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Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources Mining Collection

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BUILDING PRODUCTS CO. PLANT

MARICOPA COUNTY
T1N R1E Sec 9 SW

4850 W. Buckeye Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85043
272-5576

MILS Index #663

ADMMR Table Mesa Slate (f) Maricopa Co. - T7N R3E Sec. 6 SE$\frac{1}{4}$
ADMMR Saul Quarry (f) Navajo Co. - T11N R19E Sec. 19 SE$\frac{1}{4}$
ADMMR Dewey Ranch Clay #1 (f) Yavapai Co. - T14N R1E Sec. 28 NE$\frac{1}{4}$
ADMMR Dewey Ranch Clay #2 (f) Yavapai Co. - T14N R1E Sec. 15

Plant purchases clay products & produces extruded sewer pipes

ABSTRACTED FROM ADMMR ACTIVE MINES DIRECTORY, 1992 Maricopa

BUILDING PRODUCTS COMPANY file

Phoenix Plant
4850 W. Buckeye Road, Phoenix, AZ 85043 - Phone 272-5576 - Clay mining by contractor - Plant consumes clay to produce extruded sewer pipe and roofing tile.
Plant Manager Vern Hamner
Mine Consultant Don Morris
Rim Quarry T11N R19E Sec. 30
Clay mine located 10 miles southwest of Clay Springs.
New River Slate Quarry T7N R3E Sec. 5
Slate quarry located approximately 6 miles northeast of New River.
Dewey Ranch #2 T14N R1E Sec. 15
Clay mine located approximately 6 miles north of Dewey.

ABSTRACTED FROM ADMMR ACTIVE MINES DIRECTORY 1991

BUILDING PRODUCTS COMPANY

Phoenix Plant
4850 W. Buckeye Road, Phoenix 85043 - Phone 272-5576 - Clay mining by contractor - Plant consumes clay to produce extruded sewer pipe and roofing tile.

Plant Manager ..... Vern Hamner
Mine Consultant ..... Don Morris

Rim Quarry T11N R19E Sec. 30
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Slate quarry located approximately 6 miles northeast of New River.

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Clay mine located approximately 6 miles north of Dewey.

ABSTRACTED FROM ADMMR ACTIVE MINES DIRECTORY 1990

BUILDING PRODUCTS COMPANY

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ABSTRACTED FROM ADMMR ACTIVE MINES DIRECTORY 1989

BUILDING PRODUCTS COMPANY

Phoenix Plant
4850 W. Buckeye Road, Phoenix, AZ 85043 - Phone 272-5576 - Clay mining by contractor - Plant consumes clay to produce extruded sewer pipe and roofing tile.
Plant Manager ..... Vern Hamner
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Clay mine located approximately 6 miles north of Dewey.
Rim Quarry T11N R19E Sec. 30
Clay mine located 10 miles southwest of Clay Springs.

ABSTRACTED FROM ADMMR ACTIVE MINES DIRECTORY, 1988

BUILDING PRODUCTS COMPANY

Phoenix Plant
4850 W. Buckeye Road, Phoenix 85043 - Phone 272-5576 - Employees 1 (mining)
- Plant consumes clay to produce extruded sewer pipe and roofing tile.

Plant Manager ..... Vern Hamner
Mine Manager ..... Don Morris

Rim Quarry T11N R19E Sec. 30
Clay mine located 10 miles southwest of Clay Springs.

New River Slate Quarry T7N R3E Secs. 5 & 6
Slate quarry located approximately 6 miles northeast of New River.

Dewey Ranch #2 T14N R1E Sec. 15
Clay mine located approximately 6 miles north of Dewey.

BUILDING PRODUCTS COMPANY

NJN WR 7/22/88: Joe Frazier, manager of Ceramic Technology for Mission Clay Products Corp of their Pittsburgh, Kansas office visited and reported that Mission Clay Products has a new owner and is reviewing their various operations, including Building Products Company (file). The purpose of Mr. Frazier's visit was to learn about new, common, better or closer sources of raw materials to supply the Building Products' plant in Phoenix. These include traditional sources and non-traditional sources such as dust, waste, fines, scales, and sawdust of other manufacturing and mining products. Mr. Frazier is especially interested in finding a replacment for the clays mined at Saul Quarry (file) Navajo County as this material entails a cost of transporting the material 200 miles. In addition, Mr. Frazier reported that the marketing people will review other possible commodities such as rofing and decorative tiles that could be produced.

