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## Front Matter

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[Aller au sommaire du numéro](#)

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Our Stone Age: From the Neolithic to the New Millennium

Keeping up with appearances in the stone repair business

Encounter some tough but polished Italians, Brazilians and Slovenians

The granites in Spain are anything but plain

Nice Neogene Nubian anorthositic gneiss

Wonderful Whitehorse 2016: Field Trip Preview

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**Cover Photo:** This life-size statue of King Chephren was fashioned around 2500 BCE, from anorthositic gneiss quarried in the remote desert of southwestern Egypt. This same stone, known as the Chephren gneiss, was also used to create thousands of funerary vessels. The beauty of these artifacts attests to the skills of these ancient artisans, but also to the innate qualities of this heritage stone. The statue now resides in the Egyptian Museum, Cairo; the bowls reside in museums in Brussels (top) and Turin (bottom).

*Photo credits: Jon Bodsworth (left) and Tom Heldal (right).*

# GEOSCIENCE CANADA

JOURNAL OF THE GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA  
JOURNAL DE L'ASSOCIATION GÉOLOGIQUE DU CANADA

<b>Editorial</b>	<b>1</b>
GEOSCIENCE CANADA – The Road Ahead <i>A. Kerr</i>	
<b>Special Issue</b>	<b>3</b>
Heritage Stones of the World: Introduction to the New Series <i>D. Pereira and B.R. Pratt</i>	
<b>Series</b>	
Heritage Stone 1.	<b>5</b>
Repair and Maintenance of Natural Stone in Historical Structures: The Potential Role of the IUGS Global Heritage Stone Initiative <i>D. Pereira and B.R. Marker</i>	
Heritage Stone 2.	<b>13</b>
The Dora-Maira Unit (Italian Cottian Alps): A Reservoir of Ornamental Stones Since Roman Times <i>A. Borghi, P. Cadoppi and G.A. Dino</i>	
Heritage Stone 3.	<b>31</b>
Degradation Patterns of Stone used in Historic Buildings in Brazil <i>A.G. Costa</i>	
Heritage Stone 4.	<b>43</b>
The Piedra Berroqueña Region: Candidacy for Global Heritage Stone Province Status <i>D.M. Freire-Lista and R. Fort</i>	
Heritage Stone 5.	<b>53</b>
Silicified Granites (Bleeding Stone and Ochre Granite) as Global Heritage Stone Resources from Ávila, Central Spain <i>J. García-Talegón, A.C. Iñigo, S. Vicente-Tavera and E. Molina-Ballesteros</i>	
Heritage Stone 6.	<b>63</b>
Gneiss for the Pharaoh: Geology of the Third Millennium BCE Chephren's Quarries in Southern Egypt <i>T. Heldal, P. Storemyr, E. Bloxam and I. Shaw</i>	
Heritage Stone 7.	<b>79</b>
Pohorje Granodiorite – One of the Most Significant Slovenian Natural Stones <i>S. Kramar, M. Trajanova, M. Dolenc, M. Gutman, M. Bedjanič and A. Mladenovič</i>	
<b>GAC-MAC Field Guide Summary</b>	<b>89</b>
Whitehorse 2016: GAC-MAC Joint Annual Meeting Field Trips <i>R. Cobbett</i>	
<b>Review</b>	<b>91</b>
Voyage of Discovery – Fifty Years of Marine Research at Canada's Bedford Institute of Oceanography <i>M.A. Tivey</i>	
<b>Commentary</b>	<b>93</b>
Open Access - Panacea or Pandora's Box? <i>A. Kerr</i>	