Granite Quality

The Barre Granite Association has never made a practice of using laboratory tests to promote the quality of Barre granite.

The reason is that you can do all kinds of things with laboratory tests, but no test can fool Father Time. This fact has been recognized by the leading quarriers in the country who have publicly stated “The record of a particular granite’s performance over a period of years is a far more reliable guide than any laboratory test.”

We recommend that you go to a cemetery and examine how granites look over a period of years. When you compare the appearance of a Barre granite monument with an inferior granite monument the difference is usually quite evident.

If you do have an interest in laboratory tests, we had one done on November 26, 1984 by an independent (non-Vermont) testing laboratory. This is only one of many that have been done over the years, since these are required in most building contracts. Under the ASTM test for absorption (C-97-47), Barre tested only .189 percentage of water absorbed by weight over the specified period of time. Elberton tested a high .338 in the same test.

Facts about granite quality should be fairly presented to the buying public. Unfortunately, that is not always done. A customer pays for a monument that will carry a family name for many generations and has the right to know what time will do to its appearance. You don’t need any laboratory tests to show your customers the quality difference.

In summary, yes there is a real difference in actual laboratory tests on granite, but what is more important, Barre granite retains its original appearance long after inferior gray granites have darkened and discolored. The public has a right to know what it is really paying for.

*"Specifications for Architectural Granite,” National Building Granite Quarries Association
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nowing how to get things done often requires creative thinking. At Colombo Granite Company, creativity helps to "get things done."

For instance, when Colombo Granite Company needed a new six-foot diamond saw, they created one. When they needed a three-foot diamond saw for joints and other purposes, they created one. And when they needed a polishing machine that uses abrasive bricks, they created that too!

Bob Colombo, President of Colombo Granite Company points to his mechanic, Ken Roberts as the person responsible for putting all the parts together and keeping them there. His "creativity" built the two saws and the polisher.

Personal attention to the manufacturing process is a hallmark at Colombo Granite Company. Both Bob and his wife, Jackie, Vice President of the BGA-member firm, pay close attention to detail—in the office and in the plant.

"Colombo Granite Company not only knows how to get things done, they get things done," Bob quipped.

(continued next page)
Above: There are many uses for this handmade three-foot diamond saw which was put together by Ken Roberts. Right: Quite often Bob and Jackie confer on progress in the plant. Here they are in the shipping area reviewing plans for a new monument.

Below: Ken Roberts at the controls of the six-foot diamond saw he built with spare parts.
Frank Friberg Retires

Frank Friberg, Credit Manager at Beck & Beck, Inc., retired in December, 1984 after an association of more than 17 years with the BGA-member firm. His longevity in the Barre granite industry spans more than a half century. He was an owner of the former Anderson-Johnson granite manufacturing firm and became associated with Beck & Beck on October 30, 1967. He was President of the Barre Granite Association 1947-1948 and a member of the Board of Directors of Smith, Whitcomb & Cook from 1953 to 1973.

"Frank Friberg has made a significant contribution to the Barre granite industry," says Richard McBride, Director of Sales and Advertising for Beck & Beck. "He has been excellent in everything he has done and he is dependable and loyal. He is always willing to share his knowledge of the granite industry with others."

Frank and his bride of 50 years, Esther, are the parents of two children, Patricia Karnedy and David Friberg. They have four grandchildren including Michael Karnedy who is a sales representative with Buttura & Sons.

Frank Friberg is shown here with his grandson Michael Karnedy, a sales representative with Buttura & Sons and his son-in-law George Karnedy, Vice President for Sales and Marketing at Rock of Ages Corporation.

Frank Friberg's retirement is being greeted with mixed emotions from his many friends in the Barre granite industry: "He deserves his retirement," they say, "but he will be sorely missed." Some say Frank could make a good living by telling his wide selection of jokes and humorous stories—mostly about his fellow Swedes.
Omaha Beach Remembered

On the 40th Anniversary of D-Day, the Maryland National Guard dedicated a ROCK OF AGES granite memorial to their own 29th Infantry Division which had stormed Omaha Beach with the second invasion wave. The eight-foot tall Sealmark memorial was erected on the grounds of the Maryland National Guard Armory in Baltimore.