BUILDING PRODUCTS INC. MARICOPA COUNTY

Visited the Building Products tile plant at 4850 West Buckeye Road and met Mr. Davis, Mgr. Mr. Driskoll, plant foreman, and Larry Kirsey, laboratory technician. Due to Mr. Davis being very busy he turned me loose in the plant where Messrs. Driskoll and Kirsey were met. Presently only tile of various sizes from 4" to 8" diameters are made on two extrusion machines, however, neither of these machines were in operation. At least three types of clays are blended for use, one of which is imported from California. The other two are from near Dewey and Cibecue. These local clays appear to be quite high in Fe and have a definite gritty feel. They have used some clay from Pantano Wash SE of Tucson but it proved to have a rather high calcium content due to its association with gypsum. Mr. Kirsey showed several test samples of high calcium clay in which the calcium had segregated in rather large splotches of lime on burining. This condition is said to render the product brittle. When asked as to the production capacity of the plant, the reply was that the plant was in the throes of a "shakedown" and that the capacity depends upon the sizes produced. Presently there are about 40 employees but the number will be increased as other products are imitiated, such as roofing tile, perlite and expanded clay or shale for light weight aggregate. In the future an effort will be made to obtain samples of clays perlites and shales and submit them to this company to determine their desirability. GW- WR 4-6-73

Larry Kersey of Building Products Co. called to say his company would not be interested in leasing the coal under their clay as they may need it at some future date. FTJ WR 4-8-74

Larry Kirby, Builders Products Inc. called to say he had been instructed not to give us definitive information on the clay samples that were submitted to them for testing. GW WR 5-21-74

Went to the Builders Products lab and received some test pieces from clays submitted to them during the past year. Only very sketchy and general informaion of the testing was given. The statistical information was not available to me. Unless specifically instructed, I have no intention of submitting additional test samples to Builders Products. GW WR 5-22-74

Larry Kersey, Building Products Co., returned my call of Tuesday to say their clay and coal is in Sec. 32 T11N R19E. GW WR 10/15/75

Roger Daniels, U.S. Forest Service, said Building Products Co. was testing about 100 tons of clay from 1½ miles north of Punkin Center. He has had 2 samples analyzed physically at U.S. Bureau of Mines clay lab in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. They met the general requirements for drain tiles. GW WR 6/1/76

Don Morris, Building Products Company geologist, called to say he was free to divulge information on coal on their clay depsoit acreage west of Pinedale. Visited his office where he said the 3 widely spaced holes indicated a very inferior grade of coal or lignite. He has traced the outcrops for about 15 miles in the vicinity of their 97 acres and in only one place, near the head of Coal Canyon, where there was an old-time mine does the coal look favorable, here it is 2½-3 feet thick. According to Mr. Morris, the coal formation closely follows the 6800' contour. GW WR 8/23/76

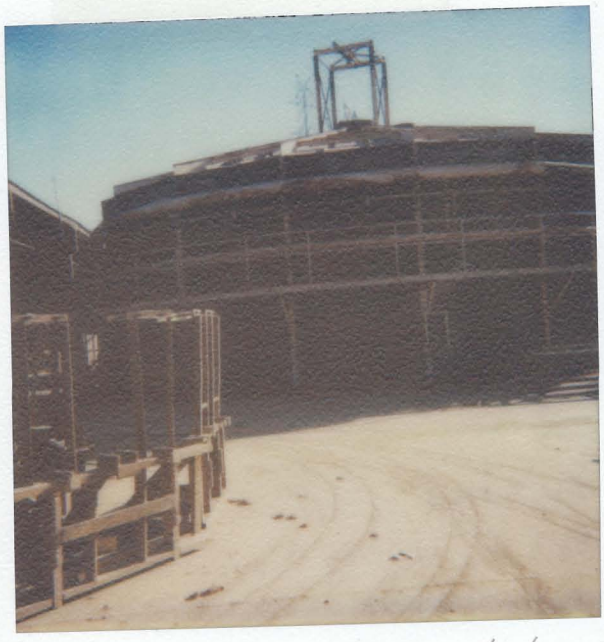
RRB WR 2/13/87: Steve Bower of Building Products Co (file) reports that they have found a coal seam in their clay mine. He called for prices, buyers etc.

