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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

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NATURAL STONE USED IN CANBERRA BUILDINGS.

by

R.G. Warren

The information contained in this report has been obtained by the Department of National Development, as part of the policy of the Commonwealth Government, to assist in the exploration and development of mineral resources. It may not be published in any form or used in a company prospectus without the permission in writing of the Director, Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics.

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## NATURAL STONE USED IN CANBERRA BUILDINGS

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With the growth of Canberra as the national capital and centre of the region, the rate of construction of large public and commercial buildings in which natural stone is used has increased markedly.

The Bureau of Mineral Resources, in conjunction with the National Capital Development Commission, has set up a card index to record the use of stone in Canberra buildings, monuments, and engineering structures such as bridges. In the index, which it is hoped to maintain as up-to-date as possible, as much information as can be obtained about each use of stone is recorded.

In addition it is hoped, as opportunity presents, to carry out the necessary examination and tests of samples of all types of stone used commercially in Canberra, and to describe the petrography and physical properties of each type of stone in use. The purpose of the testing of commercially-used building stone is to determine the properties and qualities that are most desirable in stone to be used for various purposes, and so to be in a position to evaluate as-yet-unproved stone from new sources.

The index of stone used in Canberra is compiled both for its public interest and as a record against which the in-service performance of the stone used can be checked. The appended list is made available at this stage in order to make the information collected to October 1966 available to those interested. The list is known to be incomplete. It is hoped, from time to time, to issue new lists and to give an account of the physical properties and petrography of stone examined.

Few buildings in Canberra use stone as the main structural material. Three examples of buildings that do are:

Church of St. John the Baptist, Reid,  
Saint Ninian's Presbyterian Church, Lyneham - original structure only, and the Church of All Saints, Ainslie, which was originally the railway station at Rookwood Cemetery, near Sydney, and was re-erected in Ainslie during 1958 and 1959.

Where stone is used in modern buildings it is rarely used as a structural material, its main purpose being ornamental. The most common uses are as exterior cladding (commonly for the base course only), paving and interior feature walls. The list includes monuments and engineering structures built of, or faced with, natural stone; it is hoped eventually to include major public paved areas. Reconstructed stone and exposed aggregate, both of which use natural stone - often carefully selected for durability, colour and texture - are widely used in Canberra but are not recorded in the accompanying list.

It would not have been possible to compile the list of building stones without the co-operation of many people connected with the building industry. The willing co-operation of architects - both private and Departmental - builders and suppliers of building stone, is gratefully acknowledged.

## CANBERRA BUILDINGS USING NATURAL STONE

Building Name and Address	Commercial Name of Stone, approx locality		Position where placed
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, King Edward Terrace, Parkes.	Wondabyne Sandstone Rob Roy Granite Wombeyan Marble	(quarried about 8m SW of Gosford) (quarried in NSW) (quarried 64m SW of Sydney)	Exterior Clad. Exterior Clad, base course. Interior walls, paving.
AINSLIE BUILDING, Ainslie Ave., Civic.	Piles Creek Banded (sandstone)	(quarried about 4m W of Gosford)	Exterior clad.
ALL SAINTS CHURCH OF ENGLAND Cowper St., Ainslie	"Hawkesbury" Sandstone	(quarried near Sydney)	Main walls, interior pillars.
A.M.P. BUILDING Hobart Place Civic	Silician Marble	(imported)	Exterior cladding, ground floor.
ANZAC PARK WEST Parkes Way, Parkes	Piles Creek White (sandstone) Verde Issori (marble) Black Tumut Granite Wombeyan Marble	(quarried about 4m W of Gosford) (imported from Piedmont, Italy) (Tumut district, Southern NSW) (quarried 64m SW of Sydney)	Exterior clad Ornamental wall at entrance. Steps. Interior walls of foyer.
ANZ BANK Allara St., Civic	Travertine	Tivoli near Rome, Italy	Exterior clad.
ANZ BANK Jardine St., Kingston.	Piles Creek Banded (sandstone)	(quarried about 4m W of Gosford)	Exterior clad (ornamental wall)
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL Limestone and Fairbairn Aves., Campbell	Wondabyne Sandstone Rob Roy Granite Macclesfield Marble Wombeyan Marble	(quarried about 8m SW of Gosford) (quarried near Sydney) (quarried near Mt. Barker, S.A.) (quarried about 64m SW of Sydney)	Exterior clad Steps Interior Walls Interior Walls
BANK OF NSW Allara and Petrie Sts., Civic	Trachyte*	(source unknown)	Steps, ornamental railing
BIBLE HOUSE Alinga St., Civic	Piles Creek Banded (sandstone) Piles Creek White (sandstone) Regent Red Granite	(quarried about 4m W of Gosford) (quarried about 4m W of Gosford) (quarried at Mudgee, 120m NW of Sydney)	Exterior clad Exterior clad Paving, base course.
BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES Parkes Way, Parkes.	Piles Creek White (sandstone) Verde Issori Marble	(quarried about 4m W of Gosford) (Piedmont, Italy)	Exterior clad. Ornamental wall at entrance.
BURNS MEMORIAL Canberra Ave and National Circuit, Forrest.	Rob Roy Granite	(NSW)	Walls, paving, cladding of pedestal.