Raymond G. Merkle, Inc., of Baltimore was of major assistance in erecting the special monument. The memorial features four lengthy quotations totaling two thousand sandblasted characters.

New Office Complex For North Barre Granite Co.

A visitor relaxes in the new waiting room at NORTH BARRE GRANITE COMPANY. At the right, Michael Ornitz, Officer Manager, reviews an order while Charles Chatot, President of the company, and his sister, Judee, Vice-President of the firm wind up a discussion about company business.
Harold Wilson—A.I.C.A. President

Harold P. Wilson, founder and president of Sioux Falls Monument Company in Sioux Falls, South Dakota has been elected president of the American Institute of Commemorative Art.

The Institute is comprised of the leading designers and builders of private and public memorials from the United States and Canada. Membership is by invitation only.

Other officers are David Quiring of Seattle, Washington, Vice President; Carl Faehnle, Jr. of Columbus, Ohio, Treasurer; and Donald J. Patten of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Executive Director. Directors are Mike Johns of Cleveland, Ohio, Harold Schaller of Valhalla, New York and Ken Reeson of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. Don Rex of New Bedford, Massachusetts is Past President, Ex-Officio.

Paul Ruff of Sudbury, Canada was presented the A.I.C.A. Outstanding Merit Award and Rosemary Doyle, Past Secretary of A.I.C.A. The Honorary Membership Award. Donald J. Patten was presented the Medallion award.

A Psalm of David

Manufactured by ROULEAU GRANITE COMPANY and designed by William Krayneck, Superintendent of Newton Cemetery in West Newton, Pennsylvania, this cemetery feature was produced through Bianchi Monuments of Monessen, Pennsylvania. The 23rd Psalm, in 1 1/4" letters was carved in this book-shaped Barre granite monument. Measuring 4-0 x 4-0 x 3-8, this feature will be placed on a paved terrace with two, four-foot Barre granite benches.
On The "Tour"...

My Old Kentucky Home—was never quite like this. The third annual meeting of the Kentucky Association of Memorial Dealers in October in Louisville was highlighted by reports from producing areas and industry officials plus sessions on trucking, grief therapy, sandblast techniques and computers. Motivation was also a highlight, led by octogenarian Elizabeth Munday (with the willing help of several grown men) who brought the house down on more than one occasion with her anecdotes, quips and sharp sense of humor.

Barre Granite Is Army Pilot’s Memorial

The first American killed in hostile action in Honduras was recently memorialized with a dark Barre granite monument. Obtained from BGA member BECK & BECK, INC., and designed and lettered by Olson Memorials of Joliet, Illinois, the monument was placed at the grave of Warrant Officer 2nd Class Jeffry Schwab who was killed by hostile fire while on a routine observation mission in Honduras. This personalized memorial depicts his pilot’s wings, his helicopter and his Meritorious Service and Purple Heart awards. The tablet is 2-4 x 0-8 x 4-0, polished two, steeled three with a four inch check and rests on a three foot base.
Polish Sculptor At Desilets Granite Company

Stanislaw Lutostanski was born in Poland and is now working for the DESILETS GRANITE COMPANY in Montpelier, Vermont. Desilets has been a leading supplier of sculptured memorials for many years. Mr. Lutostanski attended the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw for five years. Upon graduation he spent the next five years sculpting in wood, marble and granite. He came to the United States in January, 1981.

This granite sculpture of Christopher Columbus, by Stanislaw Lutostanski, is seven and a half feet tall and was recently dedicated in Waterbury, Connecticut.

Promotions At Rock Of Ages Corporation

Kurt M. Swenson, President of Rock of Ages Corporation has announced the election of Andrew H. Carpenter as Vice-President of the Quarries Division of Rock of Ages by the Board of Directors of the corporation. Mr. Swenson also announced the promotion of J. Norman Dion as Quarry Sales Manager of the Quarries Division.

Andrew Carpenter, recently named Vice President of the Quarries Division for Rock of Ages Corp., has a lifetime of experience in granite quarrying.

