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History and present of the granite quarries of Inada area, Ibaraki

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Quarries of Inada area, Ibaraki prefecture, Japan is one of the largest historical granite quarries for architectural building stones. The quarries in the Inada area are investigated by way of interviews for their industrial history and present. It was found out that the demands for the headstones are not much lessened compared to the catastrophic state of the architectural building stones market. The quarries were supplying mainly for the traditional Japanese architectures and religious objects. The Inada stones can be seen in many public parks, private gardens and fields in the Inada district. It seems that the stones still have economic and symbolic contribution to the local community.

Keywords: granite, building stone, architecture, head stone, Inada