

THE HEART OF AN INDUSTRY

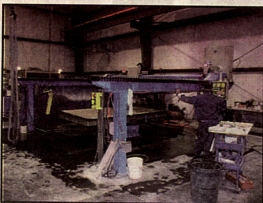
Staley Marble and Granite was founded in 1972 by Fred Staley, Senior. Today the company is thriving under the leadership of Brian Staley. When Fred Senior began the company in the Marble Dale Community (Knox County, TN) some 34 years ago he probably never imagined the company would one day provide jobs for his four sons, Fred, Jr., Richard, Brian, and Jeff. Today the company is enjoying success and providing jobs for more than 40 employees. During the early years work was done with the generous use of manual labor, wrestling slabs out with saw tables under a steel building with few side walls to break the wind and cold. It was a hardy crew working hard in an industry still struggling to find its way. There were cycles of extremely good times followed closely by horribly tough times when residential or commercial jobs were difficult to obtain. These were the "boom to bust" cycles of the stone industry in the 70's and 80's.

In those early days the company operated exclusively on commercial projects primarily in the Atlanta, Florida and Washington, DC markets. Fred Senior retired in 1993 passing the torch to Brian, next to the youngest. At this time the three other brothers were pursuing other opportunities. As CEO with responsibility for the success and growth of the

company Brian found a way to bring the three brothers back together. Each one with a different educational background made it a perfect fit, with Fred taking care of any operational duties from legal to accounting matters; Richard headed the commercial division and Jeff the residential. Once the four reunited it was obvious the growth was going to warrant a larger and updated facility. So they engineered relocation to new facilities in May of 2003. The plant layout involved the experience and expertise of all the brothers and employees of the company. At the south end of the shop is a custom designed enclosed area where flat bed trailers of stone can be positioned with the trailer bed matching the height of the work floor of the shop. From there it requires little time and effort to step onto the

truck to hook slabs or pallets to the overhead crane which can travel the entire length of the shop and warehouse storage area. This area also is used to load fabricated projects onto trucks that will transport the materials to the jobsite for installation. The slab holding area presently contains over 15,000 square feet and over 100 colors of marble, granite, quartz, limestone and slate. In 1994 the company expanded their focus to include high end residential work. Today the project mix is about equally divided between commercial and residential and they have recently added a Commercial and Residential Tile Division. The company distributes product manufactured by American Olean, Dal-Tile, and Florida Tile.

The company is involved with furnishing and installing cladding for the Electric Power Board's eight story office complex and garage located in Chattanooga, Tennessee. In the Knoxville, Tennessee market Staley



Marble & Granite has provided and installed stone for the new Thompson-Neyland Sports Facility, Knoxville Convention Center, Park West Hospital, and major renovation work of the Knoxville Utilities Board (Millers Building), First Tennessee Plaza and Sevier County

Bank.

Brian has led his company into state of the art facilities with quality production machinery including updated sawing and CNC milling machinery manufactured in Italy and distributed by Vic International Corporation. The new facility has nearby plant air available at every work station. The company has addressed the readily available but expensive use of water by installing a

