

Grand Visions in Fairfield County: O&G materials, expertise and exemplary service assist Wadia Associates in realizing premier homes on Connecticut's "Gold Coast"



The Thoughtful Making of Classical Residences

O&G's Masonry Division is an integral element in a renowned architect's plans for luxurious homes on a grand scale.

Dinyar Wadia is leaving an elegant signature on Fairfield County. With a graduate degree in architecture from prestigious Columbia Architecture College, Wadia opened his practice in 1975, purposed at excelling in all traditional styles of architecture. His firm's design philosophy emphasizes "architectural intelligence," a term that includes the essential relationship between a house and the landscape in which it is sited, and whose execution relies upon a rigorous attention to detail, uncompromising craftsmanship and the tasteful use of luxurious materials.

Continued on Page 2

Within an elegant “new-classicist” framework, Wadia Associates’ projects are as diverse as they are spacious: Colonial Revival farmhouses, Elizabethan-style homes, French-inspired American country houses, Federal-style homes, shingle-style houses and the occasional classically informed commercial project.

But as much as it is about exceptional design, it is about executing the work on time and within budget. It is a business, after all, which is why Wadia Associates has developed a longstanding relationship with O&G. Backing up Wadia’s team of architects, designers and construction managers is a team of professionals spread across several O&G facilities who deliver products and services for these exemplary estates.

One of O&G’s point men is Sales Representative Ed Moavero, who has known Dinyar Wadia for 20 years. Having worked in construction, Moavero understands the value of rapid responses from suppliers and suppliers standing by their word. “I live on the

phone and behind the wheel. I’m always visiting my client’s sites and our production facilities. Whenever there is an issue, however small, we want to nip it in the bud. We focus on keeping our clients’ jobs moving smoothly.”

**Whenever there is an issue,
however small, we want to
nip it in the bud. We focus
on keeping our clients’ jobs
moving smoothly.**

**ED MOAVERO
SALES REPRESENTATIVE
O&G MASONRY DIVISION**

Backing Moavero are O&G’s production experts, like Jerry Byon at the Splitting Facility in Bridgeport. He looks about as rugged as the raw stones that his crews tirelessly split, sort and stack onto pallets, ready

to be assembled into walkways, stone walls and other creations by masons throughout the region.

More refined stone shaping is done some 25 miles away in Beacon Falls at O&G’s sprawling, 80,000SF Fabrication and Distribution Center. John Baranoski, with 14 years’ detailed estimating experience, is the facility’s manager. He also provides detailed estimates to firms like Wadia Associates.

Once a job is awarded to O&G, Baranoski hands it off to in-house draftsman Jose Aja who translates architects’ drawings into CAD production plans. Dean Trantum and Dennis Severino are masters of the Center’s massive CNC stone profiling machines. They use Aja’s CAD files to transform slabs of raw and sometimes exotic stone into all types of architectural elements, from L-shaped coins, decorative bands and water-tables to window surrounds and ornate cornice tablatures. Pieces coming off the CNC machines are often sent to an adjacent finishing area where additional detailed shaping or special surfaces are applied by hand. Craftsmen here are

Three recent collaborations

O&G’s Masonry Division has supplied materials and expertise



15,000 sf | round fieldstone facade with bluestone accents, including patio and steps

14,000 sf | Mankato limestone facade, extensive window and door surrounds, balustrades,

sometimes called on to create hand-carved designs, like family crests or dimensional accents, for special applications.

Moavero has high regard for his primary contact at Wadia Associates, a senior project manager who is a civil engineer by trade. "He's thorough and accurate – one of those people who's actually overqualified for his job. All the bids for a given project, like the one we're supplying now, go through him. He reviews them with a fine tooth comb to decide who is awarded the contract and hires all the suppliers and contractors on a job."

The homes Wadia Associates builds are large, usually 12,000 to 20,000 SF, and the call for custom stonework and other mason supplies is commensurate. Projects can tally in the high hundreds of thousands of dollars and beyond for the stone products and mason materials alone. Moavero's contact manages it all – not just masonry but every trade involved with building such a property – with a calm authority that witnesses to his decades of experience.

In a trailer on a wooded bluff overlooking

Experts in Their Fields: *Masonry Division Sales Rep Ed Moavero checking in on-site with one of Wadia Associates' choice mason contractors, Tony Cardillo*



to these Wadia Associates projects, and many other large residences, throughout Southwest Connecticut



Indiana limestone exterior product and profiling, columns, wall panels, patio and accents

22,000 sf | brick and Indiana limestone, extensive exterior limestone product and profiling including window/door surrounds, columns, balustrades, wall panels, patio and accents

a sheltered cove on Long Island Sound, the site of a \$30M home that is rising under his watchful eye, the project manager explains why Wadia Associates has continued to select O&G for so many years. “There are really a couple of reasons. When I need material I call them and it’s here in twenty minutes, maybe half an hour. Large amounts come the next day. I don’t need to call a dispatcher. I call Eddie or Mike [Moavero’s fellow rep in Stamford, Mike Palmieri] and it happens. I don’t have to chase anybody. I don’t want to,” he says. “The other thing is we have a very good relationship. We’re friendly but we’re professional. When we get into business, it’s business. So far I’ve done six large jobs with O&G and had no problems getting the price where we

needed it. And the quality of the materials is very good. If they deliver the material and something happens – there’s a chip here or there – they change it, no issues. That of course counts for a lot.”

He also appreciates Moavero and company’s expertise as a sounding board for producibility. “We want to make sure our designs are going to work. So we give the plan to them and say, ‘We want this look; you tell us the best way of putting it together.’ And O&G having a CAD draftsman always available is another plus.”

As the portfolio of successful Wadia Associates projects continues to grow, even in uncertain economic times, O&G’s Masonry Division team can be relied on to continue delivering. ▲



Behind the “Mega-Mansions:” (clockwise from top left) Beacon Falls Fabrication and Distribution Facility Manager and Chief Estimator John Baranoski (left) and CCM operator Dean Trantum; Sales Representative Ed Moavero with Supervisor Jerry Byon at the Bridgeport Stone Splitting Operation; CAD designer/operator Jose Aja; hand finishers give cut stone added dimensioning and surfaces; collection of various limestone elements prepared for a Wadia Associates project; stacking cut stone; exterior elements ready to deliver to a Wadia Associates project.