

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Bureau of Economic Geology

July 30, 1936

Typeset from original stencil, December 1979

MINERAL RESOURCE SURVEY

Circular No. 15

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Project No. 3774

REPORT ON CLAY DEPOSITS IN GRIMES COUNTY

AS A PART OF A MINERAL RESOURCE SURVEY OF GRIMES COUNTY*

by George D. Ramsey, Supervisor

BRICK CLAY

An abundance of clay which appears on basis of field examination suitable for the manufacture of high grade building brick has been deposited in several places in the county. Navasota, Anderson, Plantersville and Yarborough are each the center of valuable clay deposits, much of which is excellent brick quality. Two miles north of Navasota on the line of the International and Great Northern Railway is twenty acres of brick clay sixteen feet deep. A still larger deposit of brick clay was marked near Plantersville. From Yarborough, extending southwest to the Mimms farm, is a deposit of high-grade brick clay in places more than twenty feet deep. With Anderson as a center, a radius of two miles will include brick, tile, plastic, and pigment clays in sufficient quantity to keep average sized plants busy for a quarter of a century.

FULLER'S EARTH

Outcrops of more than 20 deposits of clay believed by the writer to be fuller's clay are recorded in this report. Some of these deposits are believed to be suitable for refining mineral oils, some for refining animal fats, some for refining vegetable oils, and some are adapted to the use of filtering chemical preparations.

The reader will understand that each paragraph under this heading will be a paragraph giving the location of some outcrop of fuller's earth. Very few of these deposits were explored sufficiently well to determine the area covered or the thickness of the bed. The location is given so that these who might be interested can find the outcrop, and make the exploration for themselves to determine the volume, can make their own assays and analyses to determine the value.

Ben Lond Branch on A. Munnaly survey, 1000 feet north of Anderson Grove colored church, is an outcrop of clay 10 feet thick, 100 feet wide and 1200 feet in length.

Dave Lawson's farm, 4½ miles west of Erwin, has a clay outcrop on the west line west of the old Mexia cut-off railroad right of way that shows a thickness of twelve feet. On the railroad right of way it shows a thickness of 3 feet. Outcroppings, along a fault continuing northeast through the farm, show various thicknesses of 3 to 12 feet. Four test holes were dug at various distances of 100 to 300 feet southeast of the fault, which showed the bed to be 4 to 8 feet thick.

The Mobley farm joins the Lawson land on the east. It has two outcrops of clay which show a thickness of six feet.

G. D. Perry owns a tract of 100 acres of land five miles from Anderson on the right of the Anderson-Carlos road. The clay from about one acre of this land has been shipped from the property. Fifty acres of the hundred has been tested and shows the fuller's earth bed to be 10 feet thick.

Jim Womac owns a farm, 6½ miles northwest of Anderson, 1 mile northeast of the Anderson-Carlos road, on which a bed of fuller's earth has been worked. The bed has a thickness of 6 feet.

Two miles north of Anderson and ½ mile west of Highway No. 90, C. C. Shroeder has a bed of fuller's clay on his farm, that covers an area of about 10 acres.

Three miles north of Anderson, 1½ mile east of Highway No. 90, a 6 foot bed of fuller's earth outcrops on a farm belonging to Will Schaffer.

One and one-fourth mile west of Carlos, in the second ravine entering Lake Creek from the west, and on the south side of the Carlos-Lamb Springs road, is a bed of fuller's clay on land the mineral rights of which belong to Joel Terrell of Navasota.

One mile north of Carlos beginning at the first bridge on the Keith road, a 10 foot bed of fuller's earth is exposed, that extends down the draw for a distance of 1000 feet. In a draw on the west side of Jarvis creek ½ mile northwest of W. O. Pyle's home is a 10 acre bed of fuller's clay ranging from 6 to 10 feet in thickness.

Three hundred yards south of D. A. Miller's home on the old Mabry homestead three miles southwest of Carlos a bed of clay outcrops in a ravine. The outcrop shows for 1200 feet and the thickness, 3 to 6 feet. No test was made to show the actual thickness. About 1000 feet southeast of D. A. Miller's home a 10 foot bed of fuller's clay, 100 feet long, outcrops in the head of a ravine. This land belongs to David Hannah.

On the Churchwell brothers land, 1 mile south of Lamb Springs and 300 yards northwest of the Churchwell home, is a bed of fuller's clay that shows an outcrop 7 feet thick.

One-half mile north of Carlos on the north side of a creek ¼ mile north of Coberchinski's home is a deposit of fuller's earth.

