders at a moments notice. Pope said, "Anderson-Friberg will continue to offer its own program of distinctive "AFCO Memorials" and the purchase from Cook, Watkins & Patch is meant to offer AFCO's retail dealers another source of quality designs and products.

David Reid Joins Sales Dept.

New Machinery

A souvenir of the recent MBNA National Convention is this Spielvogel diamond saw. Purchased from its German manufacturer by BECK & BECK, INC., at the convention in Atlanta in February, the BGA-member firm lost no time in placing it on line. The new polishing machine was made for BECK & BECK by R & H Tool.
New Offices For Granite Importers
Smiles abound in the new office complex of Granite Importers an Associate Member of the BGA. Jake Colgan, President of Granite Importers poses with his wife, Sandy in the doorway to his new office. Sandy's new office is out of the picture on the left. Linda Jordan, on the left and Diane Pluta are also pleased with the new surroundings.

Senior Rock of Ages Executive Dies

John E. "Jack" Corrigan, 57, of Barre, Vice President-Quarries of the Rock of Ages Corporation died in late April after a brief illness.

Mr. Corrigan had been employed by the Rock of Ages Corporation for 37 years, having started at the company subsidiary, Rock of Ages Capacitors (now Sprague Electric Co.). He transferred to the company saw plant in 1951 and became its foreman in 1955. In 1965 he assumed duties as a foreman at the company's main manufacturing plant, holding that position until 1969 when he was promoted to superintendent of the saw plant.

He was promoted to general manager of the industrial products and building materials division in 1976 and the following year assumed the position of general manager of the company's main plant.

Elected vice president of building products in 1978, he headed the company's newly formed granite building division and as vice president of the company's subsidiary, Rock of Ages Building Granite Corp., in Concord, New Hampshire.

Following the sale of Rock of Ages in February this year and as a result of the company reorganization, the new owners elected him vice president-quarries, responsible for all the operations of the company's domestic quarries.

Besides his widow, Barbara, Mr. Corrigan leaves four sons, five grandchildren, two brothers, two sisters as well as nieces and nephews.

Mr. Corrigan was very active in the community being involved in many activities including youth sports.
Friendly Competition Benefits March of Dimes

A total of nearly two dozen workers from MONTPELIER GRANITE WORKS and S.L. GARAND & COMPANY joined more than 790 walkers recently for a 25-kilometer trek to benefit the March of Dimes. John Garand, (1) Vice President of S.L. Garand & Company and Joe Mureta, President of Montpelier Granite Works challenged each other's firm to make the walk. The Barre-Montpelier area raised $45,500 for the March of Dimes, more than any other section of the state and member firms of the BGA were in it all the way.

Enhanced Decor

The administrative offices of MONTPELIER GRANITE WORKS were recently refurbished with the installation of new wall paneling, and new lighting in a lowered ceiling. Here Joe Mureta, president of the BGA-member firm and Paul A. Mascitti are checking recent orders in one section of the office.
FAMILY MEMORIALS was recently commissioned to repair a civic memorial to President John F. Kennedy by Holyoke Memorials in Holyoke, Massachusetts. The memorial, located at a busy traffic intersection, was damaged by an automobile. The BGA-member firm repaired the pedestal for the bust of the late president and one of the two wings of the memorial.

"ALL THIS WILL NOT BE FINISHED IN THE FIRST HUNDRED DAYS. NOR WILL IT BE FINISHED IN THE FIRST THOUSAND DAYS. BUT LET US BEGIN"
Mechanization Advances Continue At Rouleau's

Raymond Rouleau, on the left, and his brother Bert check the status report on a new Hensell diamond saw recently installed at ROULEAU GRANITE COMPANY. Ray is a Vice President and Plant Manager while Bert, also a Vice President, is in charge of rough stock and the company's saw plant operations. The new 10-foot diamond saw is capable of cutting through granite blocks 16 and a half feet long and four feet, two inches in height.
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

NICE JEWELRY FOR YOUR WIFE, MISTER?

