

THE PAVING BRICK INDUSTRY IN OHIO

The paving brick industry flourished in Ohio from the 1880s until the 1930s. Today, due to the durability of the products, we still see lasting reminders of this industry in the streets and sidewalks of nearly every town or village in the state.

The paving brick industry began in Ohio because of the vast amounts of high-quality clay found in many areas of the state. The most abundant and most important clay beds occur in eastern Ohio in association with coal-bearing rocks. Other clays, formed in association with glaciers of the Ice Age, or shale formed in ancient seas, furnished additional raw materials for the industry.

The eastern Ohio clay beds, known as underclays, are most commonly found beneath coal beds. These rocks formed when Ohio was in tropical latitudes about 300 million years ago, during the Pennsylvanian Period. At that time, Ohio was a coastal area with low-lying deltas upon which vegetation flourished and beds of coal formed. The soil zones upon which the swamp vegetation grew became the clay beds used by the paving brick industry.



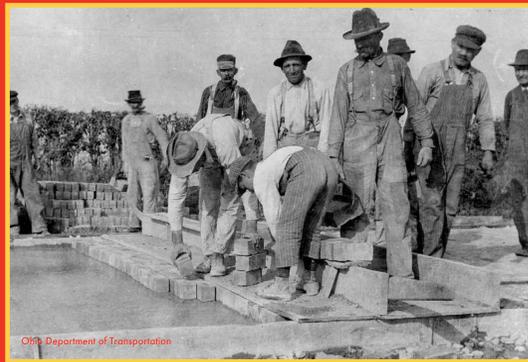
This map shows many cities where paving bricks were manufactured and the area of Pennsylvanian-age rocks where high-quality clays used in the manufacturing of paving bricks were found.



Wassall Brick Company (Athens County) circa 1910



The paving of West Center Street in Marion (Marion County) around 1925. These bricks replaced a pavement of wood block that was laid around 1900. The inset of the brick detail shows an unusual brick that may or may not be originally from Ohio.



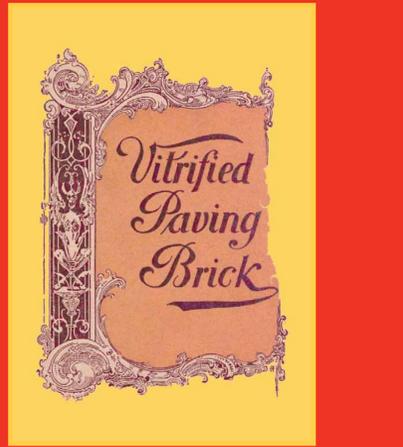
Workers constructing a portion of U.S. Route 40 in Franklin County in 1912. Roads constructed of brick employed many men per project, but was back-breaking work.



Despite what the paving brick manufacturers claimed in their ads (see below) repairs of a brick pavement did have to be made. Here is a "blow up" on U.S. Route 42 in Delaware County in 1926.



More repairs being made to U.S. Route 40 in 1938. One method of filling the gaps between bricks was to pour buckets of tar over top of them, letting the tar harden a bit, and then scraping the tar off the top.



1912

1914

1916

1919

1925

1926

1927

1930

THE AMERICAN CITY

Mr. City Official:
You never need hesitate to use "Metropolitan" Shale Paving Block—they have the necessary wearing quality to prove your good judgment in years to come.

"BEST PAVING BLOCK MADE"

"Quality" is Economy in Paving Brick

"Metropolitan Block" Make Permanent Pavements

DAILY CAPACITY, 500,000

THE METROPOLITAN PAVING BRICK CO. CANTON, OHIO

East Main St., Ravenna, Ohio
PAVED WITH Bessemer Block
It is Smooth, Sullary and Uniform in Color
Bessemer Limestone Company Youngstown, Ohio

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City.

THE AMERICAN CITY

Pave with Brick

WRITE FOR REVISED SPECIFICATIONS
NATIONAL PAVING BRICK MFRS. ASSN.
WILL P. BLAIR, SECRETARY - ENGINEERS BLDG., CLEVELAND

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City.

THE AMERICAN CITY

CAREY Elastite EXPANSION JOINT

Meets National Paving Brick Specifications

Section 23 Specifications for vitrified brick pavements and highways of the National Paving Brick Association call for expansion joints of a "permanent silicious material that will remain pliable at all temperatures to which it may be subjected as a paving filler." It must be "made into strips of suitable length, depth and thickness" and "should be laid in the pavement as the bricks are being laid." ELASTITE meets every requirement in a manner that saves the contractor a lot of money on every job.

WRITE FOR SAMPLE AND LITERATURE.
THE PHILIP CAREY COMPANY
8 Wayne Avenue, Lookland, CINCINNATI, OHIO

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City.

THE AMERICAN CITY

UP GRADE SAFETY

The close cut edges of Metropolitan and Bessemer Paving Bricks insure a safe foothold for horses and make it the ideal pavement for hill-side streets.

