

## Barry Cooper – Biographical notes

Barry was born and raised in Melbourne, Australia and studied geology at the University of Melbourne (1967-1972) graduating BSc (Hons) with First Class Honours in 1970 and completing a Master's Degree in 1972. During 1972-1974 Barry completed a PhD in the US at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio.

On completing his PhD, Barry obtained a geological position with the Geological Survey of South Australia in Adelaide in 1975. He has remained based in Adelaide ever since mostly linked with the Geological Survey and, following retirement in 2009 as an Adjunct Professor at the University of South Australia.

From 1989 until retirement, Barry primarily worked in Government administration on mineral industry development. For a year he worked in the Minister's office and assisted development of Government Minerals policies. Later as a mineral industry project officer he arranged international visits to mining operations around South Australia. A major commitment was the management of an international conference sponsored by the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) in 1991 in Adelaide for which speeches were prepared for Government leaders.

During the 1990s Barry became deeply involved in promoting development of the building stone industry in South Australia. The quarrying of two new South Australian building stones viz Harlequin Stone and Austral Gold Marble was facilitated. Harlequin Stone now represents South Australia in the National Rock Garden in Australia's national capital of Canberra.

Stands promoting South Australian granite and marble were also organised at the stone industry trade fairs in Verona and Carrara in Italy in 1999 and 2000. Government Ministers also attended the Verona Fair. Italian stone industry experts also visited South Australia on multiple occasions with Barry's organisation. In 2000, a South Australian stone industry strategy was launched by the State Government. In the same year, he attended the Nuremberg Fair. A highly regarded paper entitled "Sustainable Development: An Opportunity for Dimension Stone" was also later published.

In retirement Barry retained his building stone interests by attending many international stone conferences. Notably at the Global Heritage Stone Congress in Alicante, Spain in 2010, he presented a paper entitled "The embodied energy of dimension stone use in buildings: Its value in promoting sustainability"

In addition and most importantly Barry has facilitated the establishment of a new international geological designation, labelled the "Global Heritage Stone Resource" (GHSR) that defines those stone types that have had a major historic role in human culture. Italy's Carrara Marble is an obvious example.

Following an initial presentation on this subject at the International Geological Congress in Oslo, Norway in 2008, a special "Heritage Stone Task Group" was established by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) in 2011 on Barry's advice. Barry was Secretary General of this group (2011-2016).

Within 4 years the GHSR has gained rapid acceptance and unexpected momentum. Barry facilitated publication of a proposal in 2013 for Portland Stone in the United Kingdom which serves as a model GHSR.

A major collection of heritage stone papers was also published in 2015 by the Geological Society of London as part of an agreement that they have with IUGS. Barry was a Co-Editor.

Today Barry is recognized as the pioneer of "Global Heritage Stone".