

# PRODUCING AMERICA'S BURIED TREASURE

*The Story of The Georgia Marble Company*





**M**ANY AGES AGO, before any form of life existed upon land, the story of Georgia Marble began with the myriads of tiny organisms that lived in that deep and darkened cradle of life—the sea. The face of the world was not as we know it now, for water covered much of the land that we live on, and land we've never known looked down upon the sea.

When these minute organisms lived out their simple span, they drifted down to the ocean floor where their shells slowly became part of the thickening deposits of compacted limestone. For many thousands of years this process went on, and the deposits grew deeper and deeper upon the bottom of the sea. There they stayed, growing steadily and waiting silently for the forces of time to make the transformation.

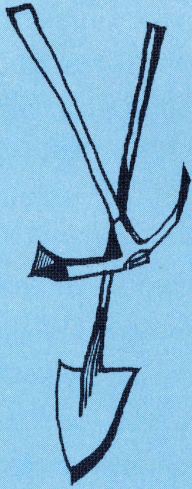
The change, somewhere far back in the dim time of unrecorded history, began in the area now known as the Appalachian Mountains. Tremendous lateral forces lifted the beds of rock high up into great bends and folds. What had once been the floor of the ocean became mountains, and what had once been land sank beneath the sea.

Intricately folded into the shapeless mass of tortured earth, the limestone was completely reconstructed. The heat and enormous pressures of the time changed its molecular structure, transforming it into the varicolored varieties of mineral beauty that today are known the world over as Georgia Crystalline Marble.



# ITS DISCOVERY AND EARLY USE

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SOME MILLIONS OF YEARS LATER, when, in the relativity of time, civilized man had barely set foot on this continent, our forefathers settled around a small creek in the lush foothills of the mountains of North Georgia. Here, in a place they called Long Swamp Valley, they farmed the rich land above the wealth that lay beneath it. Like the native Cherokee Indians, a highly intelligent tribe who had long ago selected this land for its beauty and rich game reserves, they noticed the stone outcroppings all around them. In many cases they used it for monumental purposes. This stone was of such beauty and of such quality that it commanded tremendously high prices, yet the work involved in obtaining it and the arduous labor of transporting it with ox-carts made its commercial use impossible.

In the early 1800's, the Federal Government built what was called the Federal Road from Nashville, Tennessee, to Florida in order to supply General Andrew Jackson's forces in his Florida campaign. At regular intervals along the road there were taverns built upon sites that were leased by the government. Up here along the Valley, the very heart of the Indian nation, these taverns were only a few miles apart. Two of them are important to our story.

One belonged to Ambrose Harnage and it was the center of a small settlement called Harnageville. In the land lottery of 1833, Land Lot # 147, which included Harnageville, was drawn by C. A. Fawns, and it was sold, in turn, to William C. Greene and then to his brother, Dr. Jesse D. Greene and finally, in 1834, to Samuel Tate.

The other tavern, just a few miles east of Harnage's, belonged to James Daniel, an Indian. It was here, just after the purchase by Tate, that an itinerant Irish marble cutter by the name of Henry Fitzsimmons spotted an outcropping of sparkling white rock, one that he had no trouble identifying as a particularly fine specimen of marble. Fitzsimmons wasted little time. He began to quarry the marble, and the extraordinary beauty of the marble products he turned out aroused the interest of Sam Tate in the hidden resources of his land.

Quarrying and development began, and despite lack of finances and transportation, the excellence of the marble that was taken from these north Georgia Hills gained immediate acceptance and demand. Local leaders—Sam Tate, Judge J. R. Brown, J. M. McAfee, M. A. Keith and others—encouraged by the initial success of their marble industry, promoted the construction of Marietta and North Georgia Railroad, and the products of the Georgia hills began to move out to other parts of the country.





*The peaceful hills of north Georgia before the turn of the century—quiet farmland over a vast underground treasure.*



*Marble Hill in 1901. This same hill is now honeycombed with underground quarries, and the office and plants of the Calcium Products Division cluster at its foot.*

## WHITE GOLD OF GEORGIA

Word of the possibility of rich deposits of this exceptional marble spread to the North, and necessary money was found to explore the rich potential of Long Swamp Valley. Geologists studied the rock structures of the section and decided that the marble strata were large enough for further investigation. Test cores were taken from the bed of marble to a depth of hundreds of feet without going through the strata. Authorities called into consultation quickly agreed that the deposit was one of the richest in the world.

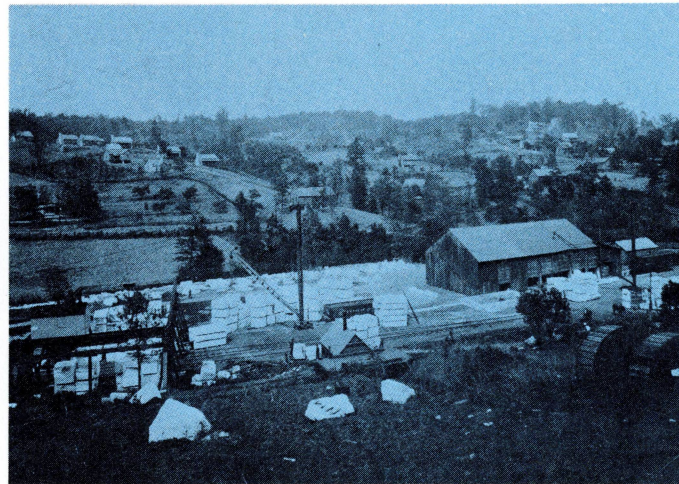
The quiet peaceful valley of farms was in-

deed a vast storehouse of nature, one that contained invaluable treasures of beauty under its crops and pastures. But, even more, this white gold of Georgia was found to be a denser, more durable kind of marble than any known in America—a marble that contained myriads of crystals that reflected its beauty like diamonds in the sunlight, a marble quite unlike any other ever found anywhere on earth. The saga of Georgia Marble was about to begin. Long Swamp Valley was soon to be changed from a farmland to a major industrial community.





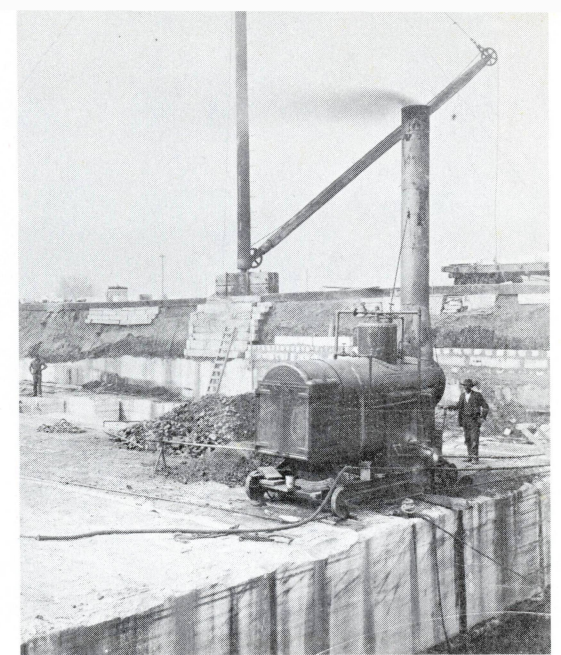
*The first plants of The Georgia Marble Company were very busy ones, yet the production was still relatively small.*



*Southern Marble Company—one of the early finishing companies that was later merged with The Georgia Marble Company. The hills in the background are all solid marble.*



