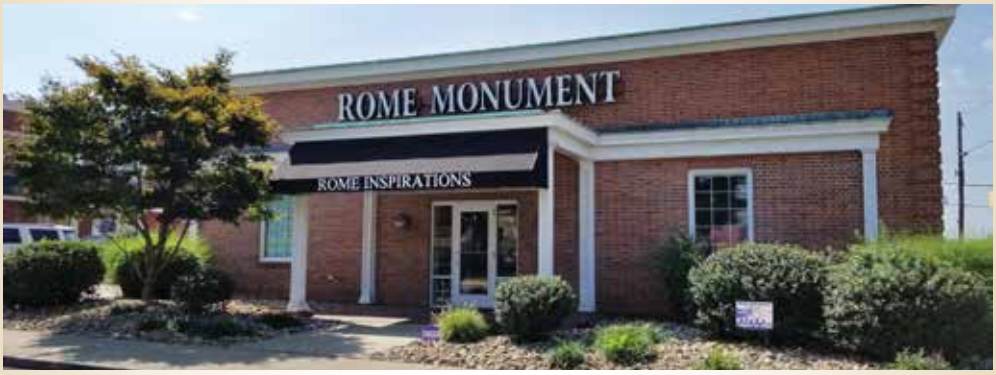
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

High Quality & Low Quality Mausoleum Construction



A quality-built mausoleum will last for centuries, even millenia. On the other hand, a mausoleum built with inferior design, materials, and craftsmanship may start to deteriorate in just a few years. Mausoleum construction is just like building a home – there is the right way to do it and there is the cheap way which cuts corners and sacrifices quality. At Rome Monument, we refuse to "value engineer" our mausoleums. Our granite is not imported nor are our mausoleums assembled in China or India. Rome Monument only builds mausoleums that are 100% granite from respected quarries here in North America.

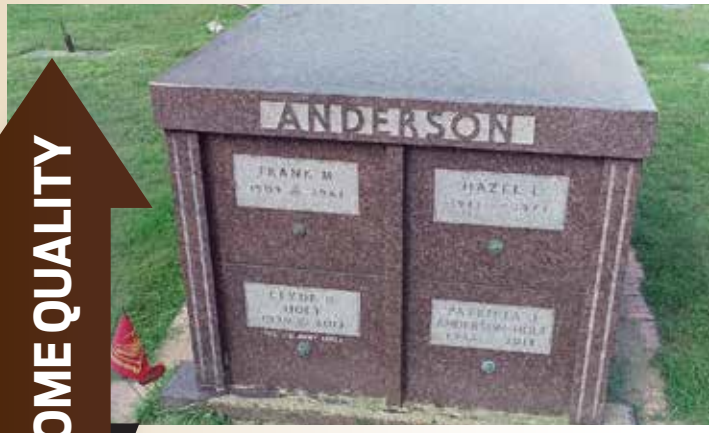
Rome Monument has produced four generations of monument builders since it was founded in 1934 by Michael Dioguardi, a skilled stone cutter from Rome, Italy. He was taught to do it the way it's been done for thousands of years – and even though technology has changed dramatically over the years, we still consider ourselves sculptors and still pride ourselves in our exquisite custom carved monuments.

If you want your mausoleum built to last for generations and generations, don't settle for less than the best. This brochure will show you some of the critical differences that you should be aware of when hiring a company to design and build your mausoleum.

Quality of the Granite

Construction of a mausoleum begins at the quarry, where granite is extracted from the earth and sent to mills to be cut and processed. High grade granite is ideal for use in the construction of mausoleums because of its strength, durability, and beauty.

ROME QUALITY



- From reputable quarries in U.S. & Canada
- Hard, strong, durable
- Non-porous – resists moisture
- Dampens vibrations
- Smooth, even surface – no cracks, pits, or bumps
- Beautiful – unique colors and vibrant patterns

LOW QUALITY

- From quarries with cheaper granite (China)
- Low quartz content – soft, less durable
- Porous – lets moisture in
- Uneven, cracked, pitted surfaces
- Appearance – uninteresting, dull

Quality of the Foundation

The foundation of a mausoleum provides a solid support for the base course and mausoleum structure. Without a good foundation, the mausoleum will absorb water and can shift with the ground, causing cracking and tilting.

