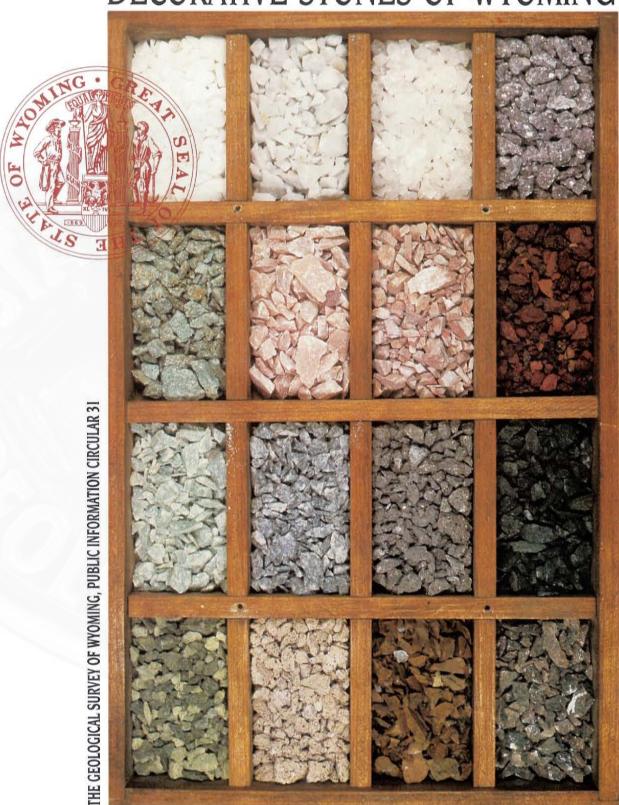
# DECORATIVE STONES OF WYOMING



1991

by Ray E. Harris

#### THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF WYOMING

Gary B. Glass, State Geologist

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Front cover: Colorful examples of decorative aggregate from Wyoming. The 16 samples shown are described in this book under "Decorative aggregate".

## THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF WYOMING Gary B. Glass, State Geologist

**Public Information Circular No. 31** 

### **DECORATIVE STONES OF WYOMING**

by Ray E. Harris



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#### INTRODUCTION

Mountain-building episodes and erosional intervals in Wyoming's geologic history have resulted in exposure of many kinds of rocks at the surface, only a few of which have been sampled for decorative stone and aggregate. Much of the State is underlain by a variety of Precambrian crystalline rocks, including granite, marble, and quartzite (Figure 1). Unconformably overlying these Precambrian rocks is a sedimentary sequence that includes colored quartzites, limestones, dolomites, onyx, and other potential decorative stones. Wyoming could provide nearly every color of decorative stone known in the world.

This report presents a few of the many different stones in Wyoming that could be used for decorative stone and decorative aggregate. Rocks presented in this report were selected on the basis of color, size of the deposit, and apparent freedom from close-spaced joints (allowing for the possibility of production in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8foot blocks, currently a standard for the dimensional stone- and tile-producing industries). Not all of the rocks presented here meet this requirement; some may be better suited to the production of smaller blocks or aggregate. A few of the rocks depicted in this circular were included primarily because of their unique colors or textures.

The selection presented here is only a small fraction of the potential decorative stones in Wyoming. Most of the areas of exposure of granite and other Precambrian rocks have never been explored for decorative stone.

Small amounts of decorative stone have been produced in the past in Wyoming. Stone quarries near Rawlins and Laramie (Figure 1) produced building stone for large public structures such as those on the University of Wyoming Campus in Laramie. Some of the university buildings were constructed using a sandy limestone from nearby quarries. The Rawlins sandstone was used in Wyoming's State Capitol, as well as some buildings in Denver and the Union Pacific Station in Ogden, Utah. The Jay Em Stone Company, located at Jay Em in northern Goshen County (Figure 1), produced cut stone items, primarily monument stone, from several marbles, granites, onyxes, and other rocks found in southeastern Wyoming.

A few companies are currently producing decorative stone and aggregate in Wyoming. Georgia Marble produces crushed white marble known as "Wyoming white" in various sizes from its quarry and crushing and sizing plant near Wheatland, in Platte County. Mesa Marble Company, with headquarters in Powell, is marketing a brown marble from the Bighorn Basin. Wyoming Red Rock, located in Gillette, produces decorative aggregate from several sources in the State. Several companies, including Wyoming Red Rock, quarry clinker (red baked and fused shale) for landscape rock and other uses from the northern Powder River Basin (Figure 1). Sunrise Stone, located in Guernsey, is testing several types of rock in Wyoming for quarrying into blocks and has shipped test blocks of black granite to a stone-finishing company.

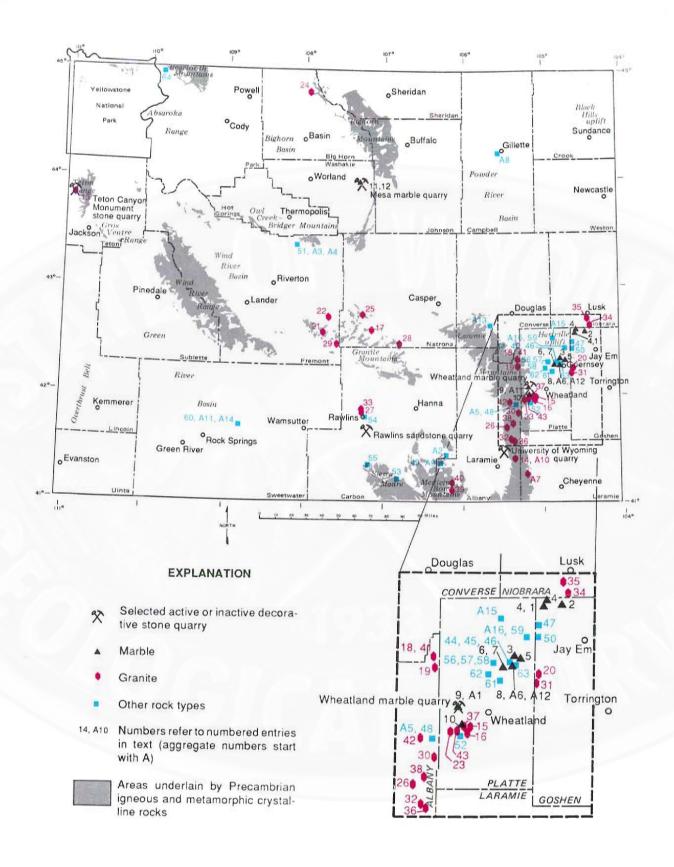


Figure 1. Map showing locations of decorative stones and aggregate in Wyoming. Numbered localities are described in this volume.

