



Department of Mines and Mineral Resources

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Newsletter, January, 1992

Greetings and Happy New Year from ADMMR. The Department has now settled into its new quarters at 1502 West Washington. The "new" building is actually 79 years old, but the redesign and remodeling have created a beautiful and functional facility. The elimination of cramped quarters, over-worked heating and cooling systems, and occasional flooding is greatly welcomed. It substantially improves our ability to provide our services to the citizens of Arizona. Also, the availability of proper storage space allows for a more aggressive approach to information gathering. Our map collection, library, mineral occurrence files, database, and photo archives are all benefiting.

For those who have not yet toured the new facility, the opportunity may come at the SME 121st Annual Meeting and Exhibit in February. On Monday, February 24 the Department's facility will be the site for the Arizona Mining and Minerals Museum dinner from 6:45 to 10:00 p.m. Buses will depart from the Civic Plaza North immediately following the exhibit opening and reception. You need not wait until the SME meeting, however. Visitors are welcomed at anytime; we enjoy showing off our new building.

In the midst of the rewards and hard labor of moving the Department offices and the mineral museum, the usual and more ordinary work of the Department has gone on. The office was closed for only one day during the process. Complete access to the library was not a reality until November, but the providing of information to the industry and the general public, the updating of mineral occurrences to the AzMILS database, and the production of publications has continued.

Department Mining Engineer, Dick Beard, will be retiring April 29, 1992. Dick has been with the Department 12 years. On Mondays and Tuesdays he covers the Tucson office. He will be missed.

New Publications

D39 Active Mines in Arizona, 1992.

Fifty-seven companies, operating 100 mines, are listed in this year's directory. In addition, 114 sand and gravel operations are listed. The directory lists operating company name, corporate address and phone numbers, key personnel, mine, mill, or smelter location, and a description of the operation. The

directory, which includes a 1:1,000,000 scale map, is available from the Department for \$5.50 mailed.

SR17 The Primary Copper Industry of Arizona, 1990.

The report covers production, stripping ratios, ore grades, mill recoveries, reserves, employment and wages, and other statistics pertaining to Arizona's copper industry. A brief review of each producer's facilities and activities provides information on industry acquisitions and restructuring. The price is \$9.50 mailed.

OFR91-8 Pumice and Pumicite in Arizona

This open-file report, written by Jerry M. Hoffer, Department of Geological Sciences, University of El Paso discusses pumice and pumicite occurrences in Arizona. Over fifty pumice occurrences are described. Particular emphasis has been placed on pumice usable in the laundry industry for stone washing fabrics and for pumice for light weight aggregate. Includes bibliography. \$4.00 mailed.

OFR92-9 Status of Industrial Mineral Consumed in Arizona and California

The current status of industrial minerals consumption data in various industries in Arizona and Southern California is detailed in this open-file report. Our collection of consumption and market data by user contacts is continuing. This report details the raw data collected for this Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources project in spread sheet form. Although the industries and commodities are briefly defined, the report contains no text. Once all users in a particular industry have been interviewed, the information is compiled and the industry and commodities are described in the Industrial Minerals Arizona's (or Southern California's) ... Industry series. This open file report is updated 2 to 4 times a year.

C36 Arizona Recordation Law Changes - 1989

This free circular further clarifies changes that were made in the recordation law in 1989 and became effective in January, 1991. There has been some confusion about the new margins of instruments recorded at the County Recorder's Offices. The top margin must be at least 2 inches on the first page, with a half inch left and right margin. The form should not be reduced to achieve these margins as the size of the print must not become smaller than 10 point type.

Circular Revisions

C37 Arizona Mining Update - 1992

A summary of the current mineral activity in the State. Copper, gold, industrial minerals, gemstones, and recreational prospecting are covered in the summary, along with Arizona production statistics.

C33 County Agencies Concerned with Mining and Mineral Resources in Arizona

C34 State Agencies Concerned with Mining and Mineral Resources in Arizona

C38 Federal Agencies Concerned with Mining and Mineral Resources in Arizona



How many times have you heard that a mine had a very rich deposit, but it had been "shut down by the government" during World War II? We came across the list of all the mines that were actually shut down by Roosevelt's WPB-L-208 order.

Alvarado
East Vulture
Gold Road
Gold Standard
Pilgrim
Congress
Mammoth St. Anthony
Yarnell
Vivian
Iron King

Budget Notes

On December 16, 1991 the Governor's Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting released its recommendation for the Department. Briefly, their plan calls for consolidating the Department with the Arizona Geological Survey. The agency would be headquartered in Tucson, with the museum remaining in Phoenix to act as an Earth Science Education Center.

The agency would no longer promote Arizona mineral resources and mining. The Arizona Geological Survey would retain its existing positions, but the Department staff would be terminated. A museum curator, an assistant curator, and a person to distribute geology and mineral information would be added to the Arizona Geological Survey, which would be renamed the Arizona Department of Geology and Mineral Resources.

In January of 1992 the Joint Legislative Budget Committee Staff released its recommendation. It is their opinion that the Department should stay an independent agency, continue to aid in the promotion and development of the States' minerals resources, and operate the museum. They recommend a staff reduction of one mining engineer during the upcoming tight fiscal year.

Mineral Resource Activity

Interest by the mining, prospecting, and mineral exploration industry in Arizona remains active. Our contacts with industry have involved precious metals, copper deposits which may be amenable to leach-solvent-extraction technology, and a variety of industrial minerals.

The industry remains concerned about proposals to amend the general mining law and over regulate disposal of waste rock and tailings.

- ☛ The Mystic gold mine, north of Phoenix, operated by Fisher Watt Gold Company, has reached full production from their underground mine and gravity mill.
- ☛ Pfizer Specialty Minerals Division has acquired and is expanding the Santa Rita marble mine and roller mills to produced crushed and ground calcium carbonate.
- ☛ VLS Minerals Inc. is beginning underground development and plans production from their placer deposit in La Paz County.
- ☛ Western Organics is operating a gypsum mine near Salome to supply their horticultural material plant in Phoenix.
- ☛ Dimension and facia stone production continue to expand. It is likely a niche opportunity exists for another producer to enter this market.
- ☛ Arizona Explorations has been exploring for exhalative zone(s) in the Precambrian metavolcanics near Bagdad.

We hope you have found our newsletter informative. Our small staff and limited budget do not allow us to release newsletters on a regular basis, but we hope to be able to use this media as one more method to disseminate information on Arizona mining and minerals. In these times of expanding demands for mineral resources, communication becomes increasingly important for the industry and for the general public. If you know someone who would like to be added to our mailing list, please let us know.