

The Quarry Stonecutter



Don't Take it for "Granite"

Begin with the panels in the History area, in front of the Jasper Center. Point out the rough Quartzite stones in the crates, the Quartzite gravel, and the Quartzite tinted pavement in the parking lot. Living in Sioux Falls, or East Sioux Falls, it's hard not to take

Granite for granted!



This quote expresses the extreme passion these settlers had for their product.



Map of the park and grounds.

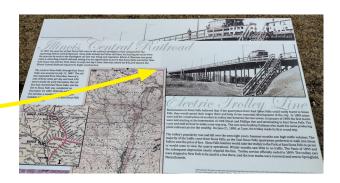
Nice framework for your visit!



Original Trolley, more info on this nearer the shelter on the hill.



Gather at the STONECUTTER PANEL to begin the Stonecutter story. While this story is fictional, it is based on many real experiences. Get into character and become this stonecutter to tell this story. Interweave the history panel information as you walk along the sidewalk going in and out of character, if you like. Continue across Perry street to the shelter, stopping at the info points. (You may want to skip the one telling about a stonecutter's entertainments.)



"My name is John. I lived in the 1880's when we used to have a mining quarry right here in East Sioux Falls.

My wife Sarah-is the school teacher and my daughter, Rachel, well, she is a pioneer girl.



Who knows what a quarry is?

What do they do at a quarry?

A quarry is a place from which stone is taken out of.

Take some time to look at the different types of quartzite and its uses, and read the stories on the remaining panels near you.

"Well, I had the job of working at the East Sioux Falls Quarry as a Stonecutter.

Does anyone know what a stonecutter does?

I was the person who took the stone out and cut it into smaller stones. You can see the tools I used on another panel further on.

Well in this area, right here, there used to be a quarry. There was a kind of rock called quartzite. This rock was being used for making streets and street car lines in places like Chicago. We supplied stone for paving and building in cities throughout the midwest.

It was a very successful quarry. The demand for our pavers and curb

sections was high. Eventually though, cities found cheaper ways to pave streets, using things like asphalt and concrete, this brought our paver production to an end.

You can still see quartzite stone today. It is used for foundations in many older homes in Sioux Falls as well as on the face of many downtown buildings.

Today quartzite stone is used not only for decorations, but also for industrial uses. It is a very hard and durable stone, making it able to handle high heat, pressure, and chemicals. Today some of the items that are processed with quartzite include fertilizers, paint pigments, and pottery materials.

My job as a quarry worker was a very hard job. I worked long hours. My job was cutting and moving these stones. I usually work 10 hours a day, six days a week. I would get paid 2 cents per paving block cut.

Walk across Perry Place on the sidewalk reading the panels on the way. Gather by the granite boulder that shows the Stonecutter's Tools.



"These are some of the tools that I used to do my job. This metal tool is a **CHISEL**. It has a cutting edge at one end that can be forced into the stone with a **HAMMER**. The hammer that I used had a metal head and a wooden handle

We also used **PLUGS & FEATHERS**.