This circular describes both decorative aggregate and decorative stone. The two captions are presented separately, although some rocks are suitable for both decorative stone and decorative aggregate and are therefore presented twice. Decorative aggregates are all depicted on the cover, and the captions in the text refer

to the cover photo. Decorative stones are depicted individually, with descriptive captions accompanying each photo.

A glossary of decorative stone and aggregate terms used in this report appears at the end of the descriptive text, on page 26.

#### **DECORATIVE AGGREGATE**

The following descriptions of decorative aggregate found in Wyoming refer to the cover photo, numbered from the upper left to the lower right, as shown in **Figure 2**. Some of these stones are also depicted in the section on decorative stone. The locations of these stones are shown as

numbers A1 to A16 on **Figure 1**. The text provides the informal or commercial rock name, location (by section, township, and range where possible), county, current (1991) land ownership information (if available), potential uses, and a brief description.

A2	А3	<b>A</b> 4
A6	A7	A8
A10	A11	A12
A14	A15	A16
	A6	A6 A7

Figure 2. Index to decorative aggregate samples shown on the front cover and described by number in the text.

Number A1

Name Georgia Marble white marble (Wyoming white)

Location Sec. 3, T24N, R70W

County Platte

Land status Private surface and minerals. Quarry operated by Basins, Incorporated, a division of Georgia Marble

Potential uses Decorative aggregate

**Description** This snow-white marble has been quarried for aggregate since the early 1950s. It is used for many purposes

including roofing granules and landscape rock. It has never been quarried in blocks, and there are no plans to produce blocks from this property (Jerry MacArthur, Georgia Marble, personal communication, 1990).

Number A2

Name Snowy Range white quartzite
Location Ts15 and 16N, Rs78,79 and 80W

County Albany and Carbon

Land status Federal surface (Medicine Bow National Forest) and minerals

Potential uses Decorative aggregate, cut stone

**Description** In this area, the Precambrian Medicine Peak and Sugarloaf quartzites approach a pure white color, but more

commonly vary from very light gray to grayish white. Quartz or quartzite have some advantages over marble in some uses because they are more durable, harder, and more resistant to acid conditions that etch and dissolve

marble.

Number A3

Name Bonneville rose quartz

Location Secs. 21, 22, and 28, T 40N, R93W

County Fremont

Land status Federal surface and minerals (BLM)

Potential uses Decorative aggregate

**Description** White and rose quartz are found at this location. The quartz occurs in pods up to 20 feet thick and 50 feet wide.

Number A4

Name Bonneville purple quartzite Location Sec. 28, T40N, R93W

County Fremont

Land status Federal surface and minerals (BLM)

**Description** This purple lepidolite quartzite is present in pods associated with quartz-feldspar pegmatites. The rock has not

been found in large amounts. The purple color is from the mineral lepidolite, a lithium mica.

Number A5

Name Squaw Mountain green quartzite
Location SE sec. 36, T23N, R71W

County Albany

Land status State surface and minerals

**Potential uses** Decorative aggregate, flagstone, cut stone

**Description** The bright green color of this rock is due to fuchsite, a chromium mica. The rock occurs in a vertical band 10 to

15 feet wide, which trends northeast-southwest for a distance of 1/3 mile.

Number A6

Name Guernsey Stone Company pink marble

Location S1/2 sec. 25, T27N, R66W

County Platte

Land status Private surface and minerals (Peter Kiewit, Incorporated)

Potential uses Decorative aggregate, cut stone

**Description** This light pink marble is produced in small amounts for decorative aggregate, particularly landscape rock (Harold

Anderson, Guernsey Stone, personal communication, 1990). The amount of this stone is unknown.

Number A7

Name Laramie Mountains pink feldspar

Location Several locations in Ts12 through 16N, Rs70 through 72W

County Albany and Laramie

Land status Mixture of private surface and minerals (includes Union Pacific Railroad), State surface and minerals, and

Federal surface and minerals

Potential uses Decorative aggregate

**Description** Circular quartz-cored pegmatites intrude the Precambrian Sherman Granite in this area. The quartz is

surrounded by a ring-shaped body of nearly pure feldspar. This feldspar has been mined in the past for use in ceramics or similar products. Large amounts of this material are available. Most of the bodies are colored as the

sample; a few zones may be lighter.

Number A8

Name Clinker, scoria, pumice

Location Widespread in the Powder River Basin, and locally near Hanna and Wamsutter

County Campbell, Carbon, Converse, Johnson, Sheridan, and Sweetwater

Land status Federal surface and minerals (BLM), private surface and minerals, State surface and minerals

Potential uses Decorative aggregate, especially landscape rock

**Description** This stone is the red rock that caps buttes and mesas in areas in the Powder River Basin, especially near

Sheridan, Buffalo, and Gillette. It is being quarried in a few locations.