Building Products Co 1/7/86
Small Portion of Inventory

Building Products Co 1/7/86
Drier

Building Products Co 1/7/86
Kiln

Building Products Co 1/7/86
"Bake" Kiln



Building Products Co 1/7/86

Building Products Co 1/7/86
Pipe Extruding Machine

Building Products Co 1/7/86
Pipe Extruding Machine

Building Products Co 1/7/86
Pipe Extruding Machine

Building Products Co 1/7/86
Ground slate foreground - Misc

SUBJECT: Field Visit, Building Products Company

DATE: January 10, 1986

ENGINEERS: Ken Phillips, Nyal Niemuth and Dick Beard

In the company of Dick Beard and Nyal Niemuth a visit was made to the Building Products Company (file) clay pipe plant in Phoenix, Maricopa County. There they manufacture vitreous clay sewer pipe in sizes ranging from 4" diameter to 48" diameter. The plant consumes approximately 50,000 tons of clay annually. Four different clays are used, all of which are mined in Arizona. The clays are referred to as the Rim clays which are divided into the "Upper Pink" and the "Lower Blue" are both mined at the Saul Quarry (file) in Navajo County. The Rim Clays are considered refractory and are the most important. The Ranch Clay is mined at the Dewey Ranch #2 Mine (file) Yavapai County. The Ranch Clay is the glass clay which fusses at the lowest temperature. The Table Mesa Slate is mined at the Table Mesa Slate Quarry (file) Maricopa County. The slate does not enter into the fusion at all, but acts as a binding agent due to its platy nature when coarsely ground. All clays are mined by the company and hauled to and stockpiled at the plant. There they are blended along with added grog (broken and/or rejected fired pipe), crushed and ground to minus 20 mesh. The ground clay, with an added small amount of rejected green ware, is mixed with water in a pug mill. The mixed clay is forced through a vacuum chamber and through extrusion dies to produce green pipe. The pipe is then dried for 1-4 months before firing in a shuttle kiln or a beehive kiln. Building Products Company is owned by Mission Clay Pipe Inc. in California where they also have a clay pipe plant. The California plant has a higher capacity to produce small diameter (under 12") pipe while the Building Products plant can produce more large diameter pipe than local demand requires. As a result there is movement of pipe between the two plants as demand requires with small pipe coming to Arizona and large pipe moving to California.

To: Sharon Bolling, Florida Tile
From: Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources,
Ken A. Phillips, Chief Engineer
Date: November 26, 1985

CONTACTS REGARDING CURRENT PRODUCERS OF STRUCTURAL CLAY IN ARIZONA

Building Products Company, (f) 4850 W. Buckeye Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85043. Phone (602) 272-5576 mines clays and manufactures clay pipe. They also have an idle roofing tile plant at the same location. Don Morris is in charge of their raw materials mining operations. Their parent company is Mission Clay Products, P.O. Box 391, Whittier, California 90608. Phone (213) 692-0865. Walt Garrett is the individual to contact regarding purchasing clay.

Phoenix Brick Yard, (f) 1814 South Seventh Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona. Phone (602) 258-7158. The company operates clay pits and manufactures a variety of clay bricks. Mr. Fred Campbell is President and explained that their clay reserves were too limited to consider selling clay to other users.

The Brick Works, (f) P.O. Box 17956, Tucson 85731. Phone (602) 298-8631. The contact person is the owner, Donald Clark. The company mines clays and manufactures bricks in the Tucson area. Mr. Clark feels they have one of the few clay deposits that burns red and is large enough to supply an outside consumer. Further he would like to meet with you or your company's representatives and supply some samples.

Yel card
Don Morris, Consulting Engineer and Geologist, works for Building Products Company and also provides consulting services related to exploration and development of clay deposits. Because of his many years of work for Building Products he is quite familiar with many clay occurrences in Arizona. He can best be contacted on weekends at home in Phoenix at (602) 276-7822.

Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources

VERBAL INFORMATION SUMMARY

May be Reproduced

1. Information from: Don Morris -- Building Products Co.
   Address: 4850 W. Buckeye Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85043 phone 272-5576
2. Mine: Various clay & slate quarries described below in summary
3. ADMMR Mine File Buildings Products Co. Plant
4. County:
5. District
6. Township 1N Range 1E Sec(s) 9 SW¼
7. Location:
8. No. of Claims - Patented Unpatented
9. Owner (if different from above)
10. Address:
11. Operating Company:
12. Pertinent People and/or Firm:
13. Commodities: clay, shale, slate
14. Operational Status: Active
15. Summary of information received, comments, etc.: Don Morris of Building Products Co., 4850 W. Buckeye Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85043 phone 272-5576 gave a talk at the "21st forum on the geology of industrial minerals" held in Tucson titled "Raw Materials and the Manufacture of Vitrified Clay Pipe in Arizona". The talk discussed the company's Phoenix plant operation and more important to us the three quarries they currently operate in Arizona. These include:

The Table Mesa Slate (new file) quarry, Maricopa Co. located at T7N R3E Sec. 6 SE¼. This deposit of precambrian purple slate is held by state leases under the name B.P.C. Excavators Inc. and additionally covers parts of the following ¼ sections, NE¼7, NW¼8, SW¼5, SE¼6.

In Navajo County they mine two layers of refractory aluminous shale, the upper pink and the lower blue from the Saul quarry (new) located at T11N R19E Sec. 19 SE¼. This is in the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest just off forest road 46 about 10 miles southwest of Clay Springs.

In Yavapai near Dewey, Building Products Co. has mined cenozoic lacustrine clay material at 2 sites The first Dewey Ranch Clay #1 (new) located at T14N R1E Sec. 28 NE¼ has been abandoned as it contained excessive amounts of lime. The clay pit they presently operate is the Dewey Ranch Clay#2 (new) believed to be located in T14N R1E Sec. 15.

All the above quarries are operated on a seasonal or periodic basis. The plant operates year round on stockpiled materials. Building Products Co. should be contacted for listing in our next directory of active mines.

Date (Signature) ADMMR

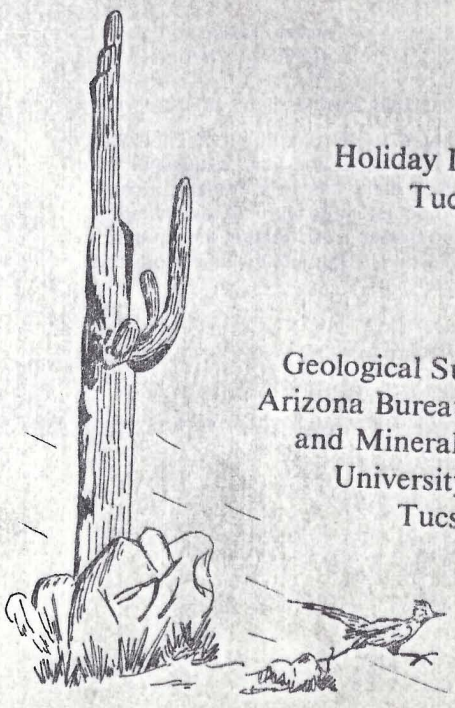
Date 4-12-85 Nyal J. Niemuth Nyal J. Niemuth

21st Forum on the Geology of Industrial Minerals

Program With Abstracts

Aggregates to Zeolites (AZ)

April 9-12, 1985



at the
Holiday Inn Broadway
Tucson, Arizona

sponsored by
Geological Survey Branch
Arizona Bureau of Geology
and Mineral Technology
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

AGGREGATE FOR LARGE WORKS: A CASE STUDY OF THE SEARCH FOR NONREACTIVE AGGREGATE AT THE PALO VERDE NUCLEAR GENERATING STATION

R.E. MIGUES, Bechtel Civil and Minerals, Inc., 5400 Westheimer Way, Houston, TX 77056

Our object in 1975 was to identify a source of high-performance aggregate for the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station in central Arizona. This paper describes the anatomy of that search and some lessons for future aggregate searches for large projects.

Early work convinced us to reject reactive aggregate to avoid complications associated with moisture retention in massive concrete sections. The largest source areas of nonreactive rock, as well as potential sources of polluting reactive rock, were researched in the literature. Producing and inactive commercial pits and quarries were sampled and major igneous and volcanic bodies were examined. Potential gravel sources were considered by sampling wash confluences; care was taken to avoid known reactive source areas. Numerous smaller potential sources were examined and sampled.

Large gravel sources in central Arizona were found to have reactive aggregate because Cenozoic silicic volcanic rock is widely scattered and the main washes drain large areas. Smaller gravel sources were rejected to avoid difficult mixing needed to achieve uniformity in massive concrete sections. Potential new large quarry sites were typically eliminated because of relatively mediocre physical quality of the rock, complicated by the risk of a lengthy environmental-impact process. The most promising quarry sources were in Laramide and Precambrian granite, Paleozoic limestone and quartzite, and Quaternary basalt; the most promising gravel sources were in intermediate-size washes within terranes of these same rock types. Poor sources were in Precambrian schist and gneiss terranes and Cretaceous volcanics, which typically are silicic. The closest large sources filling the criteria are alluvial deposits at the base of the Gila Mountains, and these were used for construction.