J. Norman Dion, recently promoted to Quarry Sales Manager, has assumed responsibility for all quarry sales for Rock of Ages Corp.
Rock of Ages Corporation has recently completed an 11,000 square foot addition to its 120,000 square foot manufacturing plant. The addition, which will be used solely for finished monuments, significantly expands the monument inventory storage area and permits much more efficient loading.

George Karnedy, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, says the addition is an important part of Rock of Ages' need to accommodate a higher volume of monuments which has always been and remains the major part of Rock of Ages manufacturing operations. "At the same time, it helps us coordinate the production of all granite products manufactured by Rock of Ages in the United States," Karnedy said.

Rock of Ages manufactures memorials, mausoleums and other products for the monument industry, industrial surface plates and building granite in its Barre plants. Rock of Ages Canada Limited, an affiliated company, manufactures monuments for the Canadian market, building granite and paper press rolls in its manufacturing facilities in Beebe, Quebec. Swenson Granite Company, also an affiliated company, manufactures granite curb, building granite and other granite products in its manufacturing plant in Concord, N.H.

Above: An aerial view. The new addition extends from the left-center of the photo.

Top: Finished monuments, boxed for shipment await pick up in the new addition. Left: The new 11,000 square foot addition to the Rock of Ages Craftsman Center.
Chips Off The Ol’ Block

Sons and daughters of granite manufacturers are continuing to follow in their parents’, and sometimes grandparents’ footsteps. Three students at the Barre Stone Trade School are good examples.

Paul Celley is the son of sculptor Walter Celley. Walter has sculpted many granite memorials for several BGA members. Paul is in his second year at the school sharpening his skills and hopes someday to sculpt like his dad.

John Mattson, President of Chioldi Granite Company is the grandfather of Jim Mattson, who is learning how to make beautiful granite memorials at the Barre Stone Trade School. Jim is the son of Ken Mattson, plant foreman for Chioldi Granite Company.

Thomas Davidson is the grandson of Clyde and Muriel Davidson, owners of C.R. Davidson Co., of South Ryegate. This long-time BGA-member firm may just well have another Davidson in their plant when Tommy finishes school.
All retail monument dealers know the cost of shipping granite memorials is based on the weight of the monuments. So, it is not uncommon for members of the Barre Granite Association and the Barre Guild Consolidation Service to receive inquiries from dealers about apparent variations in weight between granite monuments of the same shape and size.

First, the most obvious reason for weight differences between granite monuments of the same shape and size is the density of the stone, which on a per cubic foot basis, varies with the type of granite used.

For instance, Barre granite weighs about 170 pounds per cubic foot. Pink and red granites may vary close to the gray granite range (162–172 lbs/cu. ft.) because of their mineral content. Grays, pinks and reds are composed mostly of quartz and feldspar with less than 20% micas or amphiboles and they are more resistant to water penetration than black granite.

Black granites are much heavier, ranging from 181 to 200 lbs./cu. ft., because they contain 40% to 60% heavy minerals such as pyroclastic and amphibole and up to 10% heavier minerals such as ilmenite or magnetite.

Tolerances in actual size of the finished monument can also be a cause for weight differences between memorials of the same size and granite.

For example:
A half-inch difference can amount to seven pounds per cubic foot in Barre granite. If a memorial, 3-0 x 0-8 x 2-0 actually comes out 3-0½ x 0-8½ x 2-0½, an additional 68 pounds will have been added to the 680 pound monument. This same size monument would have weighed much more if it had been cut in a black granite.

Memorials of the same size, made from the same granite may also vary in weight because of different finishes applied to the stone. A rock pitched finish leaves more granite on the memorial than a sawed or polished finish, therefore adding a bit more weight to the monument.

Finally, memorials of the same size and same granite may also vary in shipping weight because of the method of packaging, or “boxing.” Some memorials may be completely enclosed in a wooden box while others may have only a few pieces of wood on the edges plus plastic for covering.

The scales at the Barre Guild Freight Consolidation Terminal are inspected and calibrated by personnel from the Weights and Measures Division of Vermont state government.
modern, well-maintained scales that are periodically checked by Vermont State Government inspectors. These scales automatically print out the actual weight, thus providing a permanent record as needed.