SHE DON'T WEAR JEWELRY.

WHAT'S HER BIRTHSTONE?

BARRE GRANITE.
Dealers Choose Barre Granite

The people who really understand granite are retail monument dealers. They often choose Barre granite for their own family memorials. This is truly a fine endorsement of our product. What better recommendation to your potential customers when you say: ‘Our family memorial is made of world-famous Barre granite. I wouldn’t have it any other way.’

Frederick’s Monuments
Fremont, Ohio

The Frederick family monument for the owners of Fredericks Monuments in Fremont, Ohio is another example of exquisite carving in Barre granite.

Lincoln Gr. Co. of Macomb County
Mt. Clemens, Michigan
The family monument of Clarence and Eleanor Brichetto, proprietors of Lincoln Granite Company of Macomb County in Mount Clemens, Michigan in Barre granite.

Mendota, Mon-Co
Mendota, Ill.
Ralph Schmitt is a partner in the Mendota Monument Company of Mendota, Illinois. This Barre granite monument is his family’s memorial.
Bianchi Monuments
Monessen, PA. and West Newton, PA.

Bianchi Monuments is located in Monessen, Pennsylvania and in West Newton, Pennsylvania. These are the Bianchi families monuments, each made by a member of the Barre Granite Association from beautiful Barre Granite.
"Necessity is the mother of invention" is an oft-quoted line—especially when the newly found method of meeting the particular necessity proves to be successful.

Last year, Paul Savard, President of Thurber Granite Company found himself in need of polishing bricks for his automatic polisher. He decided those already on the market were not suitable to him so he proceeded to make his own.

After learning the brick making process in Europe, Savard taught his attractive wife, Huguette, who has assumed the overall responsibility for the production of nine different types and styles of polishing bricks.

"We make bricks for any polishing machine used in the United States or Canada," Savard said. "The bricks are marketed through Thurco, a subsidiary of Thurber Granite Company."

Savard said there is a large market for polishing bricks in the granite industry. "I think that within five years bricks will be used in the great majority of instances to polish granite. Polishing granite with bricks will eventually replace the traditional polishing wheel—there is no doubt about that."

While conceding loose abrasive used with a polishing wheel is much faster and works well on very large slabs up to twelve feet long, "Bricks are better on smaller pieces, are less expensive and are more efficient to operate."

"Using bricks may not be the quickest method of polishing granite," he said, "but it is the most economical method on a per square foot basis. Every particle of abrasive in the brick is used on the stone. Up to 75% of the loose abrasive used with polishing wheels is thrown off the stone and the cost of loose abrasive is much more than bricks."

"And, by using polishing bricks I'm saving money that would otherwise go toward the purchase of pins, bushings, forks, rings and other implements needed for polishing wheels."

Various grades of abrasive bricks are made by Thurco—from the very coarse 36-grit to the very fine 600-grit. 36-grit is used for grinding while the 600-grit starts the polishing shine which is finish-buffed with tin oxide. In between are 120-grit that takes out the lines and marks caused by the 36-grit, and the 320-grit that nearly eliminates the pit holes in the granite slab.

"Super cleanliness is essential in making polishing bricks," Savard noted. "If any dirt becomes mixed with the abrasives the bricks will scratch the granite. The working area has to be kept clean, especially when preparing and mixing the formula."

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What is the formula? Aha!!! “That is a trade secret,” winked Savard, “but the properties of the bricks are basically magnesite and cloride and abrasive in certain proportions all mixed with water.”

Savard said the European stone industry started using bricks for polishing granite many years ago. “Polishing bricks came to be used in the United States only about five years ago when European made polishing machines were put in use in the United States.”

Savard said international competition, especially from Europe, in the making of polishing bricks is quite strong. “We have a strong dollar and European currency is relatively weak. This makes their bricks cheaper to purchase, but, we are holding our own.”