Number A9

Name Snowy Range green quartzite

Location N1/2 sec. 8 and NW sec. 9, T16N, R79W

County Albany

Land status Federal surface and minerals (Medicine Bow National Forest); subject to off-road travel restrictions

(December, 1990)

**Potential uses** Decorative aggregate, cut stone, jewelry

**Description** This distinctive green rock was quarried in the 1950s and 1960s. The rock was used primarily for decorative

aggregate. Gem-quality rock of this color is called aventurine.

Number A10

Name Horse Creek gray granite

**Location** Sec. 36, T17N, R71W and surrounding areas

County Albany

**Land status** State surface and minerals, large areas of private surface and minerals, also Union Pacific mineral ownership

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

**Description** This uniform gray rock is a phase of the Laramie Anorthosite. It crops out over a large area north and east of

Laramie. Some phases contain sulfides and olivine.

Number All

Name Zirkel Mesa gray basalt

Location Secs. 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, and 24, T21N, R102W

County Sweetwater

Land status Federal surface and minerals (BLM), State surface and minerals, and private minerals (Union Pacific)

Potential uses Decorative aggregate, cut stone, building stone

**Description** Potassic lava flows in this area constitute a resource of grayish to brownish gray rock that can be used for

decorative aggregate. Small flakes of phlogopite, a potassic mica, give a sparkle to the rock.

Number A12

Name Guernsey Stone Company green marble

**Location** S1/2 sec. 25, T27N, R66W

County Platte

Land status Private surface and minerals (Peter Kiewit, Incorporated)

Potential uses Decorative aggregate, especially landscape rock

**Description** This very dark green marble is produced in small amounts. The amount of this stone is unknown.

Number A13

Name Glenrock green serpentine Location NW sec. 29, T32N, R75W

County Converse

Land status Private surface (True and Duncan ranches), private and Federal minerals, quarried by Wyoming Red Rock of

Gillette, Wyoming

Potential uses Decorative aggregate

**Description** Three or four pods of this green serpentine are exposed in the vicinity. The largest measures 100 feet by 100 feet.

This stone is currently being quarried for landscape rock. It was produced in the past in large uncut blocks for

decorative stone facing.

Number A14

Name Zirkel Mesa light brown leucite

**Location** Secs. 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, and 24, T21N, R102W

County Sweetwater

Land status Federal surface and minerals (BLM), State surface and minerals, and private minerals (Union Pacific)

Potential uses Decorative aggregate, especially landscape rock

**Description** Potassic igneous rock composing cinder cones in this area constitutes a resource of light brown rock that may be

favored for landscape rock. Grains of phlogopite mica give the rock a gold sparkle.

Number A15

Name Flattop brown chert

Location Secs. 7 and 18, T30N, R65W

County Platte

Land status Private surface, private and Federal (BLM) minerals

Potential uses Decorative aggregate

**Description** Large pods of brown chert are found in the Pennsylvanian-Permian Hartville Formation in this area.

Number A16

Name Hartville brown onyx (root beer)

Location Sample pictured from SW NE sec. 32, T29N, R65W

County Platte and Goshen

Land status Private, State, and Federal (BLM) surface and minerals

Potential uses Decorative aggregate

**Description** This brown variety of onyx is the color of root beer and may make an unusual decorative aggregate. Another

occurrence of brown onyx is found in SE sec. 22, T25N, R 66W. The onyx is found in replacement zones in

limestones of the Permian-Pennsylvanian Hartville Formation.

#### **DECORATIVE STONES**

The photographs and descriptions of decorative stones are grouped by rock type and color. All photographs are approximately actual size except where noted. Numbers refer to locations shown on **Figure 1**. The text accompanying each photograph provides the informal or commercial rock name, location (by section, township, and range where possible), current (1991) land ownership information (if available), potential uses, and a brief description of the rock.





Name Muskrat Canyon dark gray marble

Location NE sec. 24, T30N, R65W and NW sec. 19, T30N, R64W County

Goshen

Private surface (Rawhide Ranch)

Land status Potential uses

Cut stone

Description This marble was quarried by the Jay Em Stone Company of Jay Em,

Wyoming for monument stone. The same marble is also present in the Little Wildcat Canyon area to the north of Muskrat Creek. The rock is quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks after some surface

preparation.



Number

Rawhide Buttes gray marble Name

Location

NW sec. 11, T30N, R64W

County

Goshen

Land status

Private surface (Rawhide Ranch)

Potential uses

Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description In the early 1980s, the Pacer Corporation of Pringle, South Dakota produced decorative marble aggregate from this site. Four foot by 4 foot

by 8 foot blocks may be produced from gray marble at this locality.



Number

Name Location

Sparks Canyon gray marble N1/2 sec. 18, T27N, R65W

County

Platte

Land status Private (CF&I Steel Corporation)

Potential uses

Cut stone

Description

This light gray marble crops out in a band 200 feet or more wide by

2000 feet long. The rock is probably quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-

foot blocks.



Number

Name Muskrat Creek red marble

Location County NE sec. 24, T30N, R65W

Goshen

Private surface (Rawhide Ranch)

Land status Potential uses

Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

The red marble grades to the east into dark gray marble (see stone no. 1). It is quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks. The same marble crops out in Little Wildcat Canyon 1 mile to the north. This marble has

been used for monument stone. It was quarried by the Jay Em Stone

Company, of Jay Em, Wyoming.



Name MS-108 banded marble

Location

NW sec. 17 and N1/2 sec. 18, T27N, R65W

County

Platte

Cut stone

Private (CF&I Steel Corporation)

Land status Potential uses

Description

This marble is named MS-108 after the hill on which this marble is found. The hill was named after the number of the former CF&I mineral

claim that included the hill. The marble is found in large quantities and is probably quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks although the

surface outcrops are often platy.