A variety of types of packaging or “boxing” can also make a difference in weight between monuments of the same size and shape. These photos demonstrate the various boxing methods. They include: a) all wood; b) wood with plastic; c) wood with cardboard; d) cardboard with plastic; e) wood, cardboard and plastic.
Right: A difference in weight between similarly sized monuments can also be traced to the finish of the memorial—whether it is steeled or rock pitch as shown here.
From beginning to end, the production line at Nativi & Son is in the very capable hands of foreman Roger Couture and expeditor Fritz Anderson.

Couture, who has been employed at the BGA-member firm for the past 13 years, has the responsibility of overseeing the entire production line. His responsibilities begin at the guillotine where he lays out the granite slabs that will soon become beautiful memorials. Roger’s eye is everywhere, making sure the entire work process operates smoothly.

Fritz Anderson has been with Nativi & Son for 30 years. He expedites the finished end of the production line. Monuments of all shapes and sizes are manufactured at Nativi & Son but none can be prepared for shipment unless they are inspected and approved by Fritz. He is also responsible for all the paper flow in the plant. At a moment’s notice he can tell you where your order is, what has been done and what is scheduled. His years of experience insure that monuments made by Nativi & Son are only of the best quality.

Roger Couture prepares another granite slab for its journey through the production line.
Fritz Anderson is giving a final check to a monument that has just arrived in the shipping area.

(l-r) Glen Atherton, Office and Sales Manager for Nativi & Son discusses a large project with Fritz Anderson and Roger Couture.
They came from Washington, Oklahoma, Arkansas, North Dakota, Minnesota, Virginia and states in between and the Province of Ontario, Canada. They came to the Seminar for Success II sponsored by the Barre Granite Association. In September nearly one hundred monument retail dealers converged on Barre to learn more about the quarrying, manufacturing and selling of granite memorials.

For four and a half days the monument dealers visited granite quarries, manufacturing plants and cemeteries and were given classroom instruction in a wide variety of subjects including: sales, both at-need and pre-need; layout and lettering; public relations and advertising; cremation; cemetery relations and cemetery planning; and business operations and pricing.

"It was just great to have so many dealers from so many states here with us in Barre," said Milton V. Lyndes, Executive Vice President of the BGA. "Our members were impressed with the interest shown by the Seminar participants in all phases of production and selling."

The Seminar was programmed and targeted for retail dealers who have been in the monument retail business for five years or less. Many participants said the Seminar was "very good for someone just getting into the business," "Very beneficial and educational," was a typical response to a critique questionnaire sent to all participants by the BGA.

"We are very pleased with the responses and we will incorporate many of the dealers' suggestions as we plan next year's Seminar," Lyndes said.

Instructors for the Seminar included Gordon "Pete" Carr, a retired memorialist from Quincy, Massachusetts; Tom Buzzi, President of Portage Marble and Granite Company in Kent, Ohio; Mike Johns, President of the Johns-Carabelli Company in Cleveland, Ohio; George Karnedy, Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Rock of Ages Corporation; Robert Peduzzi of Anderson-Friberg Company; Paul Giacherio of Beck & Beck, Inc.; Ed Comolli, retired Manager of Cemetery Services for the BGA; Tom Leary, Manager of Planning and Development for the BGA; and Norman James, Manager of Public Relations for the BGA.

A Pictorial Review:

Left: Milton Lyndes, Executive Vice President of the BGA (left), chats with instructors Mike Johns, President of Johns-Carabelli Company in Cleveland, Ohio (center), and Tom Buzzi, President of Portage Marble and Granite Company in Kent, Ohio. Johns conducted a session on Business Operations and Pricing while Buzzi presented a Pre-Need Selling course.

Right: John D’Aleo of Rogers Memorial Studio in Enfield, Connecticut visited the new President of Peerless Granite Company, Denis Roy (right) during the Seminar.
Left: A study of intense concentration during a session on Public Relations.


Right: (left to right) Eddie Parker, Camden Monument Works in Camden, Arkansas; Charlie Pearson and his daughter, Jenny Beal of Pearson Monument Company in McComb, Mississippi; and Carson and Jeanne Rinker of Heritage Memorials in Harrisonburg, Virginia pay rapt attention to a discussion at Rouleau Granite Company.
Left: A cluster of retail dealers learn about grading granite. These slabs were taken from various quarries.