Refinements to costly, time-consuming field searches would be welcome. LANDSAT imagery and computer enhancement may be such a refinement, allowing us to focus on favorable areas and avoid problem rock types.

RAW MATERIALS AND THE MANUFACTURE OF VITRIFIED CLAY PIPE IN ARIZONA

DON MORRIS, Building Products Company, 4850 W. Buckeye Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85043

The Building Products Company is Phoenix based and owned by Mission Clay Products of California. Building Products is the only manufacturer of vitrified clay pipe in Arizona. The marketing area includes Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, and California.

Building Products, promoted by Arizona Public Service, was formed in 1970. Raw-materials prospecting was undertaken for 2 years, after which a $5-million plant was built. Initially, a satisfactory vitrified product could not be made with the raw materials then in hand. Subsequent prospecting and testing led to an acceptable raw-materials mix. Testing to upgrade the final product is a continuing process.

The basic raw-materials supply must be adequate, secure, and capable of sustaining close tolerances in the final product. These needs are met by mining four geologic materials at three different localities: (1) refractory aluminous shales (two horizons - one pit) of Cretaceous age near Pinedale at the southern edge of the Colorado Plateau Province (Mogollon Rim); (2) less refractory aluminous materials from late Cenozoic lacustrine materials near Dewey in the Transition Zone (TZ); and (3) Precambrian "slate" from near New River along the southern edge of the TZ.

Other additives include grog (ground-up, broken pipe) and barium carbonate that ties up what gypsum there is. Calcium magnesium carbonates are deleterious components that are minimized by careful selection of the mined products.

The raw materials are blended and mixed, ground to 12 mesh, mixed in a pug mill, depleted of air, extruded into pipe ranging from 6 inches to 42 inches in diameter, transported to a hot-air drying room, forklifted to an appropriate kiln, and fired at a 1900-2000° F range.

The "Rim" kaolinitic shales, being the most refractory ingredient, stabilize the pipe during the firing process. They are very plastic, and therefore facilitate extrusion. The Dewey clay fuses at a low temperature and forms an impervious glasslike binder. It also is plastic. The "slate" forms platy particles that tend to orient themselves during laminar flow. This provides strength for both the green and dried product. It doesn't absorb water, which helps the drying process. Grog remains stable during firing, and therefore helps to control shrinkage.

The development of appropriate raw materials and proper mixtures has been done empirically.

SOLAR SALT IN ARIZONA

JERRY GROTT, Southwest Salt Company, P.O. Box 1237, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

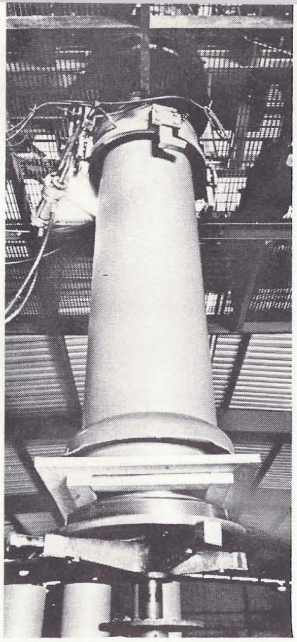
Southwest Salt Company is solution mining the Luke Salt Body of probable late Miocene age. The discovery hole, from which the first core was recovered, was drilled in 1968. The top of the salt was encountered at a depth of 880 feet, and the bit was still in salt at the bottom-hole depth of 4,500 feet.

The solar ponds, developed on land formerly dedicated to agriculture, have an annual capacity of about 90,000 tons. Because land values are very high, mining rates and procedures are governed by the need for near-saturated brine to minimize land requirements.

Because of the frequency of dust storms, the salt operation uses a unique wet-harvesting method. Most inventory is kept in the ponds under brine and harvested only a few days before shipment. Studies of the nature of crystal growth and the distribution of wind-blown and brine impurities led to the development of procedures for processing salt of high chemical purity and low insolubles content. The chemical purity exceeds that of the major percentage of salt produced in fuel-fired evaporators.

Salt is presently shipped from Phoenix as far east as west Texas and as far west as central California. Occasional shipments are made to Hawaii and Alaska.