Number

Fairbank pink marble

Name Location

SW sec. 26 and SE sec. 27, T 27N, R66W

County

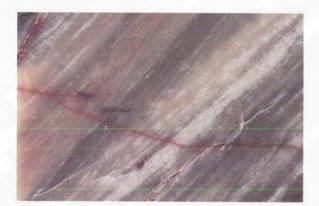
Land status Potential uses

State (National Guard) surface

Description

Cut stone, decorative aggregate

This orange-pink marble grades through a zone of mixed pink and gray to gray marble similar to the Little Wildcat gray marble (see stone no. 9). This rock may be quarried in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks.



Number Name

Fairbank pink and gray marble

Location

SW sec. 26 and SE sec. 27, T 27N, R66W

County

Platte

Land status State (National Guard) surface

Potential uses

Cut stone

Description

This marble exhibits variable bands of orange-pink (similar to stone no.

6) and dark gray. It is quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks.



Number Name

Guernsey Stone Company pink marble

Location

S1/2 sec. 25, T27N, R66W

County

Land status

Private surface and minerals (Peter Kiewit, Incorporated)

Potential uses

Decorative aggregate, cut stone

Description

This light pink marble is produced in small amounts for decorative aggregate, particularly landscape rock (Harold Anderson, Guernsey Stone, personal communication, 1990). The amount of this stone is unknown. It may be quarriable in blocks smaller than 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot only (Dave Jennings, Peter Kiewit, Incorporated, personal

communication, 1991).



Basins, Incorporated white marble (Wyoming white) Name

Location Sec. 3, T24N, R70W

County

Land status Private surface and minerals (quarry operated by Basins, Incorporated,

a division of Georgia Marble)

Presently used for decorative aggregate (see also no. A1) Potential uses

This snow-white marble is quarried for decorative aggregate. It is used Description

for many purposes including roofing granules and landscape rock. It has never been quarried in blocks, and there are no plans to produce blocks from this property. (Jerry MacArthur, Georgia Marble, personal communication 1990). However, this rock could be quarried as cut stone.

Number

McGuire white marble Name

Location SW sec. 6, T23N, R69W

County

Private surface (McGuire Ranch), Federal minerals Land status

Potential uses Decorative aggregate, cut stone

This white marble is similar to the Wheatland marble, but locally Description

contains the mineral actinolite-tremolite. The marble is weathered at the surface. It may be quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks after some

surface material is removed.



Number Name

Mesa Marble Company brown marble

Location

Southeast of Tensleep, Wyoming

County

Washakie

Land status

Federal minerals

Potential uses

Cut stone

Description

This stone comes in several shades of brown, yellow, and pink. It takes a

high polish. This stone was described in the magazine Dimensional

Stone (February 1990, p. 31).



Number

Name

Mesa Marble Company, wood-grained marble

Location

Southeast of Tensleep, Wyoming

County

Washakie

Land status

Federal minerals

Potential uses

Cut stone

Description

This stone is a variety of the brown marble (stone no. 11).

(About 2X actual size.)



Name Teton Canyon gray granite SE SW sec. 20, T44N, R117W Location

County

Land status Federal surface (Targhee National Forest), Federal minerals (BLM)

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description This extremely hard granite was quarried in the past for monument

stone. It has a joint spacing of over 20 feet in any direction and is

quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks.



Number

Name Horse Creek gray granite

Location Sec. 36, T17 N, R71W

County

Land status State surface and minerals, large areas of private surface and minerals,

also Union Pacific mineral ownership

Cut stone, decorative aggregate (see aggregate A10) Potential uses

Description This uniform gray rock is a phase of the Laramie anorthosite. It crops

> out over a large area north and east of Laramie. Some phases contain sulfides and olivine. In selected locations, it is quarriable in 4-foot x 4-

foot x 8-foot blocks.



Number

Name Two Bar bronze granite

NW sec. 14, T23N, R69W

Location County

Land status Private surface (Two Bar Ranch) and Federal minerals, and Federal

surface and minerals (BLM)

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

This distinctive granitic rock crops out in an area of about 160 acres. The rock exhibits a joint spacing at the surface of 3 to 5 feet and may be more massive at depth. Currently (1991), there are plans to open a railroad

ballast quarry at this location.



Number

Two Bar yellow granite Name

Location Center, sec. 14, T23N, R69W

County

Land status Private surface (Two Bar Ranch) and Federal minerals, and Federal

surface and minerals (BLM)

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

This light yellowish gray granitic rock has been considered as a source of

railroad ballast due to its hardness. The outcrops of this stone exhibit a

joint spacing of 2 to 4 feet.



Name Dry Creek gray granite Location SE sec. 36, T31N, R87W

County Natrona

Land status State surface and minerals Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description This gray granite is identical to a granite used in Japan for cut stone.

> Large amounts of this rock are present in this area. The joint spacing is over 6 feet and appears to increase with depth, so it may be quarried in

4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks.



Number

Name Rock Mountain brown granite Location SE sec. 27, T28N, R71W

County Albany

Land status Federal surface (Medicine Bow National Forest) and Federal minerals

(BLM), State surface and minerals

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description This brown granite is found in a massive outcrop free from joints. It is

quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks.



Number

Harris Park brown and pink granite Name Location SW sec. 36, T28N, R71W

County

Land status State surface and minerals. Outcrops east of this section are private

surface and minerals (Twin Pines Ranch)

Potential uses cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description This reddish brown granite underlies a large area of the eastern part of

> Harris Park. Outcrops tend to have a joint spacing from 4 to 8 feet. It is present over an area of several square miles and locations where 4-foot

x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks may be quarried are likely to be present.



Number

Name

McGinnis Pass pink granite

Location County

Sec. 10, T27N, R65W

Goshen

Land status

Private surface and minerals (Jim Hageman)

Potential uses

Description

This relatively coarse-grained pink granite underlies most of sec. 10 and adjacent parts of adjoining sections. Outcrops are massive with joints

spaced at over 15 feet. It is quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks.





