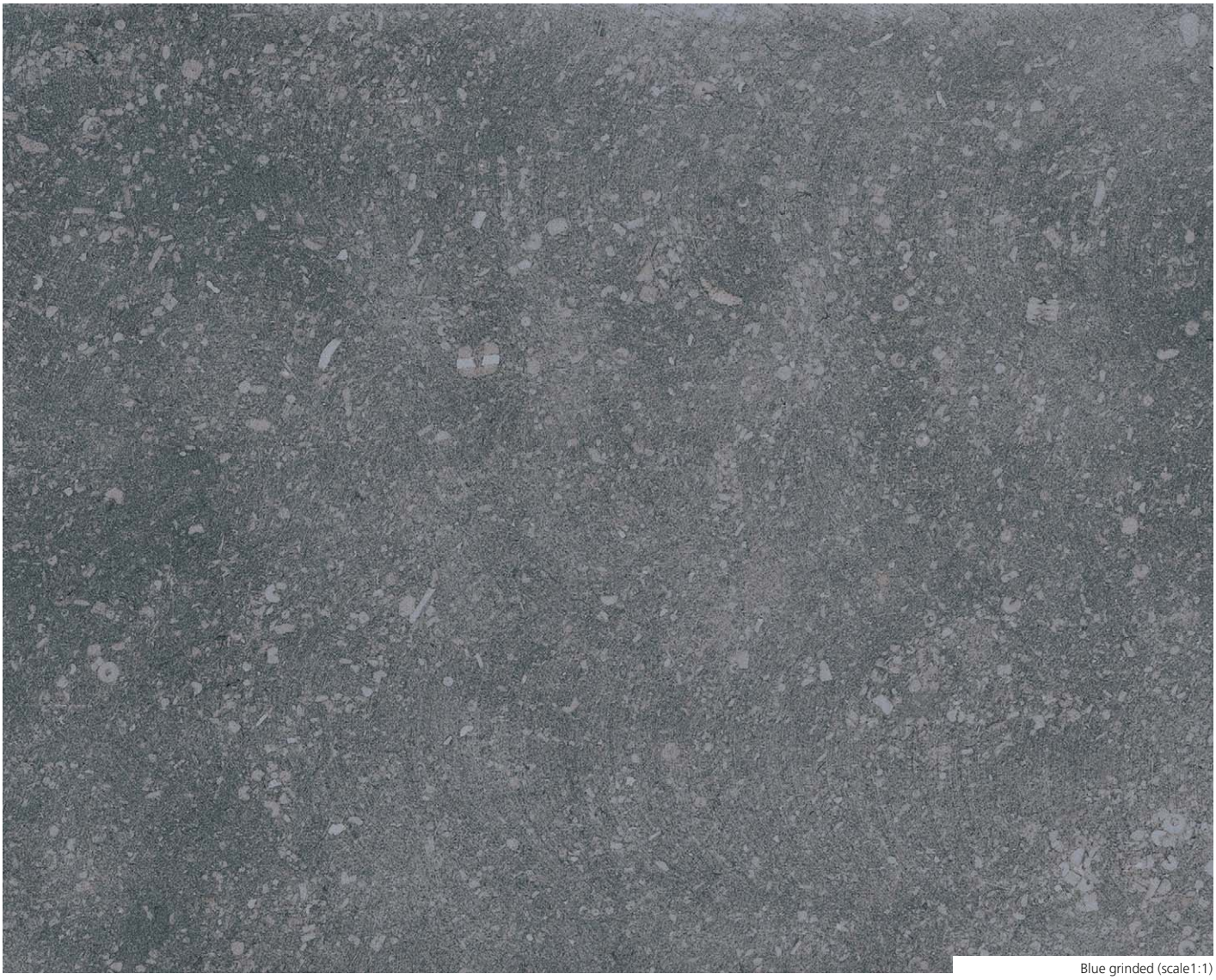
The Sprimont Quarries

PETIT GRANIT - BELGIAN BLUE LIMESTONE



Blue grinded (scale1:1)

Petit granit | Belgian blue limestone

ALSO KNOWN AS	TYPE	STRATIGRAPHICAL AGE
Blue stone, *Petit granit - Pierre bleue de Belgique®*	Crinoidal limestone	Upper Tournaisian (Lower Carboniferous, Palaeozoic)

LOCAL QUARRIES FOR A QUALITY SERVICE

It was the arrival of Mathieu Van Roggen, from Holland, which revitalized the CARRIÈRES DE SPRIMONT in about 1880. He returned them to full working order by streamlining the process of exploitation and by modernizing equipment and tools. The large power station, dating from 1904 and now a "Museum of Stone", is a remarkable testimony to his work. The concern was later managed by the Merbes-Sprimont group until the Brancaleoni family resumed control in 1984.