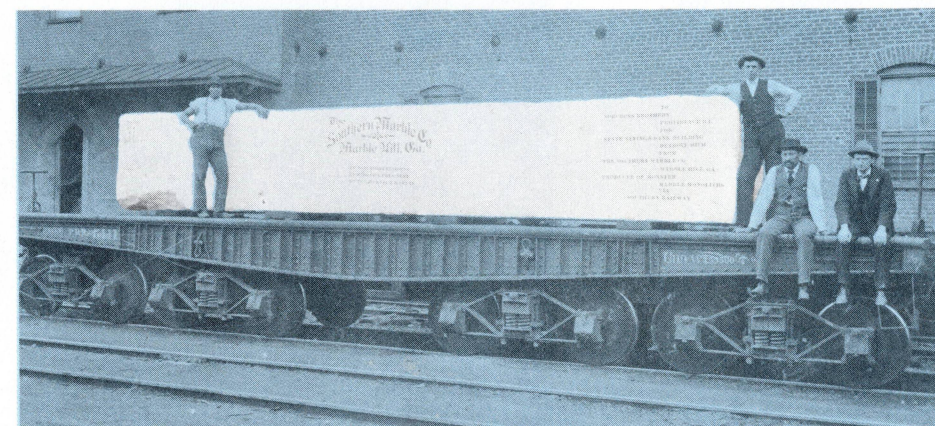
*Some of the earlier craftsmen of The Georgia Marble Company. Many of their grandsons and great-grandsons now work on this same Georgia Marble.*



*Quarrying Georgia Etowah Pink Marble in the 1900's, a variety long recognized as one of the world's most beautiful marbles.*



*The machine age was still to come when this picture was taken. Raw marble was skidded out by a pair of stout mules.*



*Southern produced some sizeable monoliths in its day —this one's destined for Providence, Rhode Island, and it serves as a traveling advertisement all the way.*

## THE BIRTH OF THE GEORGIA

IT ALL STARTED with the enterprise of Frank H. Siddall, a Philadelphian who made millions in the soap business and who looked South for new investments. Friends had told him about the vast deposits of incomparable marble in the North Georgia hills, and a chance meeting on a train with one H. C. Clement brought the whole thing to a head. Mr. Clement had an intimate knowledge of marble and of the fortunes that had been made in its production in Vermont. Together they came to Georgia and set the

company up. That was in 1884.

With Mr. Clement running things, the company was an immediate success; so much so that a number of other organizations engaged in quarrying or finishing or both soon sprang up all along the hills and valleys of this part of north Georgia. Most of them were processors who finished the blocks and sawed stone produced by The Georgia Marble Company, which at that time was not processing material beyond the sawed stage. Soon names like Harrison,

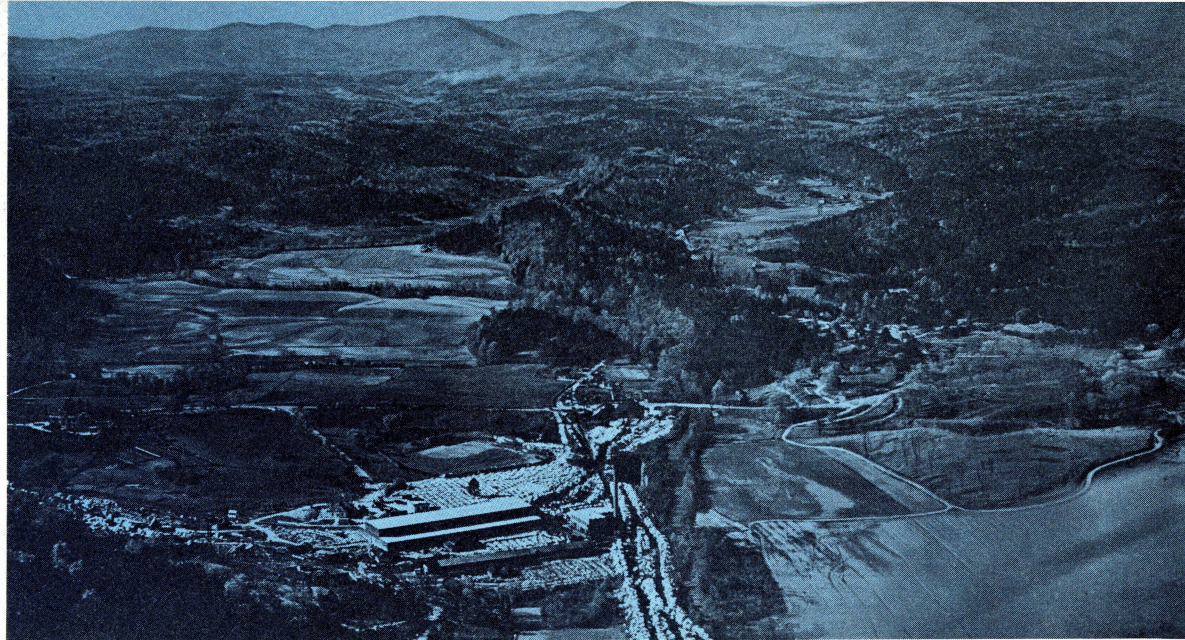
## MARBLE COMPANY

McGrath, Keeler, Anderson, Sickels, Brady, Dewar, Norcross and others were operating plants in places like Marble Hill, Tate, Nelson, Ball Ground, Canton and Marietta. Georgia Marble became famous, and practically all the companies engaged in its finishing enjoyed varying degrees of success.

The next logical step was consolidation. As each year passed, the need increased for a better and more complete service. In 1915, The Georgia

Marble Company bought the plants and quarries operated by the Norcross Brothers and Southern Marble Company. Within two years, it purchased four more plants with facilities in Marble Hill, Ball Ground, Nelson and Marietta. It took another 24 years before the last consolidation was made, this one with The Georgia Marble Finishing Works at Canton. By 1941, The Georgia Marble Company was the sole producer and wholesale manufacturer of Georgia Marble.



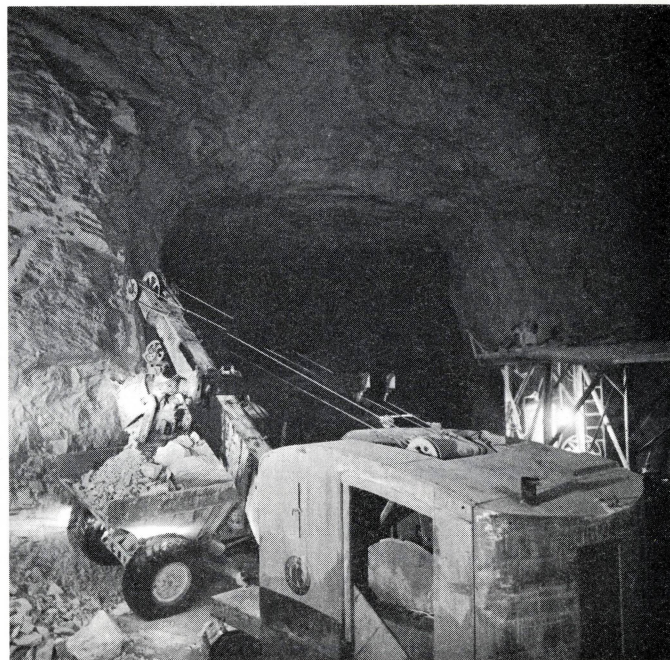


*The fabulous Long Swamp Valley, in the foothills of the Appalachians.*

**T**HE TREMENDOUS SIZE of these marble deposits would astound even those who drilled the first cores. It is now conservatively estimated that there is enough Georgia Marble here to last for at least the next thirty centuries at current production rates. Not only is this one of the world's most beautiful building and monumental stones, it is also the world's most dependable supply. Duplications, annexes or additions to buildings built of Georgia Marble can be made at any time—and purchasers can be sure of a perfect match.

