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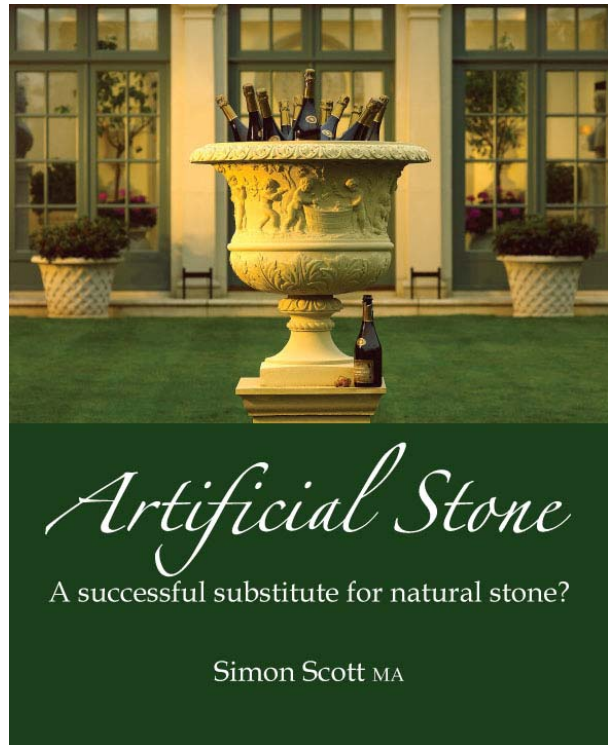
Artificial Stone: a successful substitute for natural stone?

ISBN: 978-0-9563891-0-7 120 pages 22 images RRP £15

This fascinating new book chronicles the history of artificial stone, from Coade to Haddonstone, whilst also exploring both historical and contemporary perceptions relating to this sometimes controversial material. Described by Dr Simon Richards of the University of Leicester as: “A very solid and enlightening piece of work ~ rich insightful and multi-faceted”, the book will prove essential reading for anyone with an interest in country houses and historic landscapes including conservation professionals.

Artificial stone has a long and illustrious history that intertwines with the great boom in classically inspired country house building from the eighteenth century onwards. There have been more imitations of stone than of any other natural building material. This persistent emulation has most consistently been for reasons of economy, availability and fashion – particularly where quarried stone is difficult, time-consuming and forbiddingly expensive to employ.

Comprehensively referenced, this volume provides a history of the most important manufacturers of artificial stone from the eighteenth century to the present day, mainly from the perspective of garden or landscape ornamentation. Chapter I identifies clay and cement-based manufacturing as the two principal methods for the creation of artificial stone. Chapter II reviews the principle manufacturers from the early-eighteenth century to the mid-nineteenth century, a period dominated by the Coade company. Chapter III examines the manufacturers who succeeded Coade from the mid nineteenth through to the early-twentieth century, focussing on Blashfield, Austin & Seeley, Doulton and Pulham. Chapter IV looks at the revival in artificial stone manufacturing from the Second World War to the present, principally through the works of Chilstone and Haddonstone. Chapter V explores both historical and contemporary perceptions of artificial stone over the last three hundred years, thereby identifying both changes and similarities in opinion relating to this sometimes controversial material ~ chronicling the debate that has run from the eighteenth century to the present as to the acceptability of artificial stone. This chapter contains important contributions from both English Heritage and the National Trust, including a review of current published documents and advice.



About the Author

By the same author: The Follies of Boughton Park, 1995

Simon Scott's work is based on his dissertation, submitted for an MA course at the University of Leicester, entitled: 'The Country House: Art, History and Literature' for which he was awarded a pass with distinction.

As a Director of Haddonstone Ltd, the author was allowed unrestricted access to the company's archives. The company also has an extensive library with volumes dating to the early-eighteenth century. The author's position at Haddonstone - where he has been responsible for the company's marketing, library and archives since 1989 - undoubtedly served to foster his genuine passion for the subject matter of this work. The author was responsible for the design of Haddonstone's two medal-winning Show Gardens at the world-famous Chelsea Flower Show.

The author is an Affiliate Member of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation, a member of the Historic Gardens Foundation and the Folly Fellowship and travels extensively to visit historically significant landscapes. He also initiated the campaign to list and preserve the historic Boughton Park landscape near Northampton which was threatened by both a bypass and quarrying.

This is the first book to be published by Haddonstone Ltd., world renowned for the manufacture of high quality landscape ornaments and architectural cast stone. Haddonstone has been used enhance country houses across the UK, from Mount Edgumbe in Cornwall to Aske Hall in Northumberland. A full colour 208 page catalogue is available.

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