Name

Bishop Point white granite Center sec. 12, T29N, R90W

Location

Fremont

County

Land status Federal surface and minerals (BLM)

Potential uses

Cut stone

Description

This sample is from the first outcrop of granite north of the highway on the Agate Flats Road. Large volumes of granite are present in the hills east of the sampled outcrop, but it is not known if all of this material is similar to the sample pictured. At the sample site, the joint spacing is

greater than 10 feet vertically and 5 feet horizontally.



Number

22

Name Agate Flats granite

Location

SE NE sec. 9, T30N, R90W

County

Fremont

Land status

Federal surface and minerals (BLM)

Potential uses

Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

Several varieties of this light colored granite crop out in the area and are

free from close-spaced joints. It is quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot

blocks.



Number

23

Name Picnic Rock gray granite Sec. 26, T23N, R70W Location

County

Private surface and minerals (Two Bar Ranch), isolated tracts of Federal

surface and minerals

Potential uses

Land status

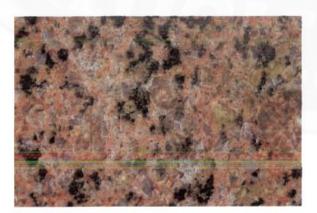
Description

Cut stone

This gray granite occurs in large amounts in outcrops with some areas of

joint spacings over 10 feet, and is quarriable in 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks. Locally large (1 inch) pink feldspar phenocrysts occur in the

rock.



Number Name

Medicine Mountain red and green granite

Location

SE sec. 23, SW sec. 24, NW sec. 15, and NE sec. 26, T56N, R92W

County

Land status

Federal surface and minerals (Bighorn National Forest)

Potential uses

Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

The green color of some of the grains of this granite is due to the

alteration of feldspar to epidote. The extent of the green coloring in the pink granite is unknown. Exfoliation joints (parallel to the surface) are 1 foot apart at the surface and may disappear at depth. Lateral joint

spacings are 4 to 10 feet.



Name Circle Bar pink granite Location SW sec. 9, T32N, R88W

County Natrona

**Land status** Federal surface and minerals (BLM) **Potential uses** Cut stone, decorative aggregate

**Description** The extent of the pink granite in this area is not known since the area

surrounding the outcrop is covered by a thin layer of sand and

sagebrush. No joints were observed in the outcrop.



Number 26

Name Morton Pass pink granite

Location W1/2 sec. 18 and W1/2 sec. 19, T20N, R72W

County Albany

Land status Private surface, with a mixture of private and Federal minerals

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

**Description** This unique pink granitic rock crops out in a north-south trending belt

and underlies about 600 acres. The joint spacing is about 4 feet x 4 feet,

but may increase with depth.



Number 27

Name Rawlins pink granite

Location W1/2 sec. 19, T21N, R87W

County Carbon

**Land status** Federal surface and minerals (BLM)

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

**Description** Two phases of granite are found in this area. This pink phase is north of

the red phase (see stone no. 33). Joint spacings are 3 feet apart at the

surface and may increase at depth.



Number 2

Name Pathfinder pink granite

Location NW sec. 31, T29N, R83W

County Natrona

Land status Federal surface and minerals (BLM)

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

**Description** Large amounts of pink granite

Large amounts of pink granite are present in this area and elsewhere in

the vicinity. Joint spacings vary from 2 to over 20 feet. Locally, blocks

measuring 4 feet x 4 feet x 8 feet may be quarried.



Name Split Rock brown granite

Location SE sec. 25, T29N, R90W and SW sec. 30, T29N, R89W

County Fremont and Natrona

**Land status** Federal surface and minerals (BLM) **Potential uses** Cut stone, decorative aggregate

**Description** This brown quartz-rich rock weathers to a pinkish gray and is not

distinctive at the surface. The sample was taken adjacent to the Split Rock U.S. BLM interpretive center and picnic area. The joint spacings

are 5 feet or greater.



Number 30

Name Red Mountain red granite

Location S1/2 sec. 25 and N1/2 sec. 36, T22N, R71W

County Albany

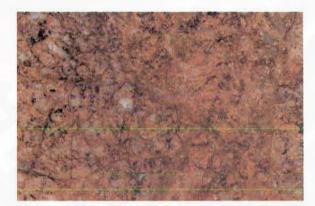
Land status Private in sec. 25, and State surface and minerals in sec. 36

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description This granite gives Red Mountain its name. It is present in large

amounts. The joint spacings may allow the production of 4-foot x 4-foot

x 8-foot quarried blocks.



Number 3

Name Haystack Hills red granite
Location N1/2 sec. 22, T26N, R65W

County Goshen

Land status Private surface and minerals (Jim Hageman)

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

**Description** This red granite is located at the

This red granite is located at the south end of the Haystack Hills about 3.5 miles north of U.S. Highway 26. Large amounts of the rock are present. Joint spacings are as great as 20 feet in each direction.

Number 3

Name Baldy Mountain red granite

Location Sec. 8, and N1/2 sec. 17, T18N, R72W

County Albany

Land status Private surface (Farthing Ranch) and Federal minerals in sec. 8, and

private (Union Pacific) in sec. 17

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

**Description** This rock is a syenite of

This rock is a syenite characterized by orange-red labradorite feldspar grains, some of which exhibit an orange-red shiller effect in certain orientations of light. No joints are observable in outcrop, which is relatively poor in this area. The red rock is interlayered with sills of the Shanton blue anorthosite (stone no. 44); both could be produced from

one quarry at this location.





Name Rawlins red granite

Location W1/2 sec. 19, T21N, R87W and NE sec. 13, T21N, R88W

County

Land status Federal surface and minerals (BLM) Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

This dark red granite crops out in the hills and canyons west of the town

of Rawlins. Joint spacings at the surface range from 2 to 5 feet. This red

phase is found south of the pink phase (stone no. 27).



