

TO: Phil R. Holdsworth
Territorial Commissioner of Mines

FROM: Martin W. Jasper
Associate Mining Engineer

SUBJECT: J. Fabian & D. Moore Clay Deposit
Little Susitna-Fishhook area

PLACE: Anchorage (10)

DATE: Oct. 25, 1953

October 20th and 21st were spent on investigation of the clay deposit held by Messrs Fabian and Moore. The property is located on right limits of the Little Susitna river, extending one mile northerly from the Fishhook creek bridge. The cabin of Jack Fabians, located on the property, is 11.8 miles from the junction of the Little Susitna-Willow creek road on the Glen Highway at Mile 50.

Numerous small open-cuts and test-pits were examined, but all work to date is insufficient to appraise the real value and possible economic importance of the deposit.

The deposit is of glacial origin. It is the owners belief (and claim) that a "clean" clay - of type which samples previously submitted suggest would be an excellent brick and tile clay - rests upon a glacial boulder clay and has a thickness of 50 to 100 feet.

Sample was taken at one point with 1 3/4" auger to depth of 68 inches. At surface a good clean clay was exposed in shallow cut which probably was "sluff" from bank above; in any event for depth of the sample the material encountered shows some fine gravel and a few thin seams of sand. This test hole was stopped at 68 inches by a coarser piece of gravel. From this sample - which is a glacial boulder clay - it would appear that the reputed clean clay rests at a higher horizon.

A new cut was excavated at another point but here also the material appeared to be the "boulder" clay.

A program of test-work was laid out for Mr. Fabian to follow. This included selection of at least 2 locations on the steepest slopes (where bank "sluffs" and "creeping" would be a minimum). It was suggested that the "top" of the clean clay horizon should be determined, with a series of "stepped" open-cuts to be excavated to sufficient depth to exposed the undisturbed clay bed for the total thickness of the deposit. This work is considered essential before the "possible" importance of the deposit can be determined.

On October 24th the property was re-visited for check on above open-cut program. However, with 12 inches of fresh snow no additional work had been done. It will be checked and sampled upon receiving advice of its completion.