But even more, as the overburden of dirt has been scraped away from acre to acre and mile to mile, other beautiful varieties of marble have been revealed—a pale silvery gray suggesting the mist of a rainy day; rich and textured greens; many unusual shades of pink with striking blue-black markings; even a jet black brilliantly veined in white. The north Georgia hills are truly one of nature's great storehouses of beauty.

Today, along the Long Swamp Valley, The Georgia Marble Company is channelling marble from nine quarries in active operation. Around them—inter-connected by 14 miles of Company-owned railroad track and two diesel electric locomotives—sawing and finishing plants at Tate, Marble Hill, and Nelson are producing structural and monumental marble for America and the world. Some nine hundred people are employed here—many of them now third and fourth generation craftsmen. Altogether, the four plants in this area have a combined floor space of over 300,000 square feet housing, among other machines and equipment, 85 gang saws, 15 diamond saws, 6 wire saws and over 1300 lineal feet of roller conveyor production line. Modern machinery refining the ageless beauty of marble!



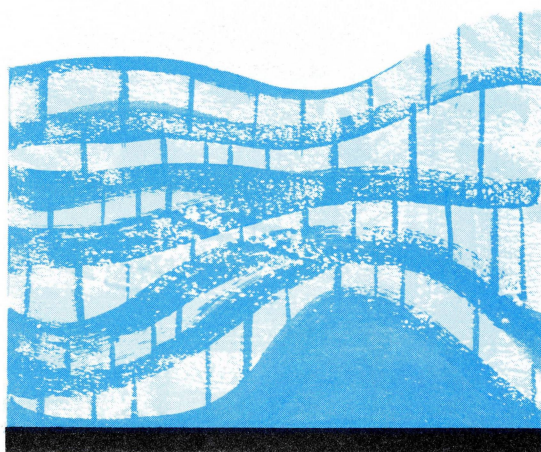
*Some of the quarrying is done underground—deep in the marble hills within caverns that dwarf some of man's biggest machines.*





*Great chunks have been torn from Long Swamp Valley since quarrying started many years ago, but there are many billions of tons more throughout the hills.*

# WHAT THE GEORGIA HILLS HAVE REVEALED



*The Company's enormous quarries are fascinating to see. Over the years, many cameramen have come here to record the huge magnificence of it all on film.*







**I**N 1951, THE COMPANY EMBARKED upon a program of expansion that was to make it the largest producer of marble and limestone in the world. It was in that year that the Rockwood Alabama Stone Company at Russellville, Alabama, was purchased and set up as a wholly owned subsidiary called the Alabama Limestone Company. In doing this, The Georgia Marble Company added a true oolitic limestone to its variety of products.

The Tunnel quarry of the Alabama Limestone Company, located 25 miles south of Muscle Shoals, is considered one of the finest and most modern limestone quarries ever developed. Its product, Rockwood Imperial, is shipped by the thousands of tons to stone plants throughout the country to be fabricated and become part of some of the most beautiful buildings on the skyline today. There is also a modern mill at Russellville capable of producing 2,000 cubic feet of finished stone per day, providing ample facilities for the fabrication of any size building.

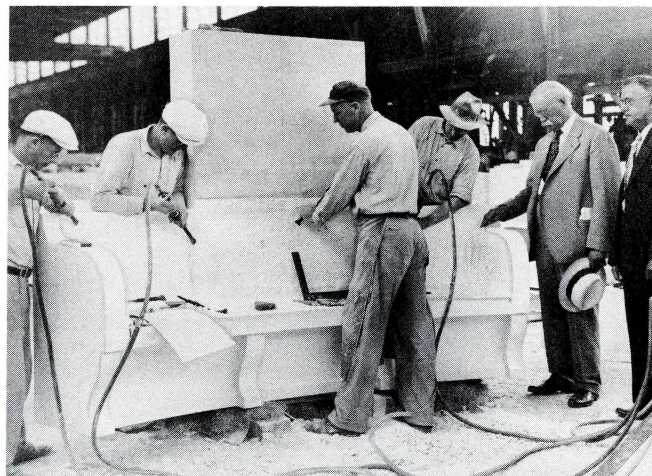
Two years later, through merger proceedings, The Company acquired possession of Tennessee Marble, Inc., Knoxville, Tennessee; Green Mountain Marble Corporation, West Rutland, Vermont; and St. Genevieve Marble Company, St. Genevieve,

## NATIONAL EXPANSION BEGINS

Missouri. With these new divisions, The Georgia Marble Company became national in the scope of its enterprise and uncommonly resourceful in the variety of its products.

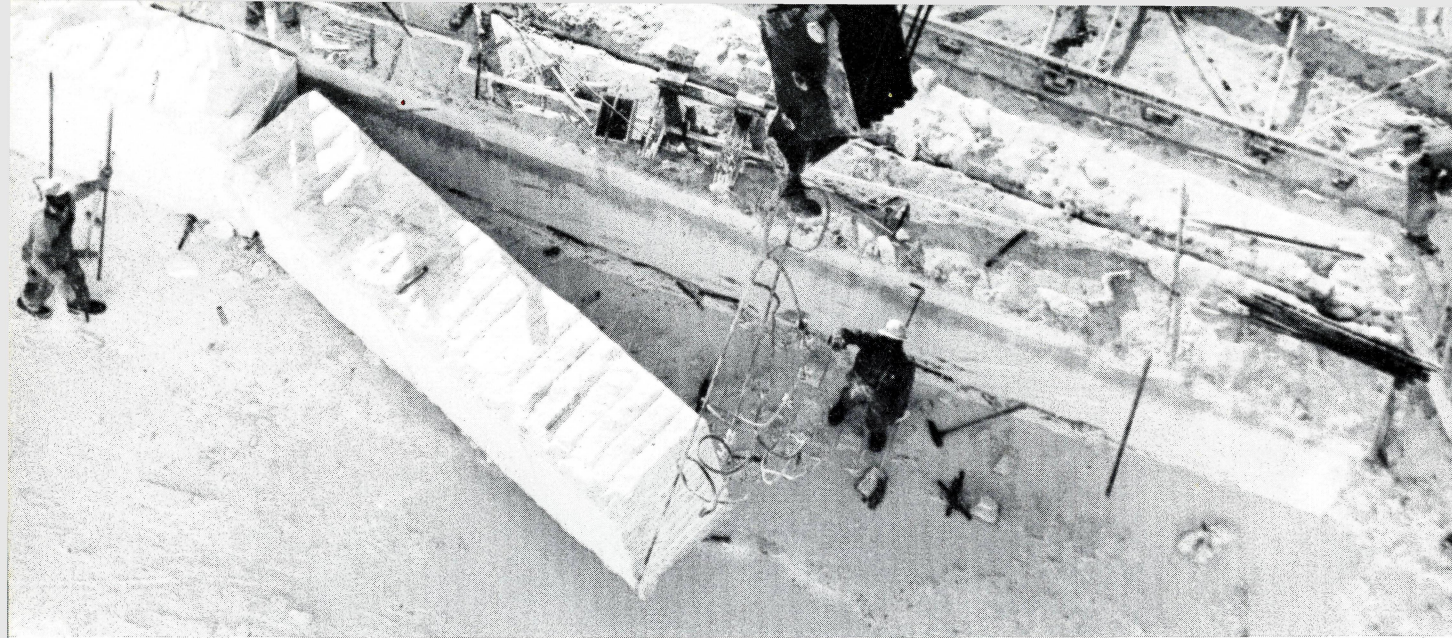
Tennessee Marble had long been famous. In purchasing what was re-named Tennessee Marble Company, The Georgia Marble Company obtained marble varieties ranging from light and dark pinks to shades of cedar and mahogany. From St. Genevieve quarries, now operated by the Tennessee Marble Company Division, came some of the most highly decorative marble quarried in America—St. Genevieve Golden Vein, Rose and Breche Rose—especially in demand for building interiors. And, out of Green Mountain in the heart of the Vermont Marble district, came Meadow White, Sunset Blue, Clarendon White, and Vert Mont—all used extensively for both architectural and monumental purposes.

