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70 Victoria Street S.W.1

Telephone VICTORIA 6018/9

# STONE

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## Monumental uses of stone

WHEREVER a structure is raised to commemorate an historic event, or to perpetuate the family memory of individuals, the public memory of civic dignitaries and those who served their country, stone is almost always chosen as the most fitting material. It is, indeed, a natural choice, for its gracious texture gives appropriate dignity, while its unequalled durability as a building material is itself a symbol of agelessness and integrity.

entire work of construction of the map was carried out by the sculptor, Mr. David Kindersley.

Typical of many other striking uses of stone are the memorial at Bayeux; the memorial to fishermen at Lowestoft; the R.A.F. Pavilion at Brookwood Cemetery; and the R.A.F. memorial at Runnymede.

The statue of King George VI unveiled by the Queen last October stands on a six-ton pedestal of Portland stone, and the paved surround of the



MERCHANT NAVY MEMORIAL, TOWER HILL (PORTLAND STONE)

Among recent monuments built of stone is that on Tower Hill, dedicated to the men of the Merchant Navy who lost their lives in the last war, and the American Memorial at Madingley, near Cambridge. In the memorial on Tower Hill—constructed by the Imperial War Graves Commission to the design of Sir Edward Maufe, R.A.—more than 4,000 cu. ft. of stone was used.

The fine, tall chapel in the American cemetery at Madingley is built of Portland stone, of which 20,000 cu. ft. were supplied for this and the memorial wall. Of outstanding interest is the map—36 ft. by 22 ft.—fixed on the inside wall of the chapel and depicting the Battle of the Atlantic and the air assault on Europe. Constructed entirely of stone and marble, the map has models of aircraft and ships arrayed across it, and names of towns are incised into the stone. The



CHAPEL OF THE AMERICAN CEMETERY, MADINGLEY



WALL OF THE AMERICAN CEMETERY CHAPEL, DESIGNED BY DAVID KINDERSLEY

same stone is inlaid with Cornish granite.

Another way in which stone is widely used to enhance the dignity of public buildings is in wall plaques, and sculpture, a good example of which are the four portrait busts—in the form of hood moulding terminals—at the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

In order to preserve them for posterity, work has already started on full-size statues of the Queen's Beasts that are to stand along the terrace in front of the palm house at Kew Gardens. They are to be in Portland stone.

Not only by reason of its texture, colour, and durability is stone the outstanding material for monumental work, but also because it is a material ideal for the cutting of fine and delicate inscriptions.



R.A.F. PAVILION AT BROOKWOOD CEMETERY (PORTLAND STONE)

