Product Of Extinct Industry Widely Used In Construction Of Buildings Here; Clays Found In This Area Well Suited To Purpose, Consider Lack Of Fuel Handicap


Discussion of the mineral survey for the Crowley Ridge area, WPA, today brought out the fact that the clay in the vicinity of Helena is excellent for making bricks. Who remembers the three brick yards that were located in Helena, not to mention the one which was located at other places?

Old settlers say that some 50 or 60 years ago that not only was a brickyard operated here by Samuel I. Clark, but that many of the buildings now standing in Helena, particularly the older ones, were made from the clay which he obtained with the old mill supply company, were built of brick manufactured here in the old clay kilns. The Jefferson school building, John Quarles says, is one of the buildings erected from brick made here. The Clark yard was located, Mr. Quarles says, out on Perry George road, and glaze still lives. Mr. Clark molded his brick by hand.

Another early brick-yard operator was a negro named Moberly, who had a yard in Caholic Holow. For some reason, however, Moberly's yard only burned out about two kilns of brick. His venture evidently proved rather unprofitable.

From the Moberly kilns came the brick for construction of the building on Missouri street now occupied by the Red Cross Drug Store. Reports say the brick for the entire building were furnished for $53.

Following the failure of this yard, Straubs put in a yard South Helena. The yard was operated by Nick Straub and brick for the construction of St. John's Episcopal church were furnished by the firm.

Both the Moberly and Straub kilns failed, however, in making their brick. All three firms used cordwood for fuel and it is believed today that the stack is back in manufacturing brick here would be the absence of such fuel.

Mineral Surveys Undertaken Here


EUGENE B. BADINELLI COUNTY SUPERVISOR; WILL GIVE COMPLETE INFORMATION ON HILL AREA

Eugene B. Badinelli has been appointed county supervisor for a statewide survey of mineral, water and building materials scheduled to get under way March 1. Headquarters will be at Helena under the guidance of W. W. Butcher, who is in charge of the project in the state. "March 1, he stated.

He was one of 33 supervisors selected from among 900 applicants on the state level. He is chairman of the Clark County supervisors' association.

Study of mineral resources in Phillips county will be confined to the Crowley Ridge area north of Helena. Specimens of water from all parts of the county will be taken, however, and will be sent to Little Rock where tests will be made to determine potability and mineral content.

Area and extent of water strata will be studied, along with depth and rate of flow.

Procedure under the survey will be thorough. The entire area covered will be sub-divided into sections, each of which will be measured and complete records of every tract will be made.

The survey will show, Mr. Badinelli points out, whether or not clay, sands, and gravel of the right quality exist in the hill country.

In the upper parts of Crowley's Ridge, where underlaying strata are nearer the surface, deposits of sand glass and pottery clays have been found.

South of Helena, which strata may be made, have been discovered in Crow Creek, east of Forster. The deposits are of a sandy quality, and indicate a valuable variety of the material value in the hill country.

CLAY MORES TO GET WORK ON WPA PROJECT


EUGENE B. BADINELLI WILL ESTABLISH HEADQUARTERS AT COURT HOUSE TODAY

Eugene B. Badinelli, the WPA supervisor for a new WPA project which will make a mineral survey of Crowley's Ridge, said today that he will begin work on the project project for work for the next few weeks. Mr. Badinelli is a steel worker, and is making an effort to find office space for headquarters at the courthouse.

He said that all of the men to be employed will be from Phillips county.

Mineral Survey Will Be Made In Phillips County


E. B. Badinelli To Have Charge of WPA Project in Crowley Ridge Section Here

A mineral survey of that part of Crowley Ridge which lies in Phillips county will be made under a Federal grant to the State Department of Agriculture and Conservation, it was announced recently. Efforts will be made to find deposits of clay that will be suitable for making pottery, tile, bricks, stone and earthenware. The survey, which is expected to take six months, will chart the best clay deposits in the area.

The survey will begin Tuesday, March 1, at Helena. Mr. Badinelli said it would be several weeks before the actual work begins.

The local sponsors, for their part, must furnish office space and transportation, Mr. Badinelli told.

The survey will be made along the entire section of the ridge and adjacent area. There is a similar survey now going on in the northern section of Crowley Ridge, he said.

The survey will be started in the vicinity of Little Rock and extend to all areas where deposits of clay, sand and gravel may be found. The survey will be conducted in cooperation with the Soil Conservation Service and the Soil Conservation Board.