\* Subject to verification.

Building Name and Address	(ii) Commercial Name of Stone, approx locality	Position where placed
CANBERRA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL (NURSES' HOME) Acton	Verde Issori Marble (Piedmont, Italy)	Ornamental wall at entrance.
COMMERCIAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA Hobart Place, Civic	Travertine Arabescarto Marble (Tivoli, near Rome, Italy) (Italian)	Exterior cladding. Tiles in exterior walls.
COMMONWEALTH AVENUE BRIDGE Acton & Parkes	Mudgee Red Granite	Cladding on pylons and abutments
COMMONWEALTH BANKING CORPORATION Giles St., Kingston.	Red Granite (source unknown)	Steps.
COMMONWEALTH BANKING CORPORATION London Circuit, Civic	White Marble (source unknown)	Exterior Clad
COMMONWEALTH POLICE HEADQUARTERS Jardine St., Kingston.	White Marble (source unknown)	1" square tiles in ornamental wall.
COMMERCIAL BANKING CO OF SYDNEY Jardine St., Kingston.	Piles Creek Banded (sandstone) (quarried about 4m W of Gosford)	Exterior clad ornamental wall.
COMMERCIAL BANKING CO OF SYDNEY Petrie St., Civic	Red Granite Wondabyne Sandstone (source unknown) (quarried about 8m SW of Gosford)	Steps, base course Exterior clad.
CSIRO OFFICES, Clunes - Ross St., Acton.	Piles Creek Banded (sandstone)	Exterior clad.
DERWENT HOUSE Hobart Place, Civic	Repin Marble Alp Green Marble (Italian) (Piedmont, Italy)	Exterior clad of ground floor Ornamental Wall at entrance.
DEFENCE BUILDINGS 5&6 Kings Ave., Parkes, Campbell	Sicilian Marble - pearl Harcourt grey granite Travertine Mudgee Red Granite (Harcourt, Victoria) (Tivoli, near Rome, Italy) (quarried near Mudgee 120m NW of Sydney)	Exterior clad. Base course. Interior Walls. Steps.
E.S. and A. BANK, Hobart Place, Civic	Imperial Black Marble (imported)	Cladding on pillars
E.S. and A. BANK Petrie St., Civic	Red Granite Wondabyne Sandstone (source unknown) (quarried about 8m SW of Gosford)	Steps, base course. Exterior clad.
GEOLOGY DEPARTMENT AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY University Ave., Acton.	Collection of local stone.	Feature walls.

