

New Uses Have Recently Been Found For Marianna Limestones

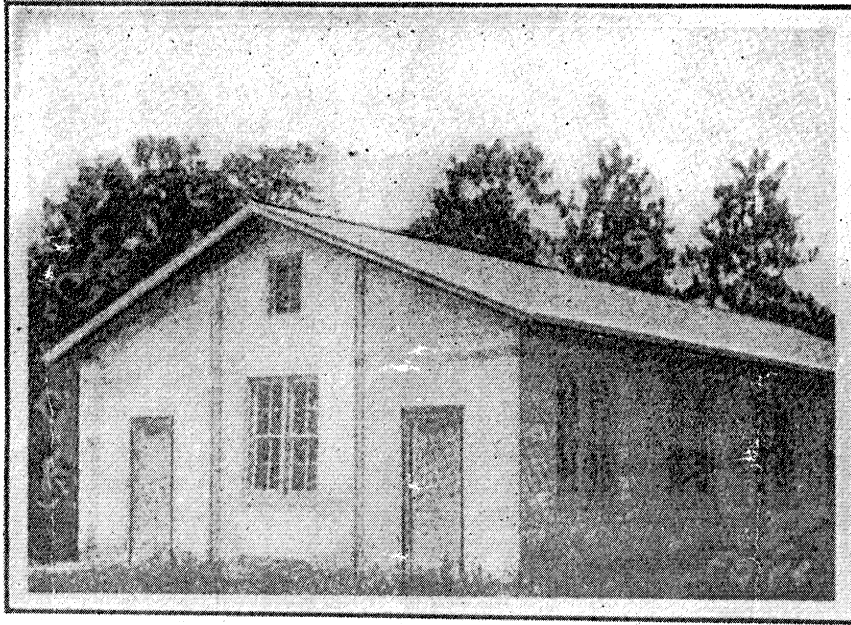
Formerly Used Principally for Chimneys and Was Known as "Chimney Rock"—As West Florida Grows So Will the Use of This Limestone Which Is Found in Quantities in Marianna—Has Proved Satisfactory as Building Stone

MARIANNA limestone has been used principally in building chimneys and for that reason is popularly known as "chimney rock." But recently it has been found that this pure, soft, chalk like limestone which is quite close, even grained and exceedingly homogeneous, can be used for many other purposes and there is no question but that this material will be in great demand as this section of the State is more densely populated and further experiments have been made to find in what manner it will best fit into the economic structure.

The formation received its name from the type locality, around the city of Marianna. Though not quite as pure as the Ocala the Marianna will analyze 93 per cent—95 per cent in CaCO_3 . According to the Sixth Annual Report of the Florida Geological Survey the normal soft "Chimney Rock" phase has been altered to a hard and compact light-colored limestone along the Chipola River, or in other stream bottoms where the formation has been exposed to the long continued section of water and other weathering agencies.

Because of its fine, even texture and homogeneity the stone has for years been sawed out by hand with regular timber saws. The stone in its natural occurrence is quite "damp" and easily cut, so that simply by the addition of a small steady stream of water at the sawing surface it cuts smoothly and uniformly.

Recently it has been used as a reg-



This Building Was Constructed From Blocks Sawed From Marianna Limestone And Shows What Can Be Done With The Rock In This Region.

ular building stone and has proved highly satisfactory for this purpose.

Four limestone formations outcrop within the borders of Jackson County, placing it among the leading potential producers in the State, as well as the only county in which Marianna limestone is found.

North of where Marianna limestone is found is the Ocala, while south of it, in the general vicinity of Kynesville, the Glendon outcrops. The Glendon formation is pretty well masked by reddish sandy clays. In the extreme eastern part of the county along the Apalachicola River the Chattahoochee limestone covers a small area.

At the highway bridge over the Chipola River just east of Marianna, thirteen feet of the Ocala limestone

is exposed overlain by 33 feet of the Marianna. The upper eight feet of the Ocala here is cream white and semi-crystalline, the lower five feet is soft porous and white gradular.

