ROSTONE

A COLORFUL SYNTHETIC STONE
OF ENTIRELY NEW CHEMICAL COMPOSITION
ROOF DECK OF
A HOUSE OF ROSTONE

The walls of this World's Fair Model House are of standardized Rostone Slabs in cream buff in a softly roughened texture. Coping and Molding Slabs are red-brown Rostone, smooth polished. Roof Slabs forming the paved deck are of red and brown Rostone.

This shows a most interesting color treatment. The Rostone Mitered Slab has a grey surface and rose colored body. The design detail is sand-blasted deep enough to reveal the rose underbody, thus giving a beautiful two-color effect in the solid stone.

The illustration at the right shows soft grey Rostone interior walls with red-brown tiles— all in the form of standardized pre-molded slabs. The floors are also of Rostone, in shades of brown, red and grey-black. Stair treads are single red-brown slabs.

ROOSTONE SLABS AND MOLDED PRODUCTS are produced with unusual accuracy of dimension and trueness of form. The large light colored slab shown here is 48 x 17 inches x 2 inches thick with lapped edges and contain threaded metal thimbles cast accurately into the stone for bolting slabs to steel studs. Other pieces are floor slabs and two intricately molded structural shapes.

ROSTONE, INC., " LAFAYETTE, INDIANA
TONE... a new processed stone of exceptional architectural possibilities... with a wide range of permanent colors... fully attested as to practical qualities and produced with marked economy in slabs and efficient molded shapes

The brochure introduces a new building material which will be welcomed eagerly for its appearance and structural desirability. Rostone presents an entirely new approach to the formation of synthetic stone products. There is no cement used. There is no aggregate and binder in the ordinary sense of the word. The process is one which was worked out through a prolonged laboratory study of the action which takes place in nature—both chemically and physically. Consequently, Rostone is closely similar in all essentials to high-grade natural building stone, with the same advantages in strength, permanence, hardness and chemical stability, but with new and more varied colors, unusual versatility in form and a substantial reduction in cost.

METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

The Rostone process, like the natural process is one of surprising simplicity. The first raw material is shale, such as is found in plentiful deposits throughout the United States. This shale, in pulverized form, is mixed with a small proportion of alkaline earths and a large percentage of quarry waste. In a slightly moist state the materials are molded in polished steel forms under a pressure of 2500 pounds per square inch. The product is then removed from the mold and “cooked” for two hours under moist heat—and the process is complete. There is no high-temperature treatment, no curing or seasoning period. The chemical action that has taken place is a “speeded up” repetition of nature’s way of stone-making and only the shale and alkaline earths are affected—the limestone or other quartz waste being introduced simply as an act of filler.

COLOR AND COLOUR EFFECTS

The color effects produced in Rostone are almost endless and from an architectural standpoint this is one of the most interesting features of the material. Pigments are introduced during the mixing process and as Rostone contains no active chemicals the colors are permanent—so has been shown through several years of severe exposure to weather and sunlight. The colors produced include grays, buffs, brownish reds, greens, blues and intermediate hues in almost endless variety and in degrees of intensity ranging from gray-white to black—a variety for exceeding that available in natural stones. Bleeding, shedding and staining or variegating are also possible. In some cases the color portion of the stone is made one color and the body another, so that a two-color effect is produced by carving or sandblasting. It is also possible to produce the effects of inlaid work with colors extending clear through the stone.

TEXTURE AND SURFACE

Rostone has a fine, even grain throughout the body of the material and is free from lamination, visible pores or other undesirable characteristics. The quarry waste is in the form of moderately small particles—up to about 1/4 inch diameter—and impart an interesting appearance. The natural molded surface is smooth and perfect and can be polished or moderately roughened as may be desired.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

The properties of Rostone have been determined both through laboratory tests and prolonged practical verification. Crushing strength runs from 8000 lbs. per sq. ft. to 20,000. Moisture absorption is approximately 9% and is accurately controlled within 5% to 12% limits. Weight, 130 lbs. per cubic foot. Tests for hardness, wear-resistance, toughness, freezing and thawing and fire resistance are all most satisfactory. Rostone is chemically inert, physically stable, does not exhibit efflorescence and weather handily. Bonds strongly with mortar. Cutting, carving, sandblasting and polishing are handled as with natural stone.

ROSTONE is made only in pre-molded products and it is characteristic of the material that the shapes so made are mathematically precise in dimension and trimness. The material is so close-grained that corners, edges and details of shape exhibit practically no irregularities as they come fresh from the mold. Further, the absence of any high-temperature treatment means that the products suffer no distortion or changes in measurement. The variety of shapes which can be made to commercial advantage is very large. Flat slabs, structural shapes, panels, rings, tiles, finely patterned decorative pieces and even vases have been produced and the limitations of either size or design are still not exhausted. In particular, Rostone lends itself to the fabrication of forms which can be used in building with a minimum of field erection labor—especially since metal reinforcement bars and attachment fittings can be cast into the stone with perfect accuracy.

The illustrations on the opposite page show a few of the applications of Rostone as a building material—and will suggest many others. The economy of Rostone begins with the material itself, for despite its beauty and high value it is surprisingly inexpensive to manufacture. Beyond this, however, is a greater saving through the molded shapes which can be produced, resulting in materially increased efficiency in building erection.

SAVINGS IN COST

For further information regarding the properties of Rostone or the commercial forms in which it can be obtained, write to

ROSTONE, INC., LAFAYETTE, INDIANA
A HOUSE OF ROSTONE
At A Century of Progress, Chicago
WALTER SCHOLER, ARCHITECT

The Rostone-and-Steel Construction shown in this Century of Progress Model House has attracted favorable attention because of the beauty of the material combined with the soundness of the structural principles developed. This new building method is advanced but not radical . . . makes use of extensive pre-fabrication but is flexible in plan and architectural design. It offers savings in erection costs but not at the expense of quality or permanence. The Rostone System can be used with either modern or traditional architecture, and is desirable for commercial and non-residential construction as well as for homes. Structural details and information will be supplied upon request to ROSTONE, INC., LAFAYETTE, INDIANA.