Savard also said Thurco is in the process of developing a wheel to fit on any hand-held polisher which will be designed to use bricks exclusively. “We have a patent pending on our new device.”

In summation Savard simply said, “I had a need for bricks for polishing granite. I went to Europe several times and learned the right way to make them. We now make bricks for top and slab polishers in my plant and many other granite plants in the United States and Canada. With the purchase of the former South Barre Granite Company land and buildings, we will be able to expand our line of bricks as demand is created.”

The numbers on the bricks indicate the coarseness of the new brick. The lower the number, the rougher the brick which means it is used in the beginning stages of polishing. The higher the number the smoother the brick. This brick will be used in the final stages of polishing.

Huguette checks the latest shipment of supplies used in the making of polishing bricks. Magnesite, cloride and abrasive is mixed with water—but the exact formula is secret.
"I think that within five years bricks will be used in the great majority of instances to polish granite. Polishing granite with bricks will eventually replace the traditional polishing wheel—there is no doubt about that."

Mixing a new batch of ingredients in precise amounts is one of the most important steps in the making of bricks for polishing granite. Huguette Savard is in charge of the entire process.
Edward Comolli who for the past 10 years has been Manager of the Cemetery Service Program at the Barre Granite Association is planning to retire as of July 1, 1984.

Under Ed Comolli's leadership, the BGA Cemetery Service Program has worked with many cemeteries in designing modern monument sections and has provided a wide range of counseling and assistance to cemeteries in the northeastern part of the United States. Comolli has appeared as a speaker at many cemetery meetings both national, state and local. He has been an active supporter of cemetery educational programs over the years.

Milton Lyndes, Executive Vice President of the Barre Granite Association said, "We, at the BGA, as well as hundreds of cemetery managers and retail monument dealers have enjoyed working with Ed. We have deep respect for his ability and we all treasure his friendship."

Thomas Leary has been named Manager of Development and Planning for the Barre Granite Association and will direct the BGA Cemetery Service Program. He will also be responsible for promotional activities and planning of future programs for BGA members.

Tom Leary, on the left, is the BGA's new Manager of Development and Planning. Ed Comolli is retiring as Manager of Cemetery Services for the BGA after a decade on the job.
Barre Stone Trade School

(left to right) Clark Hastings, Don Giroux, Shop Instructor at the Barre Stone Trade School, Archie Sabens, Rodney Elmer (seated), Jon Gregory and Bob Stewart. The plaques were presented to the Rock of Ages Corporation and the Barre Guild Consolidation Service.

Special presentations in recognition of support and continued assistance to the Barre Stone Trade School were recently made to Rock of Ages Corporation and the Barre Guild Freight Consolidation Service.

Recent graduates, Rodney Elmer, now a granite cutter with the Rouleau Granite Company and Clark Hastings, employed by the Twin City Custom Sandblast Company made the presentations on behalf of the Stone Trade School.

Representing Rock of Ages Corporation were Jon Gregory, Vice President Granite Products, who is also a member of the Stone Trades Craft Advisory Committee and Archie Sabens who is responsible for the selection of granite destined for the school. Rock of Ages Corporation continuously and generously donates Barre granite rough stock to the school.

Representing the Barre Guild Freight Consolidation Service was Robert Stewart, General Manager of the Service. Barre Guild Freight regularly transports the rough stock from the Rock of Ages Manufacturing Plant to the school.

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STONE TRADES CONTINUED

The Barre Stone Trades School continues to attract students from several retail monument firms in the country. Three of the most recent attendees were Tedd Mercer of Princeton, Illinois; Michael F. Taylor of Coxsackie, New York; and Robert Barajas of Sterling, Illinois.

Michael Taylor is in business for himself in his hometown of Coxsackie, New York after completing eight weeks at the Stone Trade School. Mike specialized in sandblast, shape carving and the use of pneumatic tools. Mike said he is presently doing cemetery lettering, but is capable of doing raised letters both round and square, V-sunk letters and other work.