Four hundred yards east of Mrs. Gilspin's residence, which is located 1 mile northeast of Keith and ½ mile east of the Keith-Iola road, is a deposit of fuller's earth.

*All statements in this circular relating to the character and quality of clays are based on sight identification of the clays by the supervisor, or on tests made by him. None of these clays have been tested in the laboratories of the University of Texas.

One and one-half mile west of the Keith-Iola road in the head of Carr branch near the southwest corner of the old Webb field, a deposit of fuller's clay shows in a ravine to a depth of 10 feet.

One-half mile west of Charles Chaney's home in a draw on the left side of the river road is a deposit of fuller's earth. This bed shows a thickness of 8 feet.

On the McCorcodale farm near Lake Grove church one mile and a half east of Mesa is a deposit of fuller's earth.

Three and one-half miles east of Carlos in the first ravine east of Grady Allen's home is a large deposit of fuller's clay.

The outcrop of a six foot deposit of fuller's earth occurs in a ravine running parallel to Highway No. 90 2 miles west of Raon's Prairie and ¼ mile west of the highway.

On the north fork of Rocky Creek ½ mile below the bridge on Highway No. 90 an outcrop of fuller's clay shows to a thickness of 5 feet on each bank of the creek.

In the first ravine entering Gibbons Creek from the north below the bridge on Highway No. 90 south of Singleton fuller's earth is exposed 4 feet by 300 feet.

An outcrop of fuller's earth exposed 3 feet by 50 feet occurs on Jesse Floyd's farm two and one-half miles southwest of Roan's Prairie.

Two miles southwest of Roan's Prairie an outcrop of fuller's clay is exposed near the home of Mrs. Lula Hamilton.

Another outcrop of fuller's clay can be found 2 miles north of Roan's Prairie 200 yards west of the International and Great Northern railway on the farm of Charlie Coviak.

Two and one-half miles northeast of Roan's Prairie ¼ mile south of the home of Arthur Kannard in White's Branch is a deposit of fuller's clay worth exploring.

One mile north of Roan's Prairie in a cut in the west side of the International and Great Northern railroad right of way a bed of fuller's earth 4 feet thick is exposed for a distance of 300 feet.

On Green Brown's farm 1 ¼ miles east of Roan's Prairie in the first draw on the north side of Highway No. 45 is a deposit of fuller's clay exposed 5 feet thick and 1500 feet in length.

Four miles west of Richards ½ mile north of the Anderson-Richards highway is an exposure of fuller's clay 3 feet by 300 feet on each side of the ravine.

On the farm of Robert Carter 1 mile west of the Navasota and Fuqua Prairie road is an exposure of fuller's clay 8 feet thick and 200 feet long. A bed of fuller's clay 4 feet thick and 600 feet in length can be seen on the farm of Edmond Rhodes ½ mile west of the Navasota and Fuqua-Prairie road.

At the west end of Fuqua Prairie ½ mile east of the lower river road on land belonging to Mrs. Briggins is an exposure of fuller's earth 8 feet thick and 250 feet in length.

In another place on Mrs. Briggins' land east of the lower river road fuller's earth is exposed in a bed 10 feet thick and 200 feet long.

On the west side of the lower river road fuller's earth is exposed in three places to a depth of 4 feet on land belonging to Mrs. Briggins.

A well was dug on land that belongs to W. H. Fuqua ½ mile west of the Navasota-Fuqua Prairie road to a depth of 30 feet. Twenty feet of this depth showed fuller's clay. On this same farm fuller's clay is exposed in a ravine 10 feet thick and 600 feet long.

Mrs. E. B. Crawford lives 2 miles southwest of Singleton. She has a deposit of fuller's earth on her farm exposed to a depth of 6 feet, 200 feet long.

On the farm of Gus Ray 3 miles east of Shire and 100 yards south of Highway No. 45 a bed of fuller's clay 6 feet thick is exposed in a ravine.

Mrs. Jimmie Nowlin owns a farm 3 ½ miles east of Shire and ½ mile south of Highway No. 45. An outcrop of fuller's earth is exposed on this farm ½ mile east of the tenant's house.

An exposure of fuller's clay 3 feet thick 100 feet long was located on a farm belonging to Manuel Moore who lives 5 miles east of Shire and 1 mile south of Highway No. 45.

Two miles north of Singleton and ½ mile west of Highway No. 90, a pit was dug on a 100 acre tract of land belonging to W. H. Smith, which showed the existence of fuller's earth. A cistern on this same tract of land was dug to a depth of 15 feet. This excavation showed 12 feet of fuller's clay.