Building Name and Address	Commercial Name of Stone, approx locality		Position where placed
GOVERNMENT HOUSE LANDING STAGE Yarralumla	Marouba Brown (sandstone)	(quarried about 8m SE of Sydney)	Wharf approaches.
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE Wentworth Ave., Kingston	Black granite	(source unknown)	Ornamental cladding at entrance to office
HOBART CHAMBERS Hobart Place, Civic	Arabescarto Marble Tiles Travertine Sicilian Marble.	(imported from Italy) (Tivoli, near Rome, Italy)	Exterior clad. Exterior clad. Exterior clad.
KINGSTON POST OFFICE Giles St., Kingston	Grey granite	(source unknown)	Steps.
INSTITUTE OF ANATOMY McCoy Circuit, Acton.	Hawkesbury Sandstone Black Marble	(quarried near Sydney) (quarried locally)	Exterior clad. Interior decorative walls.
LAW COURTS London Circuit, Civic	Wombeyan Marble	(quarried about 64m SW of Sydney)	Exterior clad.
MONARO MALL Civic	Cielo Grigio (Arabescarto Marble) Black granite Travertine	(Italian) (Black Hill quarry near Adelaide, S.A.) (Tivoli near Rome, Italy)	Exterior clad. Exterior clad. Ornamental veneer.
MEDICAL BENEFITS FUND HOUSE London Circuit Civic	Piles Creek Banded (sandstone)	(quarried about 4m W of Gosford)	Exterior clad.
MORESBY HOUSE Moresby Place, Civic	Grey Lilac Marble Lido Marble Wombeyan White Marble	(imported from Italy) (imported from Italy) (quarried about 64m SW of Sydney)	Ornamental cladding on pillars. Ornamental work in lobby. Paving to lobby
PATENTS OFFICE Kings Ave., Barton	Gosford Grey Sandstone	(quarried near Gosford)	Exterior clad.
POLICE HEADQUARTERS London Circuit Civic	Carrara White Marble Alta Quartzite	(imported from Italy) (imported from Norway)	Exterior clad. Paving
RESERVE BANK London Circuit, Civic	Wombeyan Marble	(quarried about 64m SW of Sydney)	Cladding
R.G. MENZIES LIBRARY AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY Acton	Narrandera Quartzite	(quarried near Narrandera South Western NSW)	Exterior clad.
ROYAL GLOBE INSURANCE BUILDING Hobart Place, Civic	Arabescarto Marble Tiles Travertine Grey Wombeyan Marble	(imported from Italy) (Tivoli, near Rome, Italy) (quarried about 64m SW of Sydney)	Exterior clad. Exterior clad. Ornamental wall near entrance.
ROYAL MINT Deakin	Piles Creek White (sandstone) Footscray Basalt	(quarried about 4m W of Gosford) (quarried near Melbourne)	Exterior cladding to factory.

Building Name and Address	Commercial Name of Stone,	(iv) approx locality	Position where placed
R.S.L. HEADQUARTERS, Constitution Ave., Campbell.	Black Granite	(quarried near Tumut, Southern NSW)	Base course, mullions, ornamental work in foyer. Paving.
	Bundanoon Sandstone	(quarried 65m S of Sydney)	
ST. ANDREW'S PRES. CHURCH Canberra Ave., Forrest.	Marouba Brown Sandstone	(quarried about 8m SE of Sydney)	Exterior clad.
ST. JOHN'S PARISH CHURCH Anzac Pde., Reid	Black Mountain Sandstone	(quarried locally)	Walls, main construction.
ST. MARK'S LIBRARY Broughton St., Barton	Piles Creek Coloured (Sandstone)	(quarried about 4m W of Gosford)	Exterior clad.
	Goulburn Slate	(quarried near Goulburn)	Paving.
ST. NINIAN'S PRES. CHURCH Brigalow St., Lyneham	Local Sandstone		Exterior walls.
TARIFF BOARD Kings Ave., Barton	Wondabyne Sandstone	(quarried about 8m SW of Gosford)	Exterior clad.
TASMAN HOUSE Hobart Place Civic	Wombeyan Marble Travertine	(quarried about 64m SW of Sydney) (Tivoli, near Rome, Italy)	Paving, decorative panels in foyer
T & G BUILDING Hobart Place Civic	Belgium Black Marble	(imported)	Lower course, window sills, lintel, and spandrills Paving in foyer.
	Wombeyan Marble	(quarried about 64m SW of Sydney)	
TREASURY BUILDING Commonwealth Ave., Parkes	Hornsby Sandstone	(quarried 16m NW of Sydney)	Exterior clad.
	Bowral Trachyte.	(quarried at Mt. Gibraltar, near Bowral, S of Sydney)	Mullions and spandrills.
	Mudgee Red Granite	(quarried near Mudgee, 120m NW of Sydney)	Base storey, ornamental railing
	Mudgee Green Marble	(quarried near Mudgee 120m NW of Sydney)	