Along with these mergers, of course, came tremendous new facilities. Processing Tennessee and St. Genevieve marble is a modern plant located within the city limits of Knoxville. Green Mountain has another large, up-to-date plant that uses the very latest equipment to prepare its beautiful products for their ultimate use.



*Carving the John Philip Sousa memorial in 1935. This is one of the many famous memorials over the nation that are carved of Georgia Marble.*

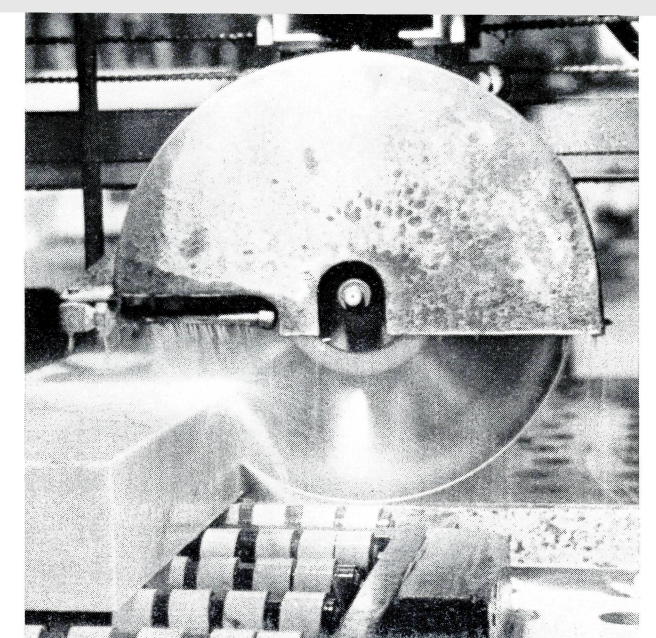




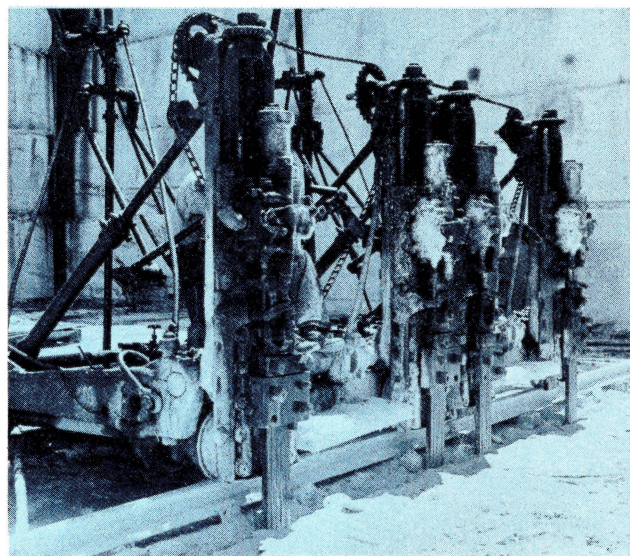
*These big 30-ton blocks of special white Georgia Marble are soon to become monolithic columns in the east front of the United States Capitol in Washington.*



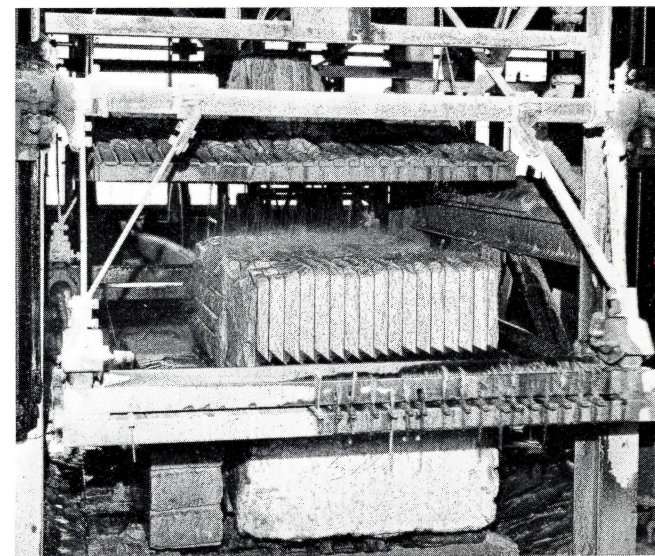
*Shape carving with a sand blasting machine. It is the beginning of the intricate and detailed art that makes a memorial of lasting beauty.*



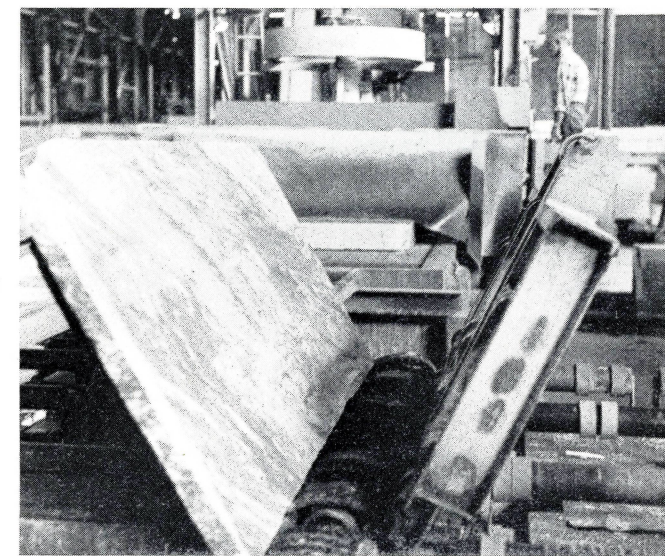
*Not many tools can cut marble! This is a diamond saw, so-called because of the industrial diamonds imbedded in its teeth.*



