The hard work and mastery required to shape an irregular block of stone is the result of extensive accumulated knowledge passed down through generations. Guided by the principle that what you remove from a stone cannot be replaced, the block requires a lot of force in the shaping process but a very delicate touch during the finishing phase.

Prolonged use of hammers and mortice chisels often left a callus on the upper part of the little finger, which these professionals displayed with pride.