Bob Barajas has completed more than five months instruction in granite cutting and is now working for his brothers, David and Genaro, owners of Moore Monument Company in Sterling, Illinois. Bob, a steel worker for a dozen years decided to change careers, came to the Stone Trades School in September to learn shape carving and sandblasting.

Tedd Mercer wanted to learn both sides of the business. He had been working part-time over the past 15 years setting monuments in cemeteries when he decided to attend the Stone Trades School last September. He is presently employed at White Brothers Monument Company in Princeton, Illinois.
Standing near pallets of granite markers ready for shipment are (l-r) Bob Bird of the National Cemetery Supervising Office in Atlanta, Georgia; Patrick Garrand, Deputy Director of Monument Service for the VA; Bob Kupferer, the resident government marker inspector for the VA, all sharing a chuckle with Silvio Nativi, President of Nativi & Son.

From Barre Vermont

Federal officials recently visited Barre as part of an inspection program to monitor the Veterans Administration grave marker program. Granite Industries of Vermont has had a long-standing contract with the federal Veterans Administration to provide grave markers for veterans buried in cemeteries administered by the VA.

Giving final inspection to several veterans grave markers before they are boxed and stacked for shipment. Nativi said, "We are very diligent with this special program. We firmly believe in its intent and we look forward to continuing our cordial relationship with the Veterans Administration."
Swenson Acquires Rock of Ages

(ed note: In the Spring issue of BARRE LIFE we had a short story on the acquisition of Rock of Ages Corporation by Swenson Granite Company of Concord, New Hampshire. This is an expanded story of that purchase plus a profile of Rock of Ages.)

The Acquisition

In February The John Swenson Granite Company of Concord, New Hampshire acquired the entire holdings of Rock of Ages Corporation of Barre and all of its foreign and domestic subsidiaries.

Kurt Swenson, President and Chief Executive Officer of Rock of Ages announced the purchase at a special news conference attended by local and state press and wire service representatives.

Here is his statement:

"I'm very pleased to announce that on February 22, 1984, New R.O.A., Inc., completed its previously announced acquisition of Rock of Ages Corporation and all of its foreign and domestic subsidiaries. Simultaneously, Bellmont Granite Corporation, a New York corporation, Wisconsin Quarries, Inc., a Wisconsin corporation, Granite Hills, Inc., a Vermont corporation, and Rock of Ages Building Granite Corporation, a New Hampshire corporation, were merged by upstream merger into Rock of Ages Corporation. Thereafter, New R.O.A., Inc., a New Hampshire corporation, was merged by downstream merger into Rock of Ages Corporation, the existing Vermont corporation. The result of these mergers is that Rock of Ages Corporation, a Vermont corporation founded in 1925, is now controlled by The John Swenson Granite Co.

"The following individuals have been elected directors of Rock of Ages Corporation: George R. Anderson, of Barre, Vermont; Joseph Davenport, of Chattanooga, Tennessee; Thomas Githens of Short Hills, New Jersey; Perry Lewis of Greenwich, Connecticut; Gerald Paquette of Manchester, New Hampshire; Kevin Swenson of Warner, New Hampshire; and Kurt Swenson of Hopkinton, New Hampshire. In addition, the following individuals have been elected officers of Rock of Ages Corporation:

- George Anderson, Barre, Vermont; Vice President—Finance and Administration.
- Jon Gregory, Northfield, Vermont; Vice President—Finance and Administration.
- George Karnedy, Barre, Vermont; Vice President—Sales and Marketing.
- Gerald Paquette, Manchester, N.H.; Vice President.
- Kurt Swenson, Hopkinton, N.H.; President and Chief Executive Officer.
A birds-eye view into the E.L. Smith Quarry, one of five granite quarries in Barre owned by Rock of Ages Corporation.
“Messrs. Anderson, Gregory and Karnedy have been managers of Rock of Ages Corporation for many years. Mr. Paquette and I have likewise been managers of the Swenson Granite Company for many years.