Number 34 Name

Bald Butte red granite

Location

SE sec. 31, T31N, R63W

County

Niobrara

Land status Private surface and minerals (Don Cundall Ranch); Federal minerals,

north side of butte Potential uses

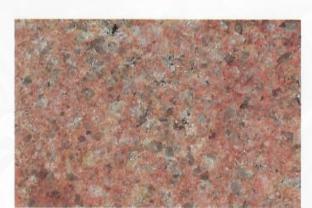
Decorative aggregate, cut stone

Description

Vertical joints of 8 to 15 feet are present; locally the joints are closer. The rock is a granite gneiss and varies laterally from red to black with small amounts of red. A large quarry at this site provided railroad ballast for

the Chicago Northwestern Railroad. A small quarry on the east face of the Butte was quarried for monument stone by the Jay Em Stone

Company of Jay Em.



Number 35

Khaun red granite Name

E1/2 sec. 13, T31N, R64W Location

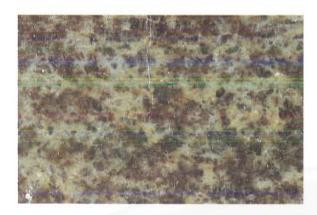
County Niobrara

Land status Private surface and minerals (Khaun property)

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

This mafic-poor red granitic rock underlies the large hill in this half section. Joint spacings are relatively close (between 2 and 4 feet).



Name Shanton blue granite

Location Secs. 8, 11, 14, 15, 16, and 17, T18N, R72W and adjacent areas

County

Private surface (Farthing Ranch) with a mixture of Federal and private Land status

minerals including Union Pacific minerals; sec. 16 is State surface and

Potential uses Description

Cut stone

This brownish gray syenite contains grains of gem-quality labradorite that shine bright dark blue in certain angles of light. It occurs in massive

layers and thin zones. Joint spacings in excess of 40 feet x 40 feet x 6 feet

are present in the area. Locally, the background color is black.



Number 37

Name

Two Bar blue-black granite

Location

SE SE sec. 7, T23N, R69W

County

Land status

Private surface (Two Bar Ranch) and Federal surface (BLM), Federal

minerals (BLM)

Potential uses Cut stone (small pieces)

Description

This unique kyanite-biotite gneiss crops out in a vertical band at the base

of granite cliffs near a major fault zone. The bed is about 20 feet wide at the surface. The rock is soft but takes a high polish. No joints were

noted, although the rock is easily split along foliation.



Number

Name

Subille Canyon black (green) granite

Location County Secs. 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, and 23, T20N, R72W

Land status

Private surface and minerals, with some State surface and minerals

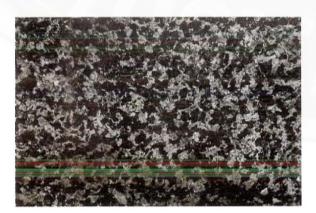
Potential uses

Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

This syenite is almost identical to Verde Ubatuba, a Brazilian stone processed in Italy. It underlies a large area adjacent to the Laramie anorthosite. Labradorite feldspar causes the gold and green shiller effect on polished surfaces. Joint spacings of 5 feet x 5 feet x 10 feet or greater

are present at the surface.



Number

Name

Lake Owen gray granite

Location

NE sec. 5, T13N, R78W and adjoining areas

County

Land status Potential uses Federal surface and minerals (Medicine Bow National Forest)

Description

This is the lighter phase of gabbro in the Lake Owen mafic complex. This rock is probably present beneath many square miles of forested land. No

exposures large enough to observe the joint spacing were seen.



Name Lake Owen blue-black granite

Location Sec. 29, T14N, R78W

County Albany

Land status Federal surface and minerals (Medicine Bow National Forest)

Potential uses Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description This distinctive blue-black gabbro underlies several square miles. It is a

phase of the Lake Owen mafic complex. Several outcrops of this rock

contain joint spacings in excess of 20 feet.



Number

Rock Mountain black granite

Name Location

SE SE sec. 27, T28N, R71W

County

Federal surface and minerals (Medicine Bow National Forest) and State

surface and minerals

Potential uses

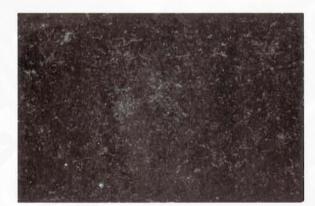
Land status

Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

This black amphibolite is adjacent to the Rock Mountain brown granite

(stone no. 34) and could be produced from the same quarry operation.



Number

Name Tunnel Road black granite (amphibolite)

Location

SE SE sec. 16, T24N, R72W

Albanu

County

Land status

State surface and minerals

Potential uses Description Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Several outcrops of black amphibolite are present in this area. At the location specified, the joint spacing in the rock is about 3 feet x 3 feet x 6 feet. In other locations, joints are more closely spaced. About 1.5 miles northwest, Sunrise Stone is quarrying a similar black amphibolite and

producing 4-foot x 4-foot x 8-foot blocks.



Number Name

Two Bar black granite (amphibolite)

Location

Secs. 24, 27, 28, 33, and 34, T23N, R70W

County

Land status

Private surface and minerals (Two Bar Ranch) with Federal minerals in

some locations

Potential uses

Cut stone, decorative aggregate

Description

Numerous amphibolite bodies are discontinuously exposed in this area. Most of these are black with a few light inclusions. Some amphibolites

are layered and may qualify as flagstone.



Sunrise purple quartzite Name

SE sec. 6, T27N, R65W Location

County

Private surface and minerals (CF&I Steel Corporation) Land status Potential uses

Cut stone, building stone Description

The Hartville Formation basal quartzite can be quarried and polished to produce the rock shown. Large amounts of this rock are present in the

Hartville uplift.