ROME QUALITY

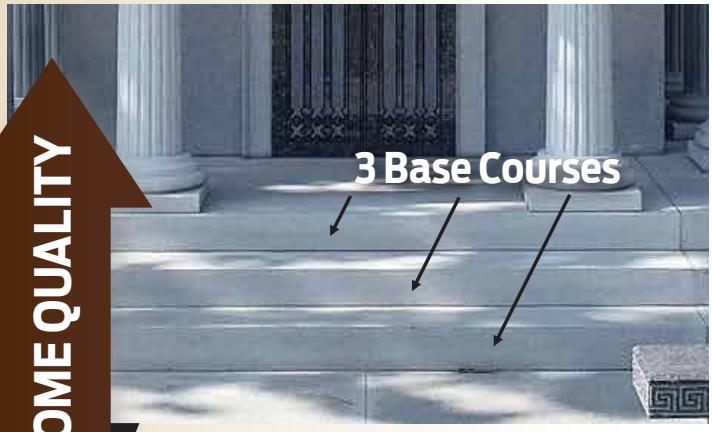
- Made with 100% high grade concrete
- Single layer, several feet deep
- Spread under entire footprint of mausoleum
- Prevents water from entering
- Prevents cracking and tilting of structure
- Wire mesh keeps concrete intact

LOW QUALITY

- Poor grade concrete – crumbles, deteriorates
- Multiple slabs and crushed stone
- Poor support, porous
- Foundation only around the bottom perimeter of the building
- Shifts with ground movement, causing cracking and tilting
- No wire mesh

Quality of the Base Course

The base course is a large slab of granite that rests on the concrete foundation, supporting the weight of the mausoleum and keeping it off the wet, unstable ground.



ROME QUALITY

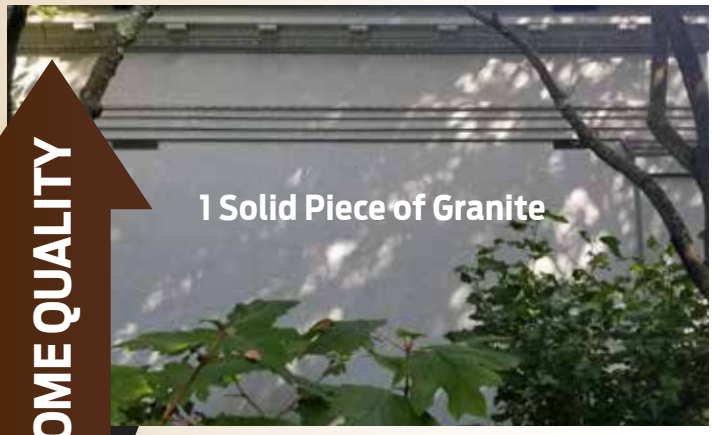
- Single slab of thick granite for strength and durability
- Prevents moisture from entering crypt
- Extends beyond the side walls to prevent contact with wet ground
- Multiple base courses for larger mausoleums provide more stability and less flood damage

LOW QUALITY

- Poor quality granite – crumbles, deteriorates
- Multiple slabs of granite used instead of one solid piece
- Concrete is used (weaker, porous)
- Granite veneer masks/hides the use of concrete
- Thin granite slabs can break
- Fake base course in front creates more joints
- Use only one base course when more are required, which creates joints at ground level

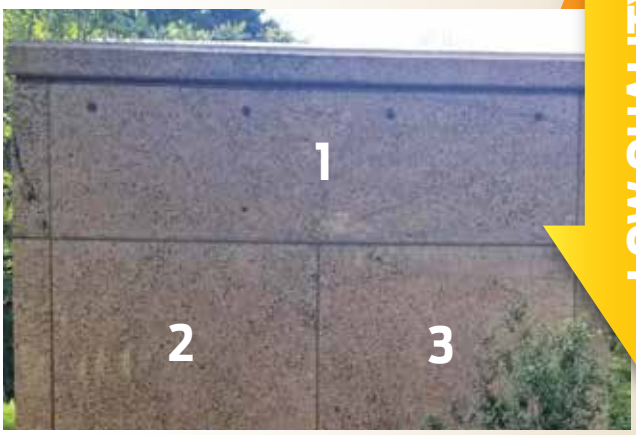
Quality of the Side Walls

The side walls of a mausoleum need to have the strength and integrity to support the whole structure and, at the same time, look beautiful. The thickness of the granite, quality of the granite, and number of joints needed are some of the factors that go into determining the mausoleum's durability and safety.