Right: Mike LaFaille, Salesman for Rock of Ages Corporation explains the finer points of scenic carvings to Bonnie Garton of Kirby Memorials in Chestertown, Maryland. Jon Gregory, Vice President of Granite Products Rock of Ages looks on.

Left: Peter Quinlan of Rouleau Granite Company explains a part of the manufacturing process to Richard Brian and Mary-Kay Coloni of Mid-Monument Company in New Windsor, New York and Shirley and “Bud” Johnson of Shawnee Memorials in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Left: Melvin Friberg, President of Anderson-Friberg Company enjoys conversation with Challen Waychoff of Greene County Monuments in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania and John Hoss of Greenfield Granite Company in Greenfield, Indiana.
Left: Paul Giacherio, draftsperson at Beck & Beck, Inc., was one of the instructors in the class on Layout and Lettering. Here he is discussing the issue of spacing between letters.

Right: Bob Peduzzi, draftsperson at Anderson-Friberg was also an instructor in the class on Layout and Lettering. Here he is talking about the labeling given to various parts of an upright monument.

Left: The high level of concentration, shown in the classroom photo, was very much in evidence throughout the Seminar.

Right: Linda Napolitano of Napolitano Monument Company in Cincinnati, Ohio and Elgio Zorzi, President of Adam's Granite Company.

Above: Smiling for the camera at LaCross Memorials are Raymond and Marie Ledda of Eternal & Tubelli in Flushing, New York, and the President of the BGA-member firm, Gabriel “Bebe” LaCroix.
Some Comments from The Seminar Participants

“This was very good for someone just getting into the business.”

“I just wish there had been more time in the plants...there is so much to see.”

“I received good information and a lot of moral support.”

“This gave me confidence in this new business.”
"We really enjoyed our visits to the manufacturing plants."

"The whole seminar was very informative."

"Well done!!"

"Thank you for making this seminar possible."

"The seminar was very rewarding."
(Ed Note: Cremation, as we all know, is not new to our industry. However, in many parts of the country it is just now being recognized as a fact and not a fad. The BGA Cemetery Program has produced many designs for efficient traditional cemetery sections that have created more grave spaces resulting in increased income for the cemeterian and the retail monument dealer and freedom of choice for the consumer. Recognizing the growing impact of cremation we have developed cemetery designs that provide attractive cremation gardens and at the same time provide the consumer with the choice between upright and flat marker memorialization.)

Cedar Hill Cremation Garden

With available burial space diminishing, the Cedar Hill Cemetery Association of Fredericksburg, Pa., commissioned a section design for a two acre parcel of land adjacent to their present cemetery. The addition was to be a combination of traditional burial lots, primarily monumented, with an area reserved for cremains inurnment.

CREMATION GARDEN—
Cedar Hill Cemetery
Fredericksburg, Pennsylvania
An area of about 2,200 square feet was allotted for a cremation garden. Because their cremation rate was presumably small in comparison with traditional interment, any larger site could not be justified. The potential of the garden as a feature area for the cemetery suggested a prominent location near the entrance to the new section.

The relatively few constraints imposed by inurnment allow considerable freedom in cremation garden design. The Cedar Hill garden is characterized by flowing curvilinear lines within a symmetrical framework. Surrounding plantings serve to integrate the garden with the adjacent burial section and provide a pleasing backdrop for memorials. The path might consist of a variety of materials ranging from rigid pavements to crushed stone or gravel. Memorialization is achieved through a combination of upright and flush memorials. The combination would not only simplify maintenance requirements but satisfy the current need for the right to also choose upright memorials in a cremation garden.

46% of the grave lots have been designed for upright memorialization similar to the colonial tablets shown in this photograph. Proposed tablets will measure 1-6 x 0-6 x 2-6.

CREMATION GARDEN
Cedar Hill Cemetery
Fredericksburg, Pennsylvania

SCALE: 1" = 10'  GREVER & WARD INC.
Effective Cemetery Relations

This is the entrance of a new cemetery in Bristol, Connecticut which was created as a result of cooperation between cemetery management and a retail monument dealer thus providing additional cemetery property to serve the local community.