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Transportation
Helena "Record" Mar. 4, 1938
Phillips Co.

Most Pressing Need In Execution Of WPA Project For Mineral Survey Of Phillips County

The new project providing for a survey of the mineral possibilities of Crowley Ridge has run up against a problem of transportation, which if not worked out may result in Phillips county losing the project, Eugene Badinelli, supervisor, said today.

Mr. Badinelli said there is no provision for WPA to furnish transportation of men to and from the hills where the work will be carried on and that he is making an effort to raise the money through the city, county, chamber of commerce and other sources.

Transportation, Mr. Badinelli said, will require an expenditure of about one dollar per day and the project is expected to last not longer than four months, requiring a total of about $125. He said that the project is valuable to Helena in the way of a $750 monthly payroll, all of the money being paid to workers in the immediate vicinity of Helena. He said the personnel has been selected and is ready to begin work.

Getting Results
Phillips Co. Mar. 32. "Record"

State Mineral and Geographical Survey Project Sponsored By WPA Draws Picture Of Resources

The state Mineral and Geographical Survey project being conducted by the WPA is already beginning to show worthwhile results, said R. C. Beckstrom, director, who visited Helena and the local project today.

Mr. Beckstrom said that one of the important results noted so far is the impression it is making on people of the state that it is important to use the resources "in their own backyard" rather than to import the same things from other states. In this connection he pointed to the using of gravel from gravel banks in the Marianna-Helena Land Development project on roads in the park, as an illustration.

"When I first began going over the state in my work," Mr. Beckstrom said, "it was appalling to me to note that people in some sections were buying building materials shipped from half across the continent when they had available right at their door the finest materials obtainable."

"Natural resources," he said, "are like money. If we hoard money in the bank it does no one any good. If we let our natural resources lie under or above the ground, they are of no benefit to anyone."

He said that statistics are now being prepared which when completed will show what the survey has accomplished so far. He added that "we're just now getting the project started good."

Mr. Beckstrom was shown over the project in this area by Eugene Badinelli, project supervisor.

WORKERS FOR NEW PROJECT
ATTEND SCHOOL
Helena "Record" March 7, 1938
Given Instructions As To Procedure In Carrying Out
Mineral Survey
Phillips Co.

A school of instruction was held this morning at the circuit court room by Gene Badinelli, supervisor of the WPA project which will conduct a mineral survey in Crowley's Ridge, for workers who will be employed on the project.

Mr. Badinelli said organization of his workers has been completed and the project will get under way just as soon as arrangement can be made for transportation to and from the work for the workers.

Eugene Badinelli, supervisor of the new WPA project providing for a mineral survey of Crowley Ridge, appeared before the council to ask that an appropriation be given the project to help defray the expense of transportation connected with the project and for which there is no provision. The matter was referred to the finance committee.

MINERAL SURVEY PROGRESS
NEW GRAVEL VEIN
Phillips Co. Mar. 25-26
Material Will Be Sufficient For All Road Building In Hill Park Area
"Record"

The WPA Mineral Survey project, under the supervision of Eugene Badinelli, has served to uncover a gravel vein in the Helena-Marianna Land Development project of sufficient quantity to supply all of the gravel needed for work in the park area, Mr. Badinelli said yesterday.

The gravel deposit extends from about three-fourths of a mile this side of Distillery Branch north to the Lee county line and is of sufficient depth to provide plenty of gravel of good quality, Mr. Badinelli said.

The deposit was recently inspected by state highway department engineers and found to be of the right quality to be used on roads. Permission has been given by the government to use the gravel from the park area on that part of the Fourth Street highway leading out of West Helena to the edge of the park.

POTTERY CLAY FOUND BY WPA WORKERS
Helena "Record" Mar. 22-23
Deposit Not Large Enough For Development At Big Spring Site, However

Workers on the mineral survey of Crowley Ridge being conducted by the WPA on their first days of search found small deposits of excellent clay, believed suitable for making pottery, just north of Helena near Big Springs, Eugene Badinelli, supervisor, said today.

Mr. Badinelli brought samples of the clay to his office in the courthouse. It is of a beautiful red, spotted with dottings of other colors.

Mr. Badinelli said that the exact quantities of the clay deposit has not been determined, but that it is believed it is not large at this spot.