ROME QUALITY

- Up to 8" thick high grade granite for maximum strength
- Large slabs minimize number of joints which can weaken the structure
- Solid granite with no fillers—lasts longer, won't deteriorate
- Walls are off the ground – supported by base course – do not absorb moisture from ground



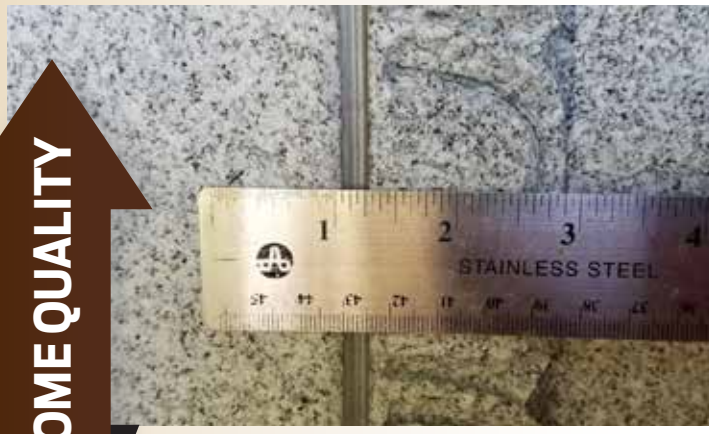
LOW QUALITY

- 4" or less thick granite
- Smaller slabs require more joints
- Poor quality granite – crumbles, deteriorates
- Porous, weaker concrete sometimes used instead of granite
- Walls come in contact with wet ground

Quality of the Joints

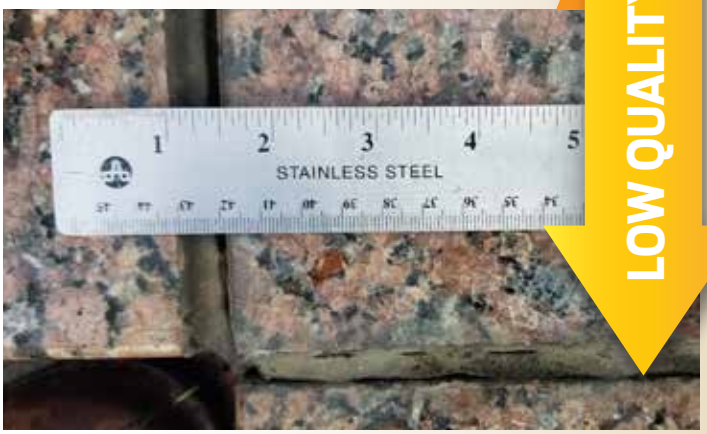
The slabs of granite on a mausoleum are separated by the joints. They keep water out and provide a cushion that prevents the granite from cracking. A good joint requires high quality adhesive and joint compound. The thinner the joint the better. With high quality joints, the mausoleum will stay dry and last a long, long time.

ROME QUALITY



- Smaller joint gaps – 1/8" or less
- Joints never touch the ground
- Won't absorb moisture or deteriorate
- High quality sealant
- Fewer joints required due to larger granite slabs

LOW QUALITY

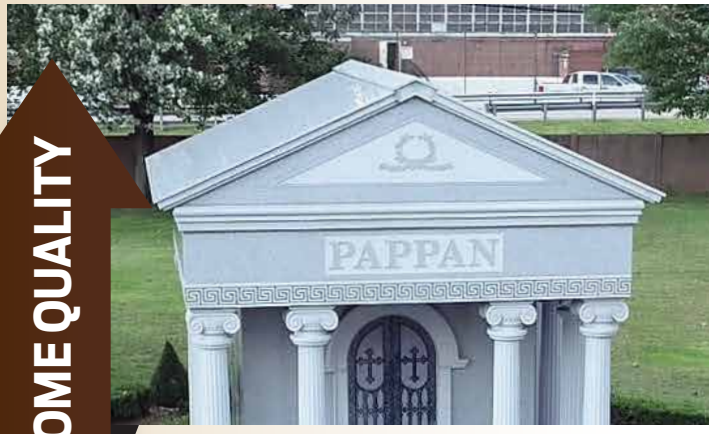


- 4" or less thick granite
- Smaller slabs require more joints
- Poor quality granite – crumbles, deteriorates
- Porous, weaker concrete sometimes used instead of granite