Distributor News



Left, aerial view of the Building Products Company manufacturing plant and offices on W. Buckeye Rd., Phoenix.

Center, a mixture of ground clay and water is formed into large pipe under tremendous pressure by a vertical extruder.

Right, president Derek Davis views inventory required to fill orders for large and small diameter pipe.

Arizona/New Mexico Contractor and Engineer June, 1973

Building Products Company -- new industry for Arizona

A $2.5 million dollar manufacturing plant designed primarily to produce vitrified clay sewer pipe is now in operation on a 21-acre site at 4850 West Buckeye Road, Phoenix.

It is the Building Products Company plant, and it is the only company producing vitrified clay pipe in Arizona. The plant can produce vitrified clay sewer pipe and fittings in standard diameters ranging from four inches to 42 inches. To facilitate speed and ease of installation, the company can manufacture pipe in longer lengths than have ever been available in this area before.

By combining the proven characteristics of vitrified clay pipe with equally desirable jointing methods, Building Products Company offers a "systems" approach to the construction of sanitary sewers under the name Jointed Clay Pipe System.

Along with the current production of vitrified clay pipe and fittings, the Building Products Company plant also has the capability of making clay roof tile, chimney flue lining and other selected heavy clay products. The basic raw material used in the manufacturing process is obtained from clay bearing properties which was discovered and developed at various locations in Arizona.

Building Products Company was incorporated as an Arizona Business on May 1, 1970. President and chief executive officer of the company is Derek C. E. Davis, who previously served as executive vice-president of a California manufacturer. In charge of production is Hilton A. Humble, vice-president, who has worked in the heavy clay industry since 1949--as plant superintendent of several manufacturing facilities in California. Mel H. Gustafson, director of sales engineering, has many years experience in sanitary sewer design, installation of large and small diameter sewer lines and experience at the management level in other pipe products.

Building Products Company started to materialize back in 1969 when Derek Davis came to Arizona with the idea of building a clay pipe plant here. He had discussions with various possible investors, and an agreement was reached with Arizona Public Service Company which is now the majority stockholder in Building Products Company.

The plant is the most modern facility of its kind. And rigid environmental controls are used in both the mining and manufacturing processes.

Although small compared to most mining operations (only three to five acres are used during a period of several years), clay mining is carefully conducted to leave mined areas in better condition than when they were obtained. It is company policy to practice land reclamation through environmental control, restoration and re-seeding.

At the plant itself, there is over $150,000 of specially-designed environmental control equipment that provides a dust control system unique in the clay pipe industry.

BUILDING PRODUCTS CO.

3872 North 27th Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85017
Telephone (602) 265-4420

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Derek Davis
265-4420

FOR RELEASE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1971

Building Products Company, 3872 North 27th Avenue, announced today that it will begin construction soon on a plant for the manufacture of vitrified clay sewer pipe.

Derek Davis, president of the firm, said the plant will be built on a 20-acre site acquired by his firm on West Buckeye Road, east of 51st Avenue.

"This new plant will be an important addition to Arizona's economy," said Davis, "because it will provide a local source of a product vitally needed for water pollution control and sewage collection in Arizona. In addition, clay used in the manufacturing process will be mined in Arizona -- thereby further developing the natural resources of the State."

According to Davis, the plant will employ between 30 and 60 persons.

Davis emphasized that all phases of the plant's operations are being engineered to provide maximum environmental control and to assure a pollution-free plant.

Building Products Company was incorporated in Arizona in May 1970 as a subsidiary of Arizona Public Service Company.

# # # # # #

STATE OF ARIZONA
DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
MINERAL BUILDING, FAIRGROUNDS
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007

jw

October 6, 1972

Notes by John H. Jett, Director

BUILDING PRODUCTS CO.
4850 West Buckeye Road
Box 19100
Phoenix, Arizona 85005 Phone: 272-5576

Derek Davis - President
Hilton A. Humble, V. Pres.

Manufacture Tile Pipe

Obtain clay from Near Dewey, Pantano Wash area, State Lease Land (McDowell Park?) and others. Will give us complete details soon.

Interested in all nonmetallic prospects. Suggest we send prospects to them (Mr. Humble) They will run analysis at no or minimum cost.

Leased land from Fair Land and Cattle Co.

Particularly interested in perlite, vermiculite, gypsum.

A Mr. Morris with Fisher is their consulting geologist.