Number

Name Bicentennial Monument quartzite

Location Secs. 5 and 8, T27N, R65W

County Platte

Land status

Private surface and minerals (CF&I Steel Corporation)

Potential uses Cut stone, building stone

Description

This rock is so named because a block of it was sent to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in September, 1987, for inclusion as the stone from Wyoming in the Monument to the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Large amounts of this stone are present in the area and to the north, and

there are large areas with little or no overburden. The quartzite is the

basal unit of the Pennsylvanian Hartville Formation.



Number

46

Name Sunrise red quartzite

Location

SE sec. 6, T27N, R65W

County

Land status

Private surface and minerals (CF&I Steel Corporation)

Potential uses Cut stone, building stone, ashlar

This is the most common appearance of the Hartville Formation basal Description

quartzite when cut and polished. Large amounts of this stone are present

in the Hartville uplift.



Number Name

Red and white quartzite (candy rock)

Location

SW sec. 1, T29N, R65W

County

Goshen

Land status

Private surface, Federal minerals (BLM)

Potential uses Cut stone, building stone, ashlar

Description

This red and gray banded rock was named "candy rock" by the Jay Em Stone Company of Jay Em, Wyoming. A few tons of this rock were quarried in the early 1900s. The rock pictured is honed but not polished.

This rock is the basal sandstone of the Hartville Formation.



Name Squaw Mountain green quartzite

Location County

SE sec. 36, T23N, R71W Albany

Land status

State surface and minerals

Potential uses Description Decorative aggregate, flagstone, cut stone

This green fuchsite gneiss occurs in thin layers and cannot be quarried in blocks. The bright green color is due to fuchsite, a chromium mica. The rock occurs in a vertical band 10 to 15 feet wide, that trends northeastsouthwest for a distance of 0.3 miles. It has been used locally as

decorative stone facing.



Number

Name Snowy Range green quartzite

Location

N1/2 sec. 8 and NW sec. 9, T16N, R79W

County

Albany

Land status

Federal surface and minerals (Medicine Bow National Forest); subject to

off-road travel restrictions (December, 1990)

Potential uses

Decorative aggregate, cut stone, jewelry

Description Vertical joints are one to two feet apart. No horizontal joints were noted.

Gem quality rock of this color is called aventurine and is used in jewelry and similar products. This distinctive green rock was quarried in the

1950s and 1960s, primarily for decorative aggregate.



Number

50

Name Wildcat Canyon white quartz

Location

NW NE sec. 14, T29N, R65W Goshen

County

Private surface (Frederick Ranch), Federal minerals

Land status Potential uses

Decorative aggregate, cut stone

Description

This white quartz occurs in a circular outcrop 30 feet in diameter with a

smaller circular body 15 feet in diameter nearby.



Number Name

Bonneville purple quartzite

Location County Sec. 28, T40N, R93W Fremont

Land status

Federal surface and minerals (BLM)

Potential uses

Cut stone (small pieces), decorative aggregate

Description

This purple lepidolite quartzite takes a high polish. It is present in pods associated with quartz-feldspar pegmatites. The rock has not been found in large amounts. The purple color is from the mineral lepidolite, a

lithium mica.



Name Two Bar salmon pink quartz

Location

Sec. 7 and N1/2 sec. 18, T23N, R69W

County

Land status

Private surface (Two Bar Ranch), with private and Federal minerals

Potential uses Decorative aggregate, cut stone

Description

Numerous quartz bodies intrude metamorphic rocks in this area. Some

of the quartz bodies crop out in an area measuring 20 x 50 feet. The usual color is white, but salmon pink zones (pictured) are common.



Number

Encampment rose quartz Name

Location

N 1/2 sec. 10 and S 1/2 sec. 3, T14N, R84W

County

Carbon

Land status Potential uses

Private surface with Federal minerals

Decorative aggregate, cut stone

Description

Two hills (in sec. 10 and sec. 3) are underlain by quartz rock.

Colors range from rose to white to gray-green. All phases exhibit banding. The amount of quartz is large; the amount of each of the colors is unknown. Quartz was produced from the southern body for highway aggregate. The rock is suitable for small pieces of

decorative stone and takes a high polish.



Number

54

Name Rawlins brown quartzite Location Sec. 17, T21N, R87W

County

Carbon

Land status Potential uses

Federal surface and minerals (BLM), locally private surface

Cut stone, building stone, ashlar

Description

This brown quartzite contains occasional grains of bright orange chert. It

is found in layers up to 4 feet thick. The quartzite is a part of the Cambrian Flathead Sandstone. The rock was quarried in the past for

building stone.



Number Name

Divide Peak light brown flagstone (slate)

Location

NE sec. 2, T14N, R86W

County Land status

Potential uses

Federal surface and minerals (Medicine Bow National Forest)

Flagstone, cut stone

Description

This light brown phyllite can be split into 1-inch to 0.5 inch-thick flagstone. It can also be cut into tile parallel with the foliation and will

take a high polish.





Hartville yellow onyx Name Location NE sec. 2, T27N, R66W

County Platte and Goshen

Land status

Private, State, and Federal (BLM) surface and minerals

Potential uses Cut stone

Description

White, brown, mixed brown and white, yellow, and green onyx (personal communication, Steve Calagieri, 1989) are found in the Hartville onux belt (T27N, R66W northeast to T30N, R65W). The onyx is found in replacement zones in limestones of the Permian-Pennsylvanian Hartville Formation. Some occurrences were quarried in the past by the Jay Em

Stone Company, Jay Em, Wyoming for monument stone.



Number

57

Hartville white onyx Name

NW sec. 1, T27N, R66W Location County

Platte and Goshen

Land status Private, State, and Federal (BLM) surface and minerals

Potential uses Cut stone

Description This rock is found in the Hartville onyx belt described in no. 56. Other

occurrences of white onyx are in NE sec. 2, T27N, R66W and sec. 15,

T27N, R66W.