Milton Slade, President of Bristol Monument Works; Carl Mason, President of the West Cemetery Association; Reverend George Razee, President of the Bristol Clergy Association and Don Ward of the landscape-architectural firm of Grever and Ward all collaborated in creating Peacedale Cemetery.

Three acres were designed to produce enough grave spaces to last 40 years. Provisions were also made for eventual expansion of the cemetery.

This sign measures 3-0 x 0-4 x 6-6 with 6x6 x 4-0 corner posts.
Beautifully created in North American Rose granite by LAWSON GRANITE COMPANY, this family monument was ordered by H.T. Hall, Inc., of Manasquan, New Jersey. Featuring sandblast carved bricks and the special Lawson Roses, this memorial is 3-0 x 0-8 x 2-4.
The Keller Gilliland cross memorial was produced by BECK & BECK, INC., for B & B Memorials of Alexandria, Louisiana. This Guardian Light Barre granite monument is eight feet two inches tall. Rich in symbolism, this family monument includes a unique pedestal which goes from rectangular to round to match the base.
The Schneeberger family monument was fabricated by C.R. DAVID-SON COMPANY for Pohl & King Monument Company in St. Louis, Missouri. This Barre granite memorial measures 6-0 x 1-0 x 3-4 and rests on a 7-6 x 2-0 x 1-0 Barre granite base.
VOTING MEMBERS OF THE BARRE GRANITE ASSOCIATION

ADAMS GRANITE CO.
Lewis St. (Elgio Zorzi)
TOLL FREE
800-342-1070

ANDERSON-FRIBERG CO.
Willey St. (Melvin Friberg)
TOLL FREE
800-451-3255

BECK & BECK, INC.
Center St. (Norman Beck)
TOLL FREE
800-451-5170

BUTTURA & SONS, INC.
Boynton St. (Brent Buttura)
802-476-6646

CELENTI & BIANCHI
P.O. Box 220 (Irio Bianchi)

CETRANGOLO FINISHING WORKS
Northfield (Nick Cetrangolo)
TOLL FREE
800-451-4517

CHIOLDI GRANITE CORP.
S. Front St. (John Mattson)
TOLL FREE
800-451-3230

COLOMBO GRANITE CO.
Boynton St. (Bob Colombio)
802-476-7061

C.R. DAVIDSON CO. INC.
(Clyde Davidson)
802-548-3591

DESILETS GRANITE CO.
Barre St. (Vic Roselli)
802-223-2111

FAMILY MEMORIALS, INC.
Burnham's Meadow (Robert Couture)
802-476-7831

S.L. GARAND & CO.
Pioneer (Richard Garand)
TOLL FREE
800-451-5177

GREARSON & LANE CO.
Burnham's Meadow (Lloyd Grearson)
802-476-7102

HOULE-GUIDICI CO.
S. Front St. (Gene Houle)
802-476-3621

LaCROSS MEMORIALS, INC.
Boynton St. (Gabriel LaCroix)
TOLL FREE
800-451-3234

LAWSON GRANITE CO.
Quarry St. (Albert Gherardi Jr.)
TOLL FREE
800-451-5174

MAURICE MEMORIALS, INC.
Granite St. (Leo Maurice)
TOLL FREE
800-451-4173

MONTPELIER GRANITE WORKS
Granite St. (Joe Mureta)
TOLL FREE
800-451-4513

NATIVI & SON, INC.
Center St. (Silvio Nativi)
802-476-7101

NORTH BARRE GRANITE CO.
Railroad St. (Charles Chatot)
TOLL FREE
800-227-1045

PEERLESS GRANITE CO.
Willey St. (Denis Roy)
802-476-3061

RIVARD GRANITE CO.
Mill St. (Robert Rivard)
802-476-3542

ROCK OF AGES CORP.
Graniteville (Kurt Swenson)
802-476-3115

ROULEAU GRANITE CO.
Metro Center (Lucien Rouleau)
TOLL FREE
800-343-4199

THURBER GRANITE CO.
Circle St. (Paul Savard)
802-479-9622

WELLS LAMSON QUARRY
Websterville (James Kelley)
802-476-7463