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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- January 11 - 14, 2006
International Builders' Show 2006
Orlando Convention Center
Orlando, FL 32801
Phone: 800-258-6242 Ext. 111
Fax: 407-293-6400
Website: www.buildershow.com
E-mail: buildershow@nada.com
- February 1 - 3, 2006
Surface
Sands Expo and Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV
Phone: 1-855-547-2477
Fax: 702-735-4491
Website: www.SurfaceExpo.com
- February 14-17, 2006
Viera 2006 Stone Expo
Expo Center, Viera, FL
E-mail: info@vieraexpo.com
- March 1 - 3, 2006
6th China National International Stone Fair
Kunming International Conference & Exhibition Center, China
Phone: 86-871-5959161
E-mail: info@chinafair.org.cn
- March 15 - 18, 2006
Surface Fabrication & Design Expo
Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV
Phone: 800-817-8309
E-mail: info@stoneexpo.com
- May 24 - 26, 2006
International Tile & Stone Show (ITSS)
Miami Beach Convention Center
Miami Beach, FL 3358
Phone: (800) 564-5375
Website: www.issanet.com
E-mail: info@issanet.com
- Apr 04, 2006 - Apr 07, 2006
GreenSource 2006
North/South Corridor of the Orange County Convention
Orlando, FL USA
Phone: 800-258-6242
Fax: (702) 835-4491
Website: www.greensource.com
E-mail: info@greensource.com
- Apr 21, 2006 - Apr 23, 2006
The National Kitchen & Bath Show (NKBS)
McCormick Place
Chicago, IL
Phone: (800) 843-8522
Website: www.nkba.com or www.nkba.com
- May 10 - 12, 2006
Pavers
Mader Sports National Stone Show
Website: www.pavers.com
- May 31 - June 2, 2006
Gemma MARBOTT
28TH Int'l Fair for Marble Machinery & Services
Canada, 1997
Website: www.gemma-marbot.com
- Jun 05, 2006 - Jun 07, 2006
American Institute of Architectural Stonemasonry
Los Angeles Convention Center
Los Angeles, CA USA
Phone: (888) 243-1624
E-mail: astm2006@aicm.com
- June 15 - 17, 2006
International Tile & Stone Show (ITSS)
Rio De Janeiro Convention Center
Rio De Janeiro, Brazil
Phone: 800 564-5375
Website: www.issanet.com
E-mail: info@issanet.com
- October 18 - 21, 2006
WorldExpo 2006
Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, NV
Phone: (702) 735-4491
Website: www.StoneExpo.com



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LATICRETE DONATES MURAL MATERIALS FOR CISNEROS FONTANALS FOUNDATION

LATICRETE® International, Inc., a global leader in the manufacturing of ceramic tile and stone installation systems, once again collaborated with world-class glass tile manufacturer Bisazza for a charitable cause. Together, Bisazza and LATICRETE generously donated materials to create a 4,800 sq. ft. mural for the Cisneros Fontanals Foundation in Miami, Florida.

Ella Fontanals created the Cisneros Fontanals Foundation in 2002 with an objective of providing support for the Miami Art Center's many local activities. As a non-profit organization, the foundation is dedicated to support emerging talent within the community, with a strong emphasis on contemporary artists who are of Latin American and Hispanic descent.

Products from both Bisazza and LATICRETE were used to install the mosaic mural that is located

just outside of the foundation's headquarters in downtown Miami. Bisazza is known for designing its specialty mosaics featuring 24-carat gold and traditional vitreous glass finishes – all of which are hand cut. Within this particular mural, a garden scene was depicted using these mosaics, with bamboo, grassy vines and colorful foliage as part of the overall image.

Incorporating an assortment of different tile colors from its numerous series, Bisazza creatively formatted the mural and positioned each individual piece in a way that made the mural, in some ways, look like puzzles inside of puzzles. For a project like this, which used state-of-the-art exquisite mosaic tiles, Bisazza's materials needed the expertise of LATICRETE installation systems to ensure the project was installed at optimal levels.

"LATICRETE has a long stand-

ing relationship with Bisazza that has always resulted in great success," said Arthur Mintie, Technical Services Supervisor for LATICRETE. "We're delighted to work with them once again for this project."

LATICRETE provided its wide palette of grout colors for the designers of the mural to choose from, including: LATICRETE 272 Floor N' Wall Thin Set Mortar (white), LATICRETE 101 Rapid Latex Mortar Admix, SpectraLOCK™ Pro Liquids, # 1288 Silver Shadow Unit Part C, and # 1288 Silver Shadow SpectraLOCK Pro .

For the Bisazza mural, Mintie recommended SpectraLOCK Pro because it provides all of the benefits of traditional epoxy grouts, yet has a longer working time. Furthermore, it also has improved stain and chemical resistance without discoloration or cracking.

LATICRETE 101 Rapid Latex

Mortar Admix was also chosen for the mosaic mural. Mintie noted that when this product is mixed with LATICRETE thin-set mortars, such as the LATICRETE 272 Floor N' Wall Thin Set Mortar that was also donated, the mixture offers high strength, quick setting properties, ensuring a faster installation time for the Bisazza mural.

With all of the needed materials from LATICRETE and the mosaic tile granted by Bisazza, a completed mural was presented to the Cisneros Fontanals Foundation. Both Bisazza and LATICRETE were pleased to contribute.

"Through visual and performing arts, the Cisneros Fontanals Foundation fosters a cultural exchange within the artistic community in Miami," concluded Mintie. "We at LATICRETE feel honored to be a part of that."