Number

Hartville light brown onux Name Location NW sec. 2, T27N, R66W

County Platte and Goshen

Land status Private, State, and Federal (BLM) surface and minerals

Potential uses Cut stone

Description

This mixed brown and white onyx was quarried by Basins Engineering, of Wheatland, Wyoming. Some of this material was used in the terrazolike facing stone on the building on the northwest corner of 17th and Carey in Cheyenne. This rock is found in the Hartville onyx belt

described in no. 56.



Number

Name Hartville brown onyx (root beer) Location SW NE sec. 32, T29N, R65W

County Platte and Goshen

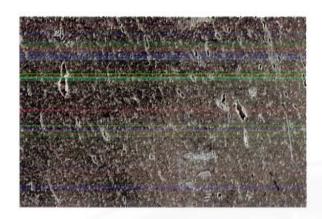
Land status Private, State, and Federal (BLM) surface and minerals

Potential uses

Description

This brown onyx was quarried in the past by the Jay Em Stone Company, Jay Em, Wyoming for monument stone. The brown variety is the color of root beer and may make an unusual decorative rock. Another occurrence of brown onyx is found in SE sec. 22, T25N, R

66W. This rock is found in the Hartville onyx belt described in no. 56.



Name Zirkel Mesa gray basalt

Location Secs. 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, and 24, T21N, R102W

County Sweetwater

Land status Federal surface and minerals (BLM), State surface and minerals, and

private minerals (Union Pacific)

Potential uses Description Cut stone, building stone

Potassic lava flows in this area constitute a resource of grayish to brownish gray rock that could be quarried in large blocks and cut and polished into a wide variety of products. Vesicles (small cavities) in the

lava add interest to cut or cut and polished faces.



Number

61

Name GW brown-gray limestone Location NE sec. 34, T27N, R66W

County Platte

Land status Potential uses Description State surface (Wyoming National Guard) and minerals

Cut stone, building stone, ashlar

Limestone from this area was quarried by the Great Western Sugar Company in the early 1900s for use as sugar rock. The light brown color of this limestone is similar to the limestone currently being imported from France as tile. The color is uniform in this area, although locally white brachiopods (fossil shells) are present. Large amounts of this material are present and could be quarried in large blocks.





Name

Siliceous breccia (youngite)

SE sec. 28, T29N, R67W and sec. 36, T28N, R67W Location County

Land status Private surface and minerals in sec. 28, State surface and minerals in

sec. 36

Potential uses

Cut stone (small pieces-desk sets, tableware, etc.)

Description The color of the youngite in this area is dependent on the color of the

clasts. Pink (shown), yellow, black, and gray youngite are found in this area. The rock takes a high polish. The youngite is found in lens-shaped to irregularly shaped bodies in limestones and dolomitic limestones of the Permian-Pennsylvanian Hartville Formation. (About 1/2 actual size.)



Number 63

Chicago Mine breccia Name

NE sec. 5, T27N, R65W Location

County

Land status

Private surface and minerals (CF&I Steel Corporation)

Potential uses Cut stone (small pieces)

Description

This dark red and gray breccia is found in small areas above the iron ore

body at the Chicago open pit iron mine.



Number 64

Name

Porphyry (leopard rock)

Location

Sec. 6, T57N, R104W

County

Land status Federal surface and minerals (Shoshone National Forest)

Potential uses

Cut stone

Description This rock occurs in near-vertical dikes that cut Precambrian rocks. Small blocks might be quarried at this location. Other exposures of

nearly identical leopard rock dikes are present in the Bighorn National Forest in Sheridan County. The Sheridan County leopard rock was

quarried in the past in sec. 25, T56N, R89W.

#### **GLOSSARY**

Ashlar

rectangular pieces of stone of nonuniform size set randomly in a wall (Power, 1983).

**Building stone** 

all natural stone used for building construction, whether it is used for structural support, curtain walls, veneer, floor tile, or strictly ornamental purposes (Power, 1983).

Cut stone

building stone cut to precise dimensions on all sides. The surface may be textured or polished but is always finished to specifications (Power, 1983).

Decorative aggregate

uncut rock chosen for decorative purposes because of its appearance and physical properties.

Decorative stone

a stone used as architectural trimmings in columns, fireplaces, and store fronts (Thrush, 1968). This category includes any cut stone used for its appearance as well as for its strength and other physical properties.

Flagstone

thin slabs of stone used as paving (Power, 1983). Flagstone must have irregularities less than 0.5 inch in total height.

Granite

in stone terminology (used in this report) all feldspathic igneous rocks of visibly granular (crytalline) texture (Power, 1983). This includes rocks more formally defined as gabbro, basalt, anorthosite, monzonite, syenite, amphibolite, and others.

Landscape rock

decorative aggregate used in landscaping, such as for borders around plants or gardens, rock lawns, or similar purposes.

Limestone

in this report, a sedimentary rock containing calcium carbonate (calcite) or calcium-magnesium carbonate (dolomite), or any combination of these two carbonates, at least to the extent of 50% of the rock (Thrush, 1968).

Marble

in stone terminology (used in this report), any crystalline rock composed of calcite, dolomite, or serpentine that is capable of taking a polish (Power, 1983).

Monument stone

stone that is cut and polished for tombstones, historical location markers, or other similar monuments.

#### Quartzite

a quartz rock derived from sandstone, characterized by such thorough induration that it is essentially homogeneous and breaks with vitreous surfaces that transect original grains and matrix with approximately equal ease (Thrush, 1968).

cut stone with one dimension much thinner than the other two and one surface polished. Tile may be of any size or for any use (walls, floor tile, etc.).

Youngite an informal term for a breccia consisting of limestone or dolomite fragments cemented by translucent siliceous material, usually containing numerous cavities with drusy surfaces.

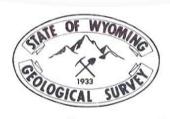
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