Metropolitan and Bessemer Block furnish the solution for every paving problem. If you want to avoid the expense of street repair and paving operations you will do well to bear in mind the fact that our paving blocks will provide you pavements that in most cases call for no repairs whatever.

During the cessation of road-building activity on account of the Great War, we continued our plans in operation, thereby accumulating a reserve of METROPOLITAN and BESSEMER BLOCK against the road building revival which is now upon us. We are prepared to make immediate shipments to all parts of the United States.

METROPOLITAN and BESSEMER Plants located at strategic points and with a daily capacity of 500,000 blocks render eloquent testimony as to our ability to serve satisfactorily all demands for "The Best Paving Block Made."

Literature on METROPOLITAN and BESSEMER BLOCK will be sent on receipt of your address.

THE METROPOLITAN PAVING BRICK COMPANY
CANTON, Ohio
The World's Largest Manufacturers of Paving Brick

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City.

THE AMERICAN CITY

Paved with Bonds!

A street is "paved with bonds" whenever a pavement is worn out before the bonds which paid for that pavement have been retired. And it is a situation that exists in hundreds of places. The unfortunate taxpayers in such communities are saddled with a double burden.

There's no Ohio city, for instance, which has seen one of its streets repaired three times within the life of the pavement. The fact is, it is still paved with vitrified brick laid 25 years ago. And the latter has not yet had a cent of repair cost charged against it. Which has done the cheaper street for the taxpayers?

We will gladly send you an ample supply of supporting literature on paving operations from official public records, the kind of facts and figures which will help you convince your business associates, neighbors and friends of the economy of paving with vitrified brick.

NATIONAL PAVING BRICK MANUFACTURERS ASSN.
Baltimore, Md.

VITRIFIED Brick

PAVE WITH **VITRIFIED Brick**

THE PAVEMENT THAT OUTLASTS THE BONDS

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City—Think you.

THE AMERICAN CITY

Two-Sided Value

FIRST generation of trouble-free service from one surface, then lifting and replacing "topside up" on a renewed base, and then to twenty-five years more resistance to traffic—that's just one of the reasons why vitrified brick, asphalt-filled, makes the most economical pavement a community can select.

For facts and figures taken from official public records proving this remarkable savings value of the vitrified brick pavement, write for free book "TWO-SIDED VALUE." Your copy will be gladly forwarded by return mail.

VITRIFIED Brick

PAVEMENTS

OUTLAST THE BONDS

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City—Think you.

THE AMERICAN CITY

PAVING BUGS quick victors over all but the toughest of paving surfaces—

MEAT COLD TRAFFIC WATER TIRE TRACTOR

CONTRACTION PAVE WITH VITRIFIED BRICK—THE PAVEMENT THAT OUTLASTS THE BONDS

EXPANSION

Brick the enduring 1179 years of service from 35 pavements

WHEN you build a pavement, build it for 1928, 1938, 1948 and 1958 as well as for today.

Don't saddle yourself and your neighbors with the burden of a pavement which will require continual annual budgets for upkeep and repair and will very probably require replacement long before the bonds which pay for it are themselves paid off.

Heed the lesson of experience told in the columns at the right.

NATIONAL PAVING BRICK MANUFACTURERS ASSN.
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Advocate **VITRIFIED Brick**

THE PAVEMENT THAT OUTLASTS THE BONDS

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City—Think you.

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MAIL-ENGINEERING NEWS-RECORD—Photo January 30, 1930

Business goes on without interruption

When You Pave Streets With Brick

Building roads under a handicap is another advantage gained by using Vitrified Paving Brick. The road shown was paved without interfering with traffic entering and leaving the manufacturing plant illustrated. This street was the only made for this plan and all shipping was carried on during paving operations. The street was never closed to traffic.

Add to this the economy of brick in long life, low maintenance and ease of repair and you have other significant reasons for specifying brick.

Metropolitan Bessemer and Chan are three brands widely known for their high quality. They are also the product of America's largest producers of paving brick. Specify any of these and insure yourself against short life pavement failure.

Through built in the experimental stage of brick paving, and through the use of modern machinery, modern brick pavements have proved equal to the advances in road building brought about by the automobile and motor truck. No other paving material can match the number of VITRIFIED BRICK pavements.

METROPOLITAN PAVING

BRICK CO. - Canton, Ohio, U.S.A.

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City—Think you.

1932

1932

1932

1935

1940

1941

1941

120

THE AMERICAN CITY

"STRAIGHT" THINKING is being done these days

SOME straight thinking is being done these days as big repair bills for short-term pavements "lock horns" with underdeveloped budgets.

Why not act now in your community to prevent such recurrences in 1937, or 1942 or 1952?

Resurface and rebuild with brick! Protect new pavements with the weather-proof and traffic-proof armor of vitrified brick. Check your records on brick maintenance as against other types—ask neighboring officials their experience. It is lower by far—but check up anyway!

2 Important Meetings
Exhibiting at American Road Builders' Convention, St. Louis, January 11-16, 1937.
Annual meeting of National Paving Brick Manufacturers Association, 1937, February 1-5, Chicago. The headquarters for the brick manufacturer is 1245 National Press Building, Washington, D. C. For program.