Quality of the Roof

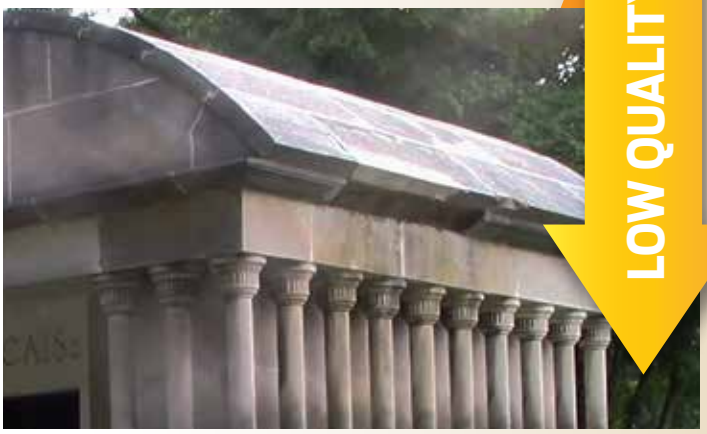
The roof of a mausoleum protects the crypt from the elements. The thickness of the granite, quality of the granite, number of joints needed, and ability to drain water are critical elements that factor into a mausoleum's longevity.

ROME QUALITY



- Up to 12" thick for maximum strength
- Large slabs require fewer joints
- Solid granite – no fillers – lasts longer – no deterioration
- Drainage System engineered into design

LOW QUALITY

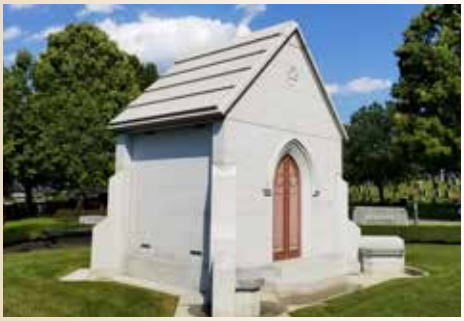


- 4" or less thick granite
- Smaller slabs require more joints
- Poor quality granite – crumbles, deteriorates
- Porous, weaker concrete sometimes used in place of granite
- Not properly designed for drainage

"Above & Beyond"

Mausoleum Construction Standards

We build every private family mausoleum in strict adherence with rigorous and meticulous mausoleum construction standards. This ensures that your personal mausoleum will remain a special place of remembrance for generations of family for years to come.



- Compliance with existing zone laws
- Follow cemetery rules and regulations
- Safe and permanent
- Quality construction, craftsmanship and reliability
- Engineering excellence
- Thorough site condition acceptability
- Competent architectural design and structural analysis
- First-rate granite and marble installation
- Design and construction for seismic load protection
- Resistant to hurricanes and storm damage
- Resistant to fire – use incombustible materials
- Plumbing work complies with provisions of the Uniform Plumbing Code
- Properly ventilated mausoleums and crypts
- Electrical work complies with the provisions of the National Electrical Code
- Adequate drainage
- Permanently secure and protected doors, windows, walls and crypts
- Proper selection of building materials
- Prevention of 'mausoleum odors' created by decomposing human remains
- Adequate crypt foundation plans
- Top-end mausoleum niche manufacturing and installation
- On-time and on-budget
- Surpassing performance requirements
- Qualified field supervision and management
- Timely delivery and installation of mausoleums
- Professional installation methodologies
- Quality control
- Adequate warranties
- Permitting process, inspection and third party vendor compliance
- Post construction support

How to Order a Quality Built Mausoleum from Rome Monument

If you are interested in ordering a custom designed mausoleum for one or more members of your family, please consider talking with

Vince Dioguardi of Rome Monument at 724-770-0100.

Vince will be happy to explain how the process of ordering works, how prices are determined, your design customization options, our mausoleum construction standards and the mausoleum setting and installation details. Please feel free to email Mr. Dioguardi at

info@romemonuments.com

ROME MONUMENT

America's Premier Private Family Mausoleum
Design and Construction Company