There are a number of sites currently in operation. The quality of their deposits has long been established and there are many prestigious examples to confirm this reputation, from the "Grand' Poste" at Liège and the bridge at Fragnée, which date from about 1900, to the new cable-stayed bridge at Val-Benoît, built in 2000.

The prime assets of the Sprimont entreprise are its considerable capacity for production and the flexibility of its management.

WORKING SITE

Carrière de Chanxhe - 4140 CHANXHE
Carrière du Coreux - 4140 SPRIMONT
Carrière du Rondia - 4140 SPRIMONT
Carrières d'Anthisnes - 4160 ANTHISNES

TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

MINERALOGICAL COMPOSITION

Calcite ± 96 %, traces of dolomite, quartz and pyrite

ATTRIBUTES / PERFORMANCE TECHNICAL APPROVAL

These data are available on www.pierresetmarbres.be and on the sites of the official bodies, they are measured according to the procedures of European standards in force and regularly updated.

MAXIMUM DIMENSIONS OF BLOCKS*

Length
4 m

Width
2 m

Thickness
1.5 m

MINIMUM THICKNESS FOR APPLICATION*

1 cm

* Values shown are for reference only.

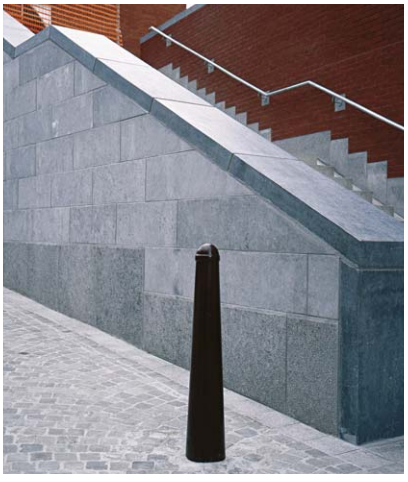
APPEARANCE, COLOUR AND PATINA

This stone is characterized by the presence of many fossil remains, cemented together by a microcrystalline gangue containing very finely divided carbon. When the stone is freshly broken, the fossils produce a sparkling effect through the action of the light on the facets. The crinoids, corals and shells stand out pale against a dark background, which varies from light grey to black, through a range of bluish shades, according to the finish. The stone becomes lighter with exposure to harsh weather conditions, through the surface washing of the interwoven carbon.

FINISHED PRODUCTS AND STANDARD DIMENSIONS

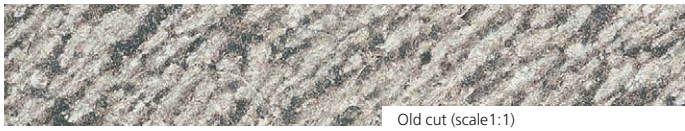
This stone is widely admired for the numerous cuts and finishes it can take, as well as for huge range of sizes it can be given. It may be applied in several different ways, both inside and out: plinths, façades, as rubble stones, wall coverings, exterior tiles and setts, borders, doorsteps, surrounds for bay windows, window sills, interior paving, stairs, covering for interior walls, skirting boards, worktops, covering for bridges, rockfill, street furniture, as well as all the applications for marblework, dressing and sculpture.

The surface areas of each element should ideally measure between 0.5 and 1 m^2. Their length should not exceed 1.5 m. For anything larger, it will be necessary to use specially adapted methods when applying the material and the distinctive visual characteristics inherent in all natural matter will have to be borne in mind.
Non-standard dimensions and advice on application and maintenance, can be obtained directly from the producer.



Liège

Flamed (scale1:1)



Old cut (scale1:1)

Mechanical chiseled (scale1:1)

Thick bush-hammered (scale1:1)