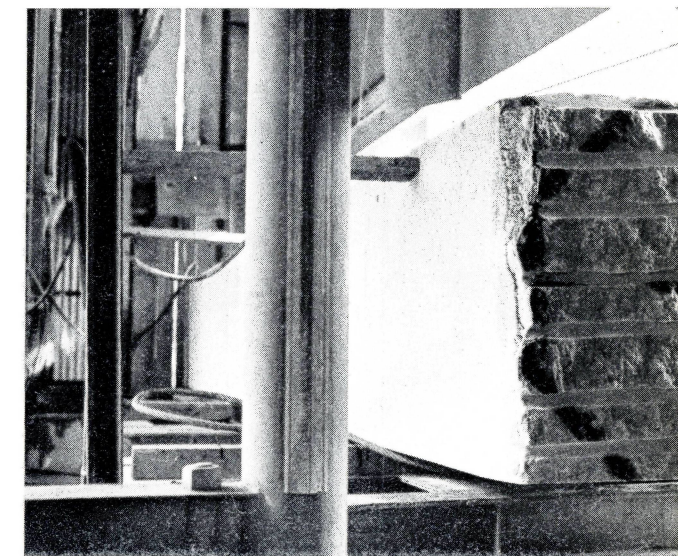
*Channelling machine, with carbide-tipped steel drills, runs on track and makes vertical cuts to the necessary depth of the block.*



*The gang saw's metal strips have no teeth. They cut through the block by pressing an abrasive material against the marble.*



*This time-saving machine is used to turn slabs over as they move from one surfacing machine to another. Surfacing eliminates saw marks, smoothes surface.*

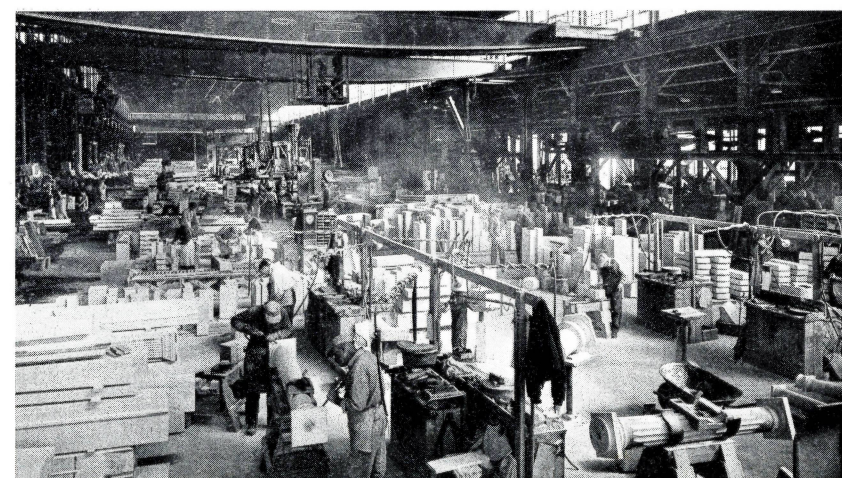


*Monolithic column is shaped up by wire saw. The long thin wire will cut the block to dimensions marked at the end.*

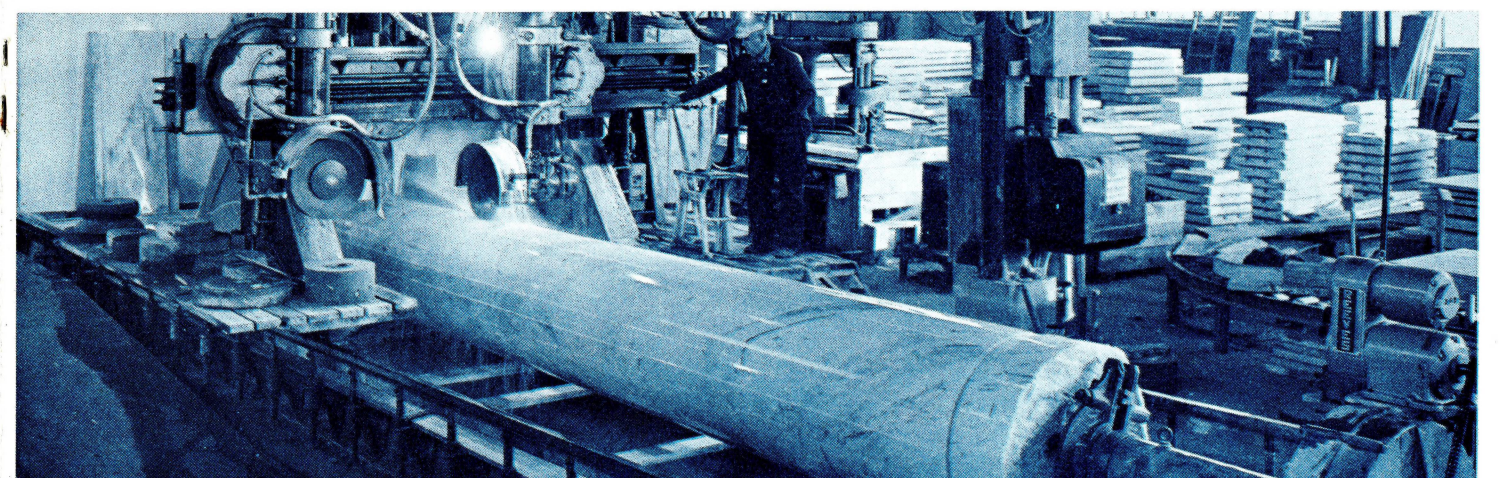
*The hands of these craftsmen have to be steady and extraordinarily skilled.*



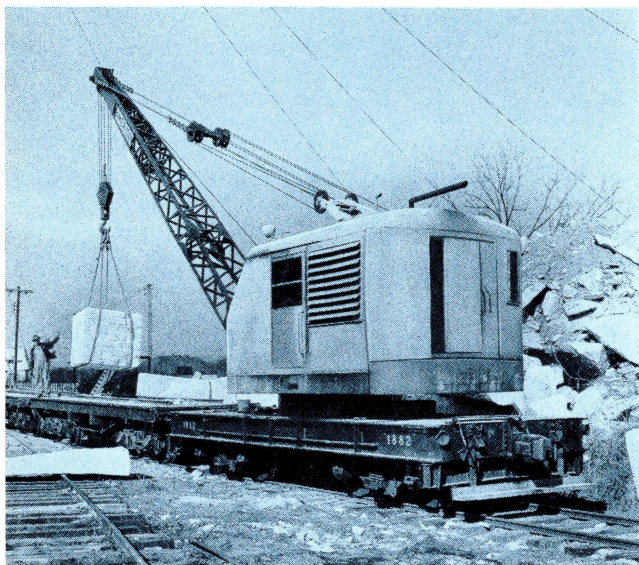
*The monumental plant at Tate utilizes the most modern machinery and equipment. Compare this and the old plant back on page 7.*



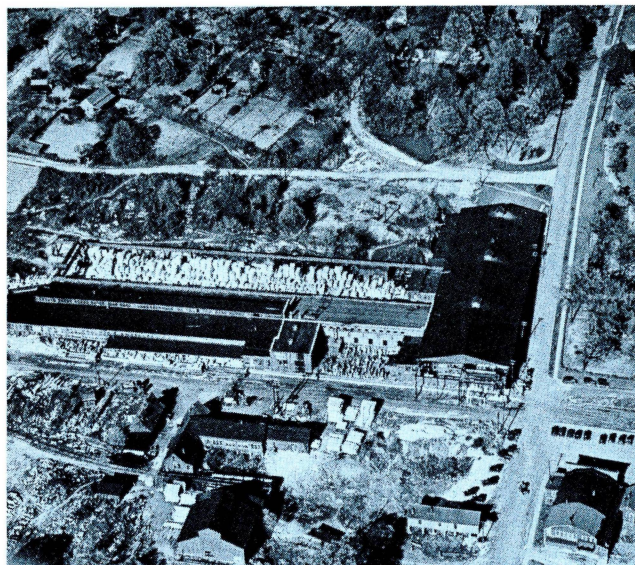
*Carborundum machine works just like a lathe. Here the carborundum wheel is rounding out a monolithic column to exact specifications.*