“It is important for me to express my sincere thanks to the members of the Barre Granite Association for their public and private expressions of support. Unlike any other potential buyer we are aware of, my brother and I are former quarriers and union members who believe in granite and the granite industry.

“Someone asked why we wanted to buy Rock of Ages. The simple answer is that we think Rock of Ages Barre granite is the finest monumental grade granite in the world. In our one hundred year history in the granite business, no other member of the Swenson family has ever publicly admitted that until today. We look forward to working with the members of the Barre Granite Association to promote the fact that Barre granite is the best granite available for monuments.

“We are dedicated to the granite business. We will work hard to expand the market for Barre granite and provide the best service possible to our customers.

“In closing I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to countless individuals in the financial, banking, insurance and legal communities located in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and New York for their assistance as well as the support given us by members of the Barre granite industry. Without their advice, counsel and help our acquisition of Rock of Ages would not have been possible.”

The Rock of Ages Craftsman Center, the largest monument manufacturing plant in the United States.

Kurt Swenson, President and Chief Executive Officer of Rock of Ages Corporation. Mr. Swenson is 39 years old. He is also President and Chairman of the Board of the John Swenson Granite Co., Inc. of Concord, New Hampshire.

A PROFILE OF ROCK OF AGES CORPORATION

Seventy-nine years ago, in 1905 three gentlemen formed a corporation known as Boutwell, Milne & Varnum.

George B. Milne, one of the first pioneers in the Barre granite industry, formed a partnership with James M. Boutwell, also an important granite industry figure in Barre around the turn of the century. Harvey W. Varnum joined the partnership which eventually became the Rock of Ages Corporation in 1925.

By 1930 the young company had purchased ten granite manufacturing plants in the Barre area and with their quarry holdings became, and still are, the largest monument producing firm in Barre and the United States.

E.L. Smith & Company and the Wetmore & Morse Quarries, both sources of light Barre granite, were purchased by Rock of Ages Corporation and in 1955, the J.K. Pirrie Quarry, famous for its dark Barre granite, was acquired.

Today Rock of Ages operates granite quarries in Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine and Canada plus the Craftsman Center in Barre which is the largest monument manufacturing plant in the United States.