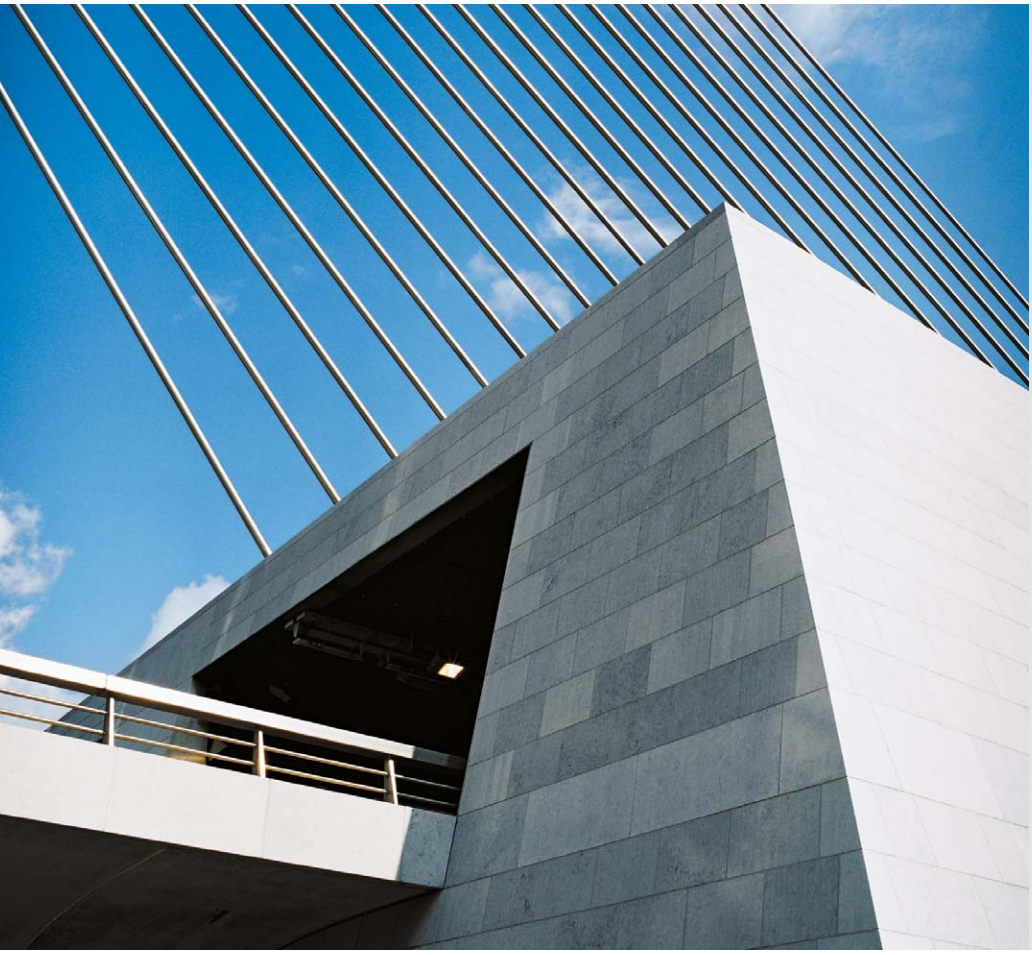
SURFACE TREATMENTS AVAILABLE

STANDARD CUTS		MINIMUM THICKNESS MEC.	MAN.	STANDARD THICKNESS AND SPECIFIC FEATURES
Split		5 cm	5 cm	8/10/15 cm
Bush-hammered	thick	5 cm	5 cm	manual 6 cm - 16/25 sawteeth mechanical 5 cm
	thin	3 cm	4 cm	manual 5 cm - 49 sawteeth mechanical 3 cm
Chiseled		3 cm	5 cm	5 cm - mechanical 15 strikes/dm manual 15/20/25 strikes/dm

STANDARD FINISHES		MINIMUM THICKNESS MEC.	MAN.	STANDARD THICKNESS AND SPECIFIC FEATURES
Sawn		2 cm	–	1/5 cm
Flamed		2 cm	–	3 cm
Grinded		2 cm	2 cm	5 cm
Honed	blue	2 cm	–	2 cm
	dark	1 cm	–	2 cm
Polished		1 cm	–	2 cm

DESCRIPTIVE SPECIFICATIONS

«Petit granit - Belgian blue limestone, crinoid limestone, grey-blue in tone, stratigraphic period Upper Tournaisian (Lower Carboniferous, Palaeozoic), belonging to the category [to specify] in accordance with the classification taking account of particular features regarding structure and appearance, as established in technical information note n° 220 of the C.S.T.C. (2002).
This stone comes from quarries holding the Technical Approval certified by the U.B.A.tc, which covers the entire deposit. The finish and appearance will match the samples presented to the individual carrying out the project in question; these three contractual samples will show the standard appearance and the two extremes of variation allowed within the market.
Equivalence: Any proposed product or finish differing from the description given above must undergo the equivalence procedure described in manual 100.2 published by the department of construction quality at the Ministry of Communications and Infrastructure, now the Federal Public Service for the Economy.»



Liège, The Val Benoît bridge, planning office R. Greisch, 1997-2000

SprimontBlue
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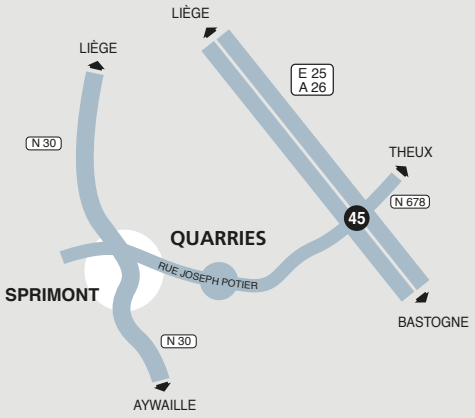

Brussels, 2002

Liège, arch. atelier du Sart Tilman, Claude Strebelle, 1999-2000

Sart Tilman, EVS offices, arch. Daniel Dethier & associés, 1999

Liège, Val Benoît bridge, planning office R. Greisch, 1997-2000

PIERRES & MARBRES WALLONIE

Belgian Blue limestone

Wallonie

Wallonia.be
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