*The Georgia Marble Company runs its own diesel-equipped railroad between Nelson, Tate and Marble Hill, Georgia.*



*Structural Division, Nelson, Georgia*

## MORE FACILITIES, MORE SERVICES

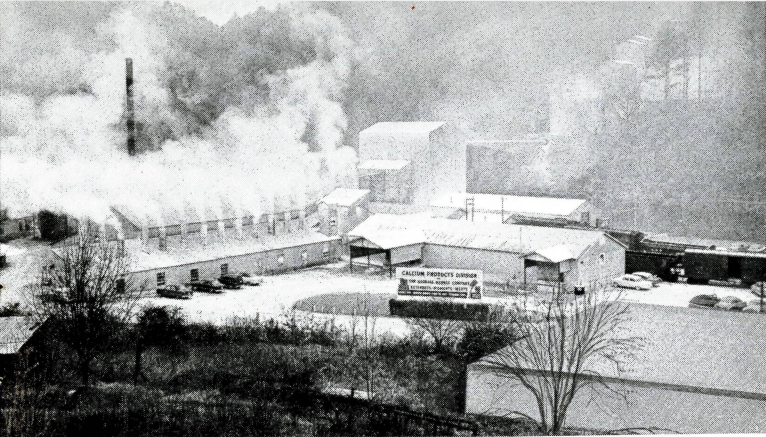
**I**N 1955, THE GEORGIA MARBLE COMPANY formed a new corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary called the Stone and Industrial Supply Company. Located at Tate, it sells mine, mill, industrial and stone-working machinery and supplies, providing the Company and its various divisions with a dependable source for the materials of its trade.

1956 brought the Alberene Stone Corporation of Virginia in as a division of The Georgia Marble Company. Alberene Stone is highly regarded for laboratory use because of its resistance to chemicals. Much of it is also used in building, for its polished dark beauty is especially distinguished when contrasted with lighter materials.

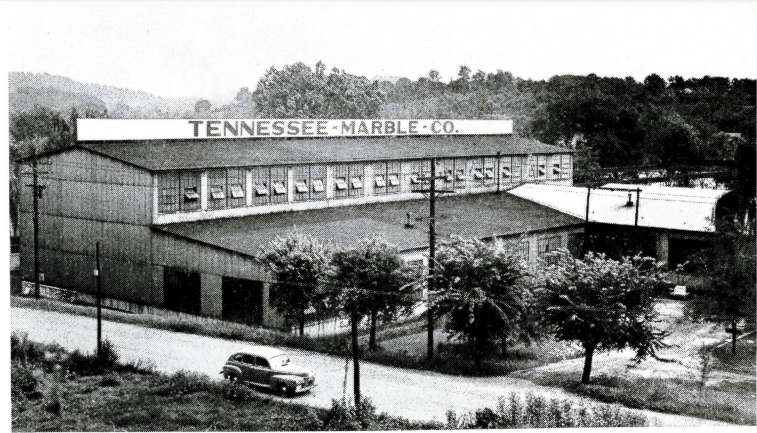
Quarries and plant are located at Schuyler, Virginia, in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Since its purchase, the large mill has been fully equipped for assembly line production, increasing the flow of finished goods to school laboratories, research centers and industrial plants throughout the country. A crushing plant here also produces a finely ground soapstone, much of which finds its way into such rubber products as tires, tubes, and roofing materials. This purchase also gives The Georgia Marble Company another railroad, for the wholly owned Nelson and Albermarle Railroad is operated by this subsidiary, connecting with the Chesapeake and Ohio at Esmont, Virginia.

*Monumental Division, Tate, Georgia*

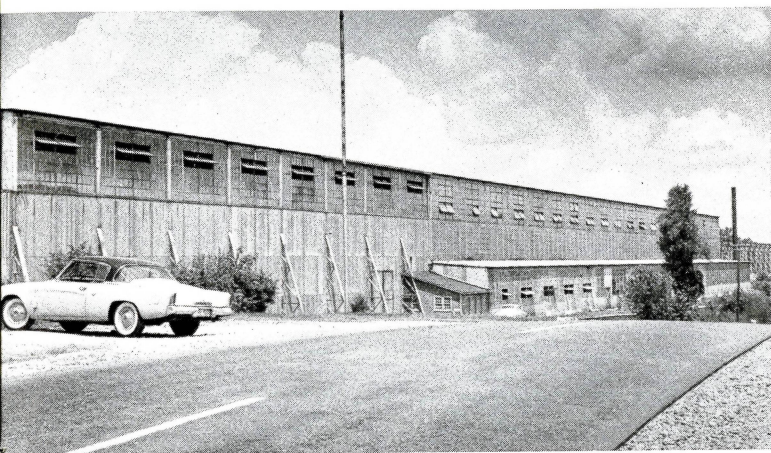




*Calcium Products Division, Marble Hill, Georgia*



*Tennessee Marble Company, Knoxville, Tennessee*



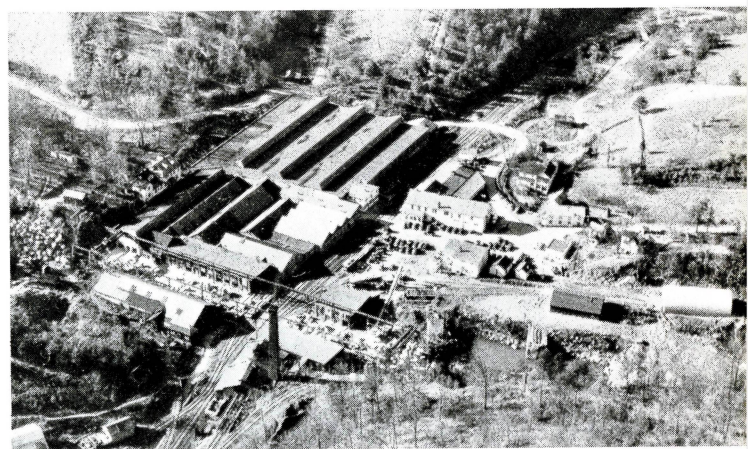
*Alabama Limestone Company, Russellville, Alabama*



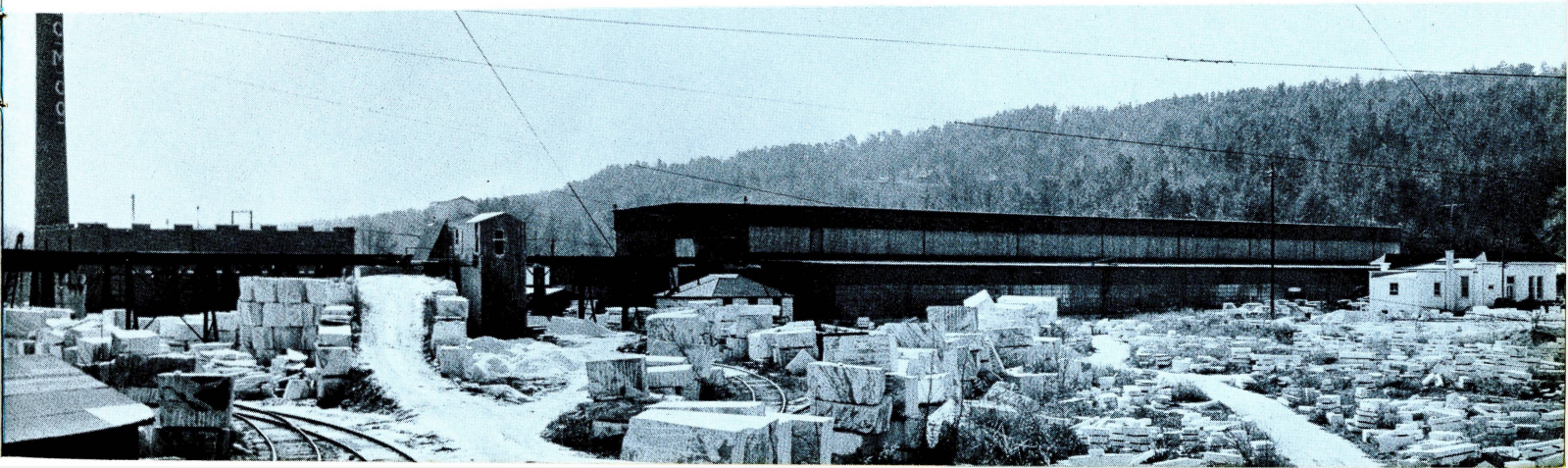
*Green Mountain Marble Company, West Rutland, Vermont*



