Pike County
Has Asphalt
Garland 7-14-35

Abandoned Mine Found
and Other Minerals
as Result Survey.

Hot Springs (AR) — Rex E. Mhoon, county inspector of a state geological survey being conducted as a WPA project, said today that an abandoned mine in Pike county had been found to contain sufficient asphalt to pave many miles of streets.

Mhoon is in charge of a survey which was started last April. It has progressed into nine counties in this section of the state and, he said, will have a report ready in the next several weeks on 11 counties.

Found in Polk county, he said, were great outcrops of manganese and red, black and green slate, probably in the making of a million tons. He said the product is valuable for roofing, panel boards and others.

"In Garland county we discovered new outcroppings of Novaquartz. It is a WPA project, employing about 600 men."

Survey Finds

Valuable Minerals
Garland County
7-17-35

Hot Springs, July 16.—Asphalt in quantities sufficient to pave many miles of road were revealed in the mineral survey being made in nine counties in the southeastern section of the state by the state geological division, it was announced today by Rex E. Mhoon, county district inspector of the state geological survey.

Mhoon said he had found a deposit of pure asphalt from four to five feet in thickness and that it was especially valuable because of its high grade.

"In Garland county we discovered new outcroppings of manganese. In the same county one of the most important of the newly discovered deposits is that of red, green and black slate. It is of great value and it is expected that there is at least a half million tons of that product, which is used for roofing, panel boards and others.

"In Garland county we discovered new outcroppings of Novaquartz. It is commercial whetstone and has been used for various commercial quantities, some of the Garland county whetstones, because of their perfection, for years have been imported into Germany."

Mhoon said that possibly one of the most interesting discoveries that have been made in Arkansas, a rare mineral, which previously has been found in Europe, South America and Canada. It is used extensively in the preparation of alloys, especially type metal. This, he said, was found in Howard county.

Mineral Survey Brings Important Data on Springs.

For the last nine months a survey of the Naels, cultural features and waters of Garland County has been in progress as a state-wide WPA project, sponsored by the State Geological Survey and locally directed by James K. Rifeet, county supervisor.

The survey is in a district composed of 12 southwestern counties of which Rex E. Mhoon of Hot Springs is district supervisor.

Of the 826 square miles in the area, 466 square miles are to be investigated by the survey.

On January 1, 1939, approximately 450 square miles had been covered.

The springs and wells of Garland county, outside of the city of Hot Springs, present interesting facts, as disclosed by the records made by the field workers. No springs having hot water have been found, although there may be a variation in the degree of temperature of springs in the same locality. Few springs in the outlying districts of the county are of distinctly mineral quality, the only minerals noted being sulphur and con. In the extreme eastern and northern portions of the county the water in both springs and wells is usually soft. Many farmers depend on springs for their water supply. Most of the wells are of the dug type, the depth ranging between 10 and 30 feet.

Up to January 1, 1938, the survey had investigated 63 springs in Garland county, outside the city of Hot Springs. The survey has the greatest discharge here in the extreme eastern corner of the county in Section 24, T. 15 S., R. 16 W., one mile north of U. S. highway 70. This sulphur spring has a daily flow of 319,528 gallons.

A two well known resort springs near Hot Springs are Fountain Lake and Us Highway 70 and Ozark Lithia springs on State highway 7. Fountain Lake is fed by springs and Ozark Lithia by one large spring 10 feet deep. Estimates of flowage were not available on these springs.

In the vicinity of Lonoke are a number of springs with a flow estimated at from 14,000 to 72,000 gallons daily. In Section 7, T. 5 S., R. 18 W. (two miles north of Lake Catherine railway station) there are springs of sulphur water in a group; four miles east of this group and three miles north of Lake Catherine station is another group of three springs.

The estimated flowage of these springs is 70,000 gallons a day. In the extreme southeastern sections of Garland county are many springs which are inaccessible by road and are used chiefly as watering places for livestock. None of these is being exploited. A number of springs in the Ouachita National Forest have been utilized as recreation camp sites and several have been dammed to make swimming pools. Of the 207 wells so far investigated the average depth is 37 feet; of these 178 are dug and the remaining 29 drilled wells. Up to the present time only two artesian wells have been found in Garland county. One of these is near the junction of State highway 7 with US highway 70. This well is 110 feet deep and is used by one family only.

A deep flowing well which is called a spring is Potash Sulphur spring, six miles from Hot Springs in the southeastern part of the county. This well was dug many years ago. It is 143 feet deep and has a daily flow of 33,500 gallons.

At the camp of Future Farmers of America at Councildale are four wells, three of which are dug and one drilled. Two of these wells, one 25 feet deep, the other 38 feet deep, are located on hill tops and are used for reserve water supplies. Another 25-foot well is in an open field, 30 feet above the shore-line of Lake Catherine. This is good water, which is used by the families when many people are at the camp. A well 16 feet deep supplies the water for an average of 200 persons the year round of Councildale. This is in a “flat” between two hills and is connected with mess hall at the camp.

As the men of the surveying crew locate and record data on springs and wells, they take samples of the water to be analyzed. The laboratory in Little Rock as well as several laboratories located in different parts of the state make such analyses. All the records will become the property of the State Geological survey and will be published in bulletin form under the direction of George C. Bannister, State Geologist.

The State office of the Mineral Survey is at 117 N. Victory Street, Little Rock. Robert C. Backstrom is the state supervisor and R. E. Vandruiff is the technical supervisor of the project.