

The Modern Stonemason

What can be achieved with CNC engineering and waterjet cutting

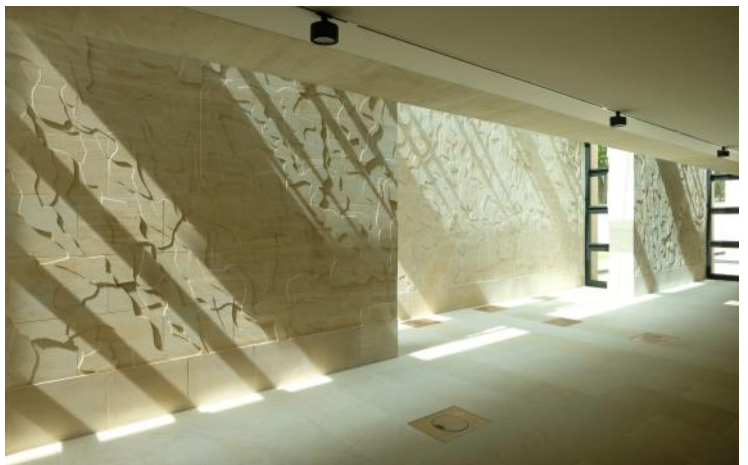
Natural stone is still a relevant material that can be used to create award-winning new architecture. The use of modern technology renders the process much less expensive and time-consuming than it once was and this is made easier still by the use of a stonemason based in the UK with all the advantages of language and proximity that that conveys.

The craft of stonemasonry has been around for millennia and natural stone is still quarried and fashioned into blocks or slabs in much the same sequence of events as before.

What has changed dramatically is the machinery used to fashion the stone. Hand skills such as polishing and carving are still used to finish the work where appropriate but now the bulk of the process is accomplished using CNC-equipped saws and waterjet cutting machines.

3D rendering

Architectural models or scans of existing objects can be used to generate surface files that are then sent to a CNC-equipped cutting machine which can be used to rough out and saw blocks, as well as shape, contour, engrave and polish them. This is very useful for the production of large monuments or replicating architectural details for restoration projects. The articles can then be finished by hand as necessary.



Susanna Heron's Stone Drawing, St John's College Oxford is Made of Carved Blocks of Clipsham Stone



Omag 5 Axis Machine for 3D Machining



Portland Stone Swag on Fenchurch St Restoration



Bespoke Fabrication

+44 (0)1256 850 380 | sales@stone-circle.com | www.stone-circle.com

Waterjet cutting

Waterjet cutting allows intricate patterns to be cut into stone to create inlaid work for surfaces such as walls and floors and to create pierced lattices and grills.

It can also be used for artworks such as the one on the left by Rhona Smith where bronze is cut on the waterjet cutting machine before being patinated and then inserted into routed Portland Stone.



*Rhona Smith's An Age, An Instant, New Burlington Mews
Waterjet Cut in Portland Stone and Patinated Bronze*

Vein matching

New technology allows slabs of stone to be scanned and viewed on a computer allowing them to be manipulated to make the best use of veining for the project, the resultant file is then sent to the machine for cutting.

It is also extremely useful for book matching slabs which are then either sawn or cut by waterjet.

stoneCIRCLE

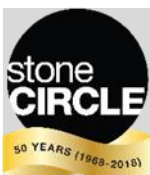
stoneCIRCLE has been fabricating stone since 1969 and has the largest stonemasonry factory in southern England. Contact them using the details below for specification advice.



*Nero Marquina, Venato Fantastico, Botticini Classico
Waterjet Cut Inlaid Marble Floor*



Crema Marfil Staircase and Book Matched Cipollino Crema Tirreno Marble Panels, Harrods



Bespoke Fabrication

+44 (0)1256 850 380 | sales@stone-circle.com | www.stone-circle.com