*Willingham-Little Stone Company, Whitestone, Georgia*



*Alberene Stone Corporation of Virginia, Schuyler, Virginia*







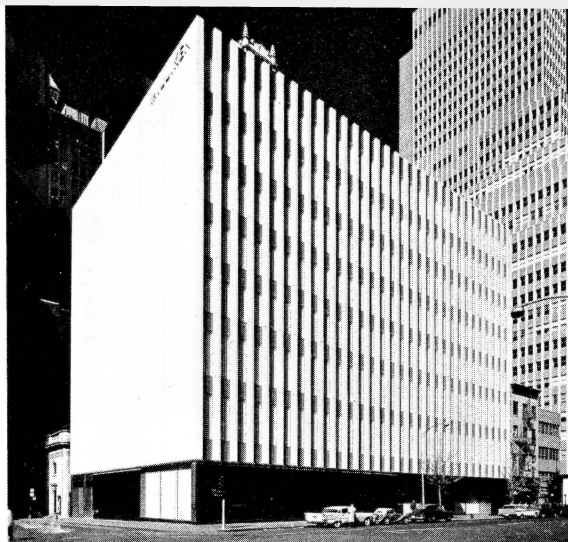




*This is the M. D. Anderson Hospital in Houston. Its curtain wall of Georgia Etowah Pink Marble has earned it the name "pink palace of healing."*



*The Prudential Building in Jacksonville, Florida, is a striking example of the modern use of Alabama Limestone and Georgia Marble.*



*Some of the nation's most distinguished buildings are faced in Georgia Marble. The modern Milliken Building in New York City is an outstanding architectural achievement.*

*Georgia Marble products beautify interiors, too. Georgia Grande Antique is behind the governor's desk in the state capitol at Atlanta.*



*The magnificent statue of Lincoln is carved from Georgia Marble, and so are thousands of memorials to loved ones all across the land.*







# NEW PRODUCTS, NEW FIELDS

**W**HILE STEADY PROGRESS was being made in the basic marble fields of building and monumental materials, the Company had long realized the possibilities of the material in crushed form, as it is almost a chemically pure calcium carbonate. Plans for expansion in that field were culminated in the formation of the Calcium Products Division of The Georgia Marble Company.

Starting in 1947 with one crushing plant and a brick machine, the success of this division over the years has been little short of fantastic. Charged with the development, production and sales of ground, crushed and allied products, the Calcium Products Division has opened markets never before envisioned in the field of marble production.

They originated white marble roofing chips, developed a harmless white line marking material for athletic fields, brought out an exceptionally good chicken grit, and ground marble into micron sizes for use as extenders and fillers by the paint and rubber industry. CPD found so many uses for its crushed and

ground products that they are now a part of hundreds of different manufactured items, ranging from cosmetics to flooring, tires to tennis shoes, chewing gum to wall paper to welding rods.

CPD's six modern plants can turn out more than two thousand tons of these marble products every day. Three completely equipped laboratories keep a constant check on quality and furnish a continuous flow of technical information to the industrial users of these products. Another prime duty: research for new ways to use crushed and ground marble. The surface has barely been scratched.

So much has the demand grown for the products of the Calcium Products Division that, in 1955, a similar plant was purchased in Wingdale, New York, from the General Services Administration. The Wingdale plant produces ground products from raw materials obtained from the Green Mountain Division and other quarries in that area, and provides a closer source of supply for eastern and mid-western markets.

*White marble chips make a lifetime roof that reflects heat, helps keep out cold, and stays looking beautiful year after year.*







*Finely powdered marble, used for line markings, produced by The Georgia Marble Company, eliminates lime burns, keeps youngsters and athletes safe from injury.*

*Some terrazzo floors are quite extraordinary works of art. Terrazzo can be as versatile as a painter's brush.*



**N**UMBERING THOUSANDS of individuals and firms in business and industry as steady customers for its long line of products, The Georgia Marble Company added thousands more in agriculture to the list. The purchase of Willingham-Little Stone Company in 1954, with quarry and plants at Whitestone, Georgia, gave it an agricultural limestone that had been enriching the soil and helping farmers get more from it for a good many years. Another principal product was terrazzo chips—Willingham-Little's famous Georgia white chip brightens many beautiful terrazzo floors the country over. Besides these two products, this division also produces very popular white marble roofing chips.

So great has been the progress of this company that the Campbell Lime and Stone Company, Mineral Bluff, Georgia, was purchased in 1958 to add its facilities to those of Willingham-Little. Altogether, the crushing plants at Whitestone and Mineral Bluff process the material from four quarries into a half billion pounds of products each year. And agriculture and industry are still building the demand.

## AGRICULTURAL LIMESTONE, TOO!



*When farmers lime their land, they are actually sweetening their soil. This Company product, Wilco Dolomitic Limestone, is helping them bring in bumper crops.* 19





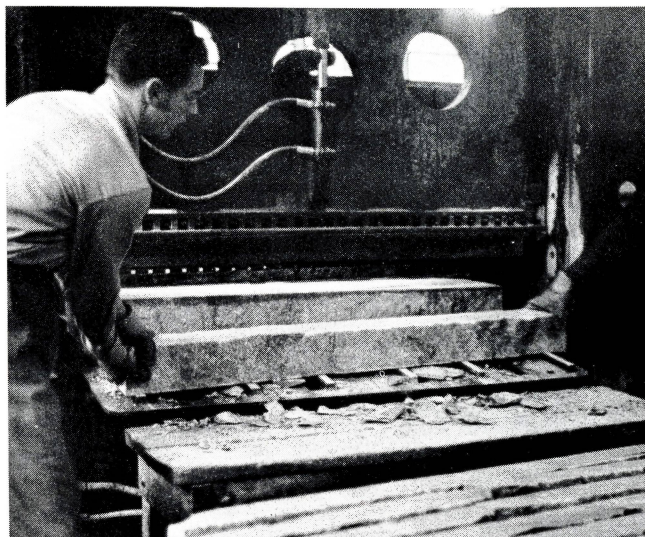


ONE OF THE NEWEST PRODUCTS of The Georgia Marble Company is split face stone. This is a new form of building material that is split into random lengths and modular rises by machines that are aptly called guillotines. The Georgia Marble Company produces split face stone in more than a dozen varieties from Georgia Marble, Tennessee Marble, Vermont Marble and Alabama Limestone.