BRICK—the Pavement that Lasts

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City.

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THE AMERICAN CITY

22 YEAR OLD BRICK PAVEMENT Still Serving Auto Racers

Brick re-surface on Speedway track laid in 1909 . . . O. K. for 1932 Motor Classic

MEMORIAL DAY 1932! Another big Motor Race at the Indianapolis Speedway!

The first pavement laid on this famous course was not brick. It showed signs of failure after the first race.

Over that failing pavement, in 1909, was laid the present brick surface. And there it is today ready for the 1932 race.

Compare the record of this 22-year old brick pavement that carries the fastest traveling cars in the world with other pavements. Excepting brick, what pavement can withstand twenty years of exposure to the weather? Excepting brick, what pavement has a negligible upkeep? The original idea of the Speedway Races was a paving ground for the development of motor vehicles. It has been.

But it has also been a proving ground for testing the life of pavements. The experience of the Speedway Corporation and its brick pavement checks with the experience of cities and states that have built their pavements of brick.

For information on Brick Pavements, write National Paving Brick Association, 1245 National Press Building, Washington, D. C.

BRICK—the Pavement that Lasts

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City.

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THE AMERICAN CITY

Legislation is Helpless against WEATHER DAMAGE . . .

—but BRICK stops weather as well as traffic damage

WEATHER and traffic are the two destroyers of pavements . . . Traffic damage can be held in check, either by legislative restriction, or by using a brick surface. . . But only a brick surface can prevent weather damage during the 20-40 years of life that every pavement ought to have. . . Specify the use of brick on new projects and on resurface jobs.

For further information and engineering data, address National Paving Brick Association, 1245 National Press Building, Washington, D. C.

BRICK—the Pavement that Lasts

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City.

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THE AMERICAN CITY

AN IMPROVED TECHNIQUE

1. A "dimple" prepared in the surface of the brick.
2. A "dimple" filled with a special "filler" material.
3. The "dimple" filled with a special "filler" material.
4. The "dimple" filled with a special "filler" material.

A SAFE SURFACE For high speed Motor Traffic

The modern brick pavement is safe for high-speed traffic the moment it is opened for traffic.

There is no longer a filler coating over the surface of new brick that must be worn away by traffic. The splendid skid-resistance surface of vertical fibre brick does its full safety work from the very start.

This is due to the new and improved technique whereby excess filler is completely removed. (See photo insert above.)

Brick pavements are conceded to cost less per year of service than any other pavement.

And now to that important feature is added the finest traveling surface for safety and comfort that any pavement may have!

Use this new method of excess filler removal when you surface new pavements or resurface "failing" pavements with brick. A brick resurface may be laid on many different kinds of bases.

For complete data, write National Paving Brick Association (Circular No. 22) 1245 National Press Building, Washington, D. C.

BRICK

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City.

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THE AMERICAN CITY

For Heavy Duty

Brick has always been preeminent as the heavy duty pavement. Its hardness and toughness protect the base of the road from traffic damage and weather destruction. That's why brick pavements will serve all phases of our national life for 30-50 years. National Paving Brick Association, National Press Building, Washington, D. C.

BRICK

FOR NEW OR RESURFACE JOBS

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City.

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THE AMERICAN CITY

for Smooth rides . . .

BUILD A MODERN BRICK PAVEMENT

Most brick pavements built in the past few years have been built in a new era of brick paving. They are built to a higher degree of smoothness, even traffic surface—an ease of driving that makes them a superior pavement.

Unless you've followed brick construction very closely you have overlooked important new developments. For example, Vitrified Monolithic construction brick pavement such as wire-cut, non-slip surface, rolling on board, surface filler removed, mastic bedding courses. All these are present features in ever-improving modern brick pavement surfaces.

Handfuls of modern brick pavements have been built in the past few years. They are built by their predecessors, many of them will reach that milestone—perhaps just yet! For all of our commonly used paving materials, Vitrified Brick has far the greater resistance to weather damage—the starting point of most pavement failures.

Your community can use modern brick pavements to advantage. For them wherever you want a road or street pavement to have the lowest cost per year of service, National Paving Brick Association, National Press Building, Washington, D. C.

VITRIFIED BRICK THE MOST SATISFACTORY PAVEMENT

When writing to Advertiser please mention The American City—Think you.

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THE AMERICAN CITY

"...AND SOME OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ADVANCES HAVE BEEN MADE IN VERY RECENT YEARS"

"YES, I BUILT SOME MIGHTY GOOD BRICK PAVEMENTS IN MY TIME AS AN ENGINEER... BUT YOU YOUNGER FELLOWS HAVE IMPROVED THEM A LOT SINCE THEN!"

"MODERN BRICK DRIVES SWELL!"

New, Velvety Riding Qualities Plus Historic Low Cost

Improved methods of construction in the last few years have ushered in a new era of brick paving. They are built to a higher degree of smoothness, even traffic surface—an ease of driving that makes them a superior pavement.

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