The analysis given below is of the hardened and weathered phase of the Ocala here exposed:

Silica (SiO_2)	1.56
Iron and alumina (Fe plus Al) ..	1.16
Calcium carbonate (CaCO_3)	97.30
Magnesium carbonate (MgCO_3)
Undetermined

Total

100.2
As it is not the purpose of this article to go into the technical details and various analyses of the limestone in Jackson County that will suffice.

In the vicinity of Marianna lime-

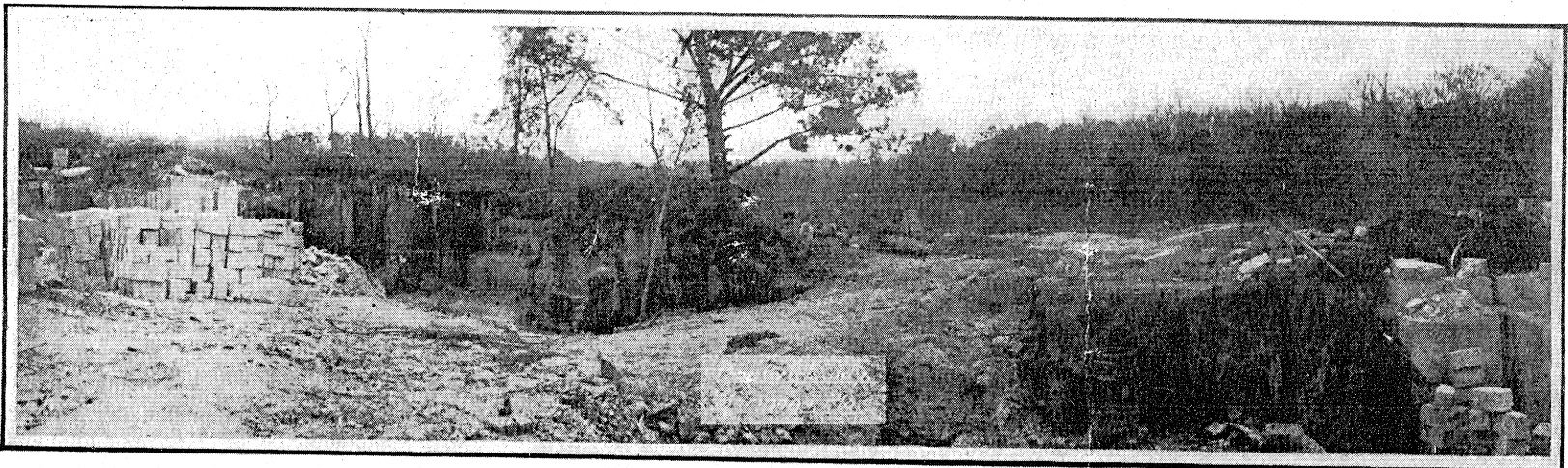
stone is being worked in many small pits to supply local building needs. In most instances the farmer opens up a pit and cuts out a sufficient number of blocks for his needs so there are many shallow pits near the city. Within a radius of ten miles of Marianna there is so much of this material of one of the four varieties that it has not been appreciated.

Many of these deposits are easily accessible to motor transportation and on some of these sites small plants could be located to quarry the rock, which, on account of its chemical purity and physical properties, would be excellent for manufacturing quicklime. Much of it could also be sawed out and used as building blocks. Opportunities are abundant for commercializing some of these properties, but as has been said, they have not been appreciated thus far and are simply waiting to be turned into prosperous industrial enterprises.

Limestone has a number of uses and there is no doubt but what the limestone quarries of this section will ultimately be large producers. As this region grows so will the limestone business here.

Thus Marianna has more than an agricultural side. She has sufficient industry to lend a fine balance to her agriculture and she has, in addition, opportunities in the mercantile lines.

Florida has become famous in many cases because she presented undeveloped opportunities to those who were discreet enough to develop them. Her natural resources have proved of much benefit to many persons. In her limestone deposits in Marianna and in Jackson county lie good chances for the man of initiative who will undertake to commercialize them.



This Limestone Quarry Is Located But One Mile And a Half From Marianna. Other Quarries Are Also Near The City And Those Who Know This Business See a Big Future For The Limestone Industry Of This Section. As West Florida Grows She Will Need More And More Limestone And Marianna Will Get More and More Business. It's Inevitable.