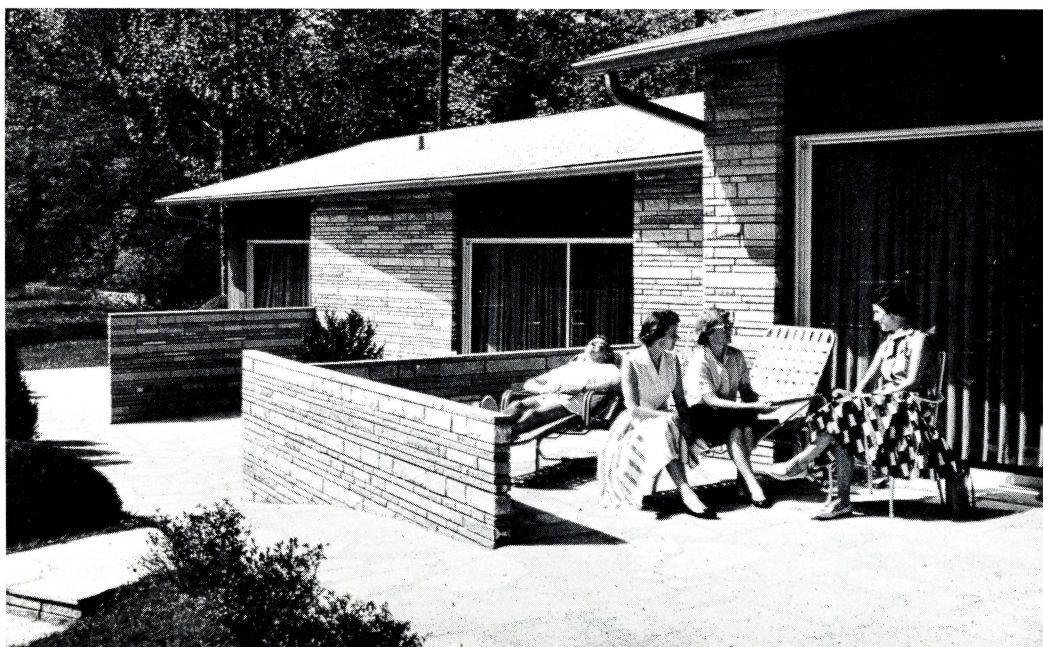
Together, these products are known throughout the building trade as the "Royalty in Stone" family. Each of them is an exceptionally distinguished stone that can be produced at surprisingly low cost, yet each one is far superior in beauty and durability to the ordinary man-made building materials.

The degree of acceptance of "Royalty in Stone" by architects, builders and contractors over the country can be gauged by the fact that more than twenty-four million pounds of marble are used in this field alone each year. As the years pass, you'll see more and more "Royalty in Stone" in homes, restaurants, motels, churches—wherever beautiful buildings are built.

*The guillotine cuts marble to size, and more split face ashlar joins the popular Royalty in Stone family.*



## ROYALTY IN STONE



*There are eighteen varieties in the Royalty in Stone family, and, used inside or out, they always achieve a distinguished and dramatic effect.*



## ONLY THE BEGINNING

The present operations of The Georgia Marble Company comprise the largest organization of its kind in the world. It can offer a complete, one-source service in more than thirty varieties of marble, limestone and soapstone, as well as crushed marble and limestone for all their many uses. Named for its birthplace in the famous marble foothills of the Appalachians, the beauty provided by the many divisions and subsidiaries of The Georgia Marble Company most certainly belongs to the world.

And it belongs to the future. The classic beauty and extraordinary durability of marble—the first material of architectural and monumental art—is being shaped and carved and used more today than it ever has before. Its remarkable properties—formed by nature millions of years ago—are still unsurpassed by the materials of man. With consistent and dedicated research, The Georgia Marble Company is bringing the value and the beauty of these properties to more and more people, places, and things as time goes by. It's all in keeping with the Company credo—if it's good today and better tomorrow, the best will never come.





*Eleven Pryor Street, S. W.  
Atlanta 3, Georgia,  
the central offices of  
The Georgia Marble Company.*

### *Some of the notable buildings representing the products of The Georgia Marble Company*

Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C.  
Board of Governor's Building, Federal Reserve Bank,  
Washington, D.C.  
Horace H. Rackham Educational Memorial,  
Detroit, Mich.  
Pan American Buildings, Washington, D.C.  
Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, Ohio  
Buckingham Fountain, Chicago, Ill.  
Miami Public Library, Miami, Fla.  
Diagnostic Unit, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.  
M. D. Anderson Hospital, Texas Medical Center,  
Houston, Texas  
Prudential Building, Jacksonville, Fla.  
State Office Buildings, Capitol Square, Atlanta, Ga.  
Insurance Company of North America, Macon, Ga.  
Fulton County Administration Building, Atlanta, Ga.  
The Henry & Edsel Ford Auditorium, Detroit, Mich.  
International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs,  
Warehousemen & Helpers of America,  
Washington, D.C.  
International Association of Machinists Building  
Washington, D.C.  
Fine Arts Building, Carlton College, Ottawa, Canada  
Spartanburg County Courthouse, Spartanburg, S.C.  
Fulton County Federal Savings & Loan Building,  
Atlanta, Ga.  
Supreme Court Building, New Orleans, La.  
Milliken Building, New York, N.Y.  
National Bank of Detroit, Detroit, Mich.  
Civil Criminal Courts Building, Atlanta, Ga.  
U.S. Capitol, East Front Extension, Washington, D.C.

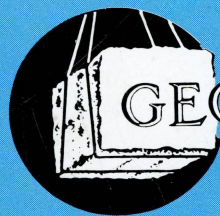
### *Outstanding memorials of Georgia Marble*

Lincoln Statue, Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C.  
Harding Memorial, Marion, Ohio  
McKinley Memorial, Niles, Ohio  
Pasteur Memorial, Chicago, Ill.  
Walter Camp Memorial, New Haven, Conn.  
Columbus Memorial Fountain, Washington, D.C.  
Crawford W. Long Statue, Washington, D.C.  
Cenotaph to Alamo Heroes, San Antonio, Texas  
Cecil B. DeMille Memorial, Hollywood, Calif.  
Douglas Fairbanks Memorial, Hollywood, Calif.  
Senator Gore Memorial, Oklahoma City, Okla.  
Eugene Talmadge Memorial, McRae, Ga.  
Henry Bacon Memorial, Wilmington, N.C.  
Bok Singing Tower, Lake Wales, Fla.  
Woodruff Memorial, Atlanta, Ga.  
Candler Memorial, Atlanta, Ga.  
Clark Griffith Memorial, Washington, D.C.  
Hank Williams Memorial, Montgomery, Ala.  
John Phillip Sousa Memorial, Washington, D.C.

### *Mausoleums in Georgia Marble*

Clark Mausoleum, Hollywood, Calif.  
Ringling Mausoleum, Sarasota, Fla.  
Wells Mausoleum, Birmingham, Ala.  
Senator Key Pittman Mausoleum, Reno, Nevada  
Consolvo Mausoleum, Norfolk, Va.  
Watkins Mausoleum, Richmond, Va.  
Wilson Mausoleum, Huntington, W. Va.  
Collins Mausoleum, Louisville, Ky.  
Walsh Mausoleum, Memphis, Tenn.  
Gilbert Mausoleum, Galveston, Texas





The

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