Rock of Ages attracts thousands of visitors every year to its picturesque quarry and manufacturing facilities. The company’s beautiful Tourist Reception Center was opened in the fall of 1962. It has become a world-wide tourist attraction, and annually records visits from many people from countries throughout the world.
This beautiful memorial was produced by ROULEAU GRANITE COMPANY for the Gibson Monument Company of Mill Hall, Pennsylvania. Designed by Peter Quinlan of METRO MEMORIALS, this memorial measures 3-6 x 0-8 x 2-2 and was crafted by the BGA-member firm from African Black granite.
The Baker family monument was manufactured by MAURICE MEMORIALS for Potti Memorials in North Madison, Ohio. The tablet measures five-feet long, ten-inches thick and two-feet six-inches tall and features a dozen flutes, all one-inch wide.
Manufactured for Niles Monument Company in Niles, Ohio by BECK & BECK., INC., this Soda family monument features hand carving and sandblast floral carving on the front and back. The tablet measures seven-feet long, ten-inches thick and four-feet tall.
The Purvin family monument was made by NATIVI & SONS, INC., for Barre Monument Company of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. This Barre gray monument, with its Barre Guild seal, supported by the strongest warranty in the industry, measures 11-6 x 1-0 x 3-0 and rests on a base 14-0 x 2-0 x 1-0.
This magnificent family memorial was manufactured by ANDERSON-FRIBERG COMPANY for Caron Granite Company of Pawtucket, R.I. Designed by Maurice Caron and Al Comi, the hand carving was done by Vittorio Tedeschi. The overall size is 25-0 x 4-0 x 14-0.
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<tr>
<td>ADAMS GRANITE CO.</td>
<td>Lewis St. (Elgio Zorzi)</td>
<td>800-342-1070</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANDERSON-FRIBERG CO.</td>
<td>Willey St. (Melvin Fribern)</td>
<td>800-451-3255</td>
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<td>BECK &amp; BECK, INC.</td>
<td>Center St. (Norman Beck)</td>
<td>802-476-3179</td>
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<td>BUTTURA &amp; SONS, INC.</td>
<td>Boynton St. (Brent Buttura)</td>
<td>802-476-6646</td>
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<td>CELENTI &amp; BIANCHI</td>
<td>P.O. Box 220 (Irio Bianchi)</td>
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<td>CETRANGOLO FINISHING WORKS</td>
<td>Northfield (Nick Cetrangolo)</td>
<td>802-485-5711</td>
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<td>CHIOLDI GRANITE CORP.</td>
<td>S. Front St. (John Mattson)</td>
<td>802-476-3661</td>
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<td>COLOMBO GRANITE CO.</td>
<td>Boynton St. (Bob Colombo)</td>
<td>802-476-7061</td>
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<td>C.R. DAVIDSON CO. INC.</td>
<td>(Clyde Davidson)</td>
<td>802-548-3591</td>
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<td>DESILETS GRANITE CO.</td>
<td>Barre St. (Vic Roselli)</td>
<td>802-223-2111</td>
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<td>FAMILY MEMORIALS, INC.</td>
<td>Burnham’s Meadow (Robert Couture)</td>
<td>802-476-7831</td>
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<td>S.L. GARAND &amp; CO.</td>
<td>Pioneer (Richard Garand)</td>
<td>802-223-2301</td>
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<td>GREARSON &amp; LANE CO.</td>
<td>Burnham’s Meadow (Lloyd Grearson)</td>
<td>802-476-7102</td>
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<td>HOULE-GUIDICI CO.</td>
<td>S. Front St. (Gene Houle)</td>
<td>802-476-3621</td>
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<tr>
<td>LaCROSS MEMORIALS, INC.</td>
<td>Boynton St. (Gabriel LaCroix)</td>
<td>802-479-2526</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAWSON GRANITE CO.</td>
<td>Quarry St. (Albert Gherardi Jr.)</td>
<td>800-451-5174</td>
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<td>MAURICE MEMORIALS, INC.</td>
<td>Granite St. (Leo Maurice)</td>
<td>802-479-9388</td>
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<td>MONTPELIER GRANITE WORKS</td>
<td>Granite St. (Joe Mureta)</td>
<td>802-223-2581</td>
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<td>NATIVI &amp; SON, INC.</td>
<td>Center St. (Silvio Nativi)</td>
<td>802-476-7101</td>
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<td>NORTH BARRE GRANITE CO.</td>
<td>Railroad St. (Charles Chatot)</td>
<td>800-227-1045</td>
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<td>PEERLESS GRANITE CO.</td>
<td>Willey St. (Donald Fontana)</td>
<td>802-476-3061</td>
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<td>RIVARD GRANITE CO.</td>
<td>Mill St. (Robert Rivard)</td>
<td>802-476-3542</td>
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<td>ROCK OF AGES CORP.</td>
<td>Graniteville (Kurt Swenson)</td>
<td>802-476-3115</td>
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<td>ROULEAU GRANITE CO.</td>
<td>Metro Center (Lucien Rouleau)</td>
<td>802-476-6636</td>
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<td>THURBER GRANITE CO.</td>
<td>Circle St. (Paul Savard)</td>
<td>802-479-9622</td>
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<td>WELLS LAMSON QUARRY</td>
<td>Websterville (James Kelley)</td>
<td>802-476-7463</td>
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