Two miles north of Singleton 1 mile west of Highway No. 90 a bed of fuller's clay 8 feet thick is exposed in a ravine. This land belongs to the estate of S. Rossi. A bed of plastic clay is exposed on this same property and near by a bed of volcanic ash. The foundation of a furnace in which jugs and crocks and churns were burned between 1860 and 1880 is located on this property.

On a farm, that belongs to J. W. Perry 5 miles west of Anderson on the Fuqua Prairie-Carlos road, a well was dug to a depth of 22 feet. 16 feet of this 22 showed fuller's earth. A tank for storing water was dug 100 yards northwest of the well. Fuller's earth showed in this excavation. In a worn out field south of the house the point of the plow would bring up fuller's earth when the field was cultivated.

On a farm that belongs to Brown Kennard 5 miles northwest of Anderson, exposures show that at least 10 acres of the surface is underlaid with fuller's earth to a depth of 10 feet.

Two and one-half miles south of Roan's Prairie on the west side of the International and Great Northern railroad track is a deposit of fuller's earth which covers 20 acres to a depth of 6 feet. This farm is owned by Will McIntyre. Four pits were dug on this property to prove the area.

M. L. Woods has a farm 2 miles southwest of Singleton. Two hundred yards west of his home is a deposit of fuller's clay. It has an exposure 5 by 1000 feet.

On the west side of the McIntyre farm is a tract of land that belongs to Mr. Thomas. From exposures in a creek that runs through the property, and a pit dug by the mineral survey crew, at least 10 acres of this land will produce fuller's earth.

It is to be regretted that finances and man power were not available to do exploration work on all the fuller's earth exposures listed above. Many other exposures of fuller's earth were noted but the superintendent of the mineral survey crew thought that with the exposures listed above, those who are interested in the exploitation of fuller's earth deposits might become sufficiently interested to make further personal investigations.

MOULDER'S AND MODELER'S CLAY

One mile east of Plantersville on the north side of the road to Conroe, a bed of modeling clay outcrops in a creek. This clay shows to be 5 feet thick above the bed of the creek for a distance of 1000 feet along the stream. No tests were made to show the total thickness of this bed.

PIGMENT CLAY

Six and one-half miles northwest of Anderson and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of the Anderson-Carlos road about 750 feet east of Jim Womac's home on the H. W. Ragland Survey, is a deposit of pigment clay. This clay is canary yellow and of a very fine quality.

On the south side of Charlie Shroeder's land $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles east of Anderson lying between the Plantersville and Apolonia road turns off is a bed of purple pigment clay.

One thousand feet east of the Anderson-Plantersville road $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of where the Apolonia road turns off is a bed of purple pigment clay.

Two miles east of south from Anderson 800 feet west of the International and Great Northern railroad track is a deposit of chrome clay on the farm of August Shester.

Three-fourths of a mile north of the courthouse at Anderson is a deposit of canary yellow clay which can be used for high visibility point purposes. This clay is on a farm that belongs to Mike Sivceski. It covers about 10 acres and was tested to a depth of 20 feet.

About 3 miles southwest of Keith on the west side of Jarvis Creek 500 yards west of the Cook Home is a deposit of orange yellow pigment on land belonging to the Templeman estate.

Two miles south of Mesa and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile west of the old Mexia cut-off railroad on the south side of a country road is a deposit of orange yellow pigment clay.

Seven miles northwest of Anderson and 1 mile south of the Anderson-Carlos road near the west line of the J. J. Folder land on the Uriah Sanders headright survey is a deposit of brown pigment clay.

The mineral survey crew found deposits of pigment clay of lesser importance than those given above scattered throughout the county.

PLASTIC CLAYS

One-half mile southeast of the bridge over Harlan Creek on Highway No. 90, between Navasota and Anderson, a white knob can be seen about one-half mile southeast. On the east side of this knob is a large deposit of plastic clay.

One mile north of the courthouse at Anderson, 200 yards east of Highway No. 90 on the west side of a hill, is a deposit of plastic clay on which a pit was dug to a depth of 10 feet.

On the Mimms farm $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles southeast of Yarborough is a deposit of plastic clay that covers about 5 acres to a depth of more than 20 feet.

Two miles southeast of Anderson on the right of the road to Plantersville is a bed of plastic clay that covers about 2 acres of ground. The outcrop shows a thickness of 6 feet. No tests were made to show the total thickness of this bed of clay.

On the farm of C. C. Shroeder, 2 miles north of Anderson and one-half mile west of Highway No. 90 is a bed of plastic clay. The outcrop shows a thickness of 6 feet. No tests were made to determine the actual thickness of the area covered.