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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
BUREAU OF MINERAL RESOURCES  
GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

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RECORDS

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1948/57

NOTES ON AUSTRALIAN OCCURRENCES OF CERAMIC CLAYS.

By

N.H. LUDBROOK

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Report No. 1948/41.

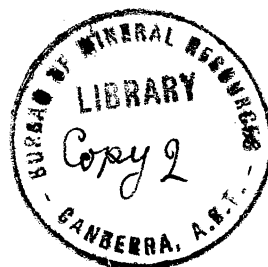
NC 57

(Geol. Ser. 21).

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Glergate (Mullion Creek) 10 miles north of Orange. "Low in plasticity; firing properties satisfactory. Utilised in Sydney potteries in manufacture of whiteware". (1928)

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
H <sub>2</sub> O at 100°C	0.84
H <sub>2</sub> O above 100°C	3.58
SiO <sub>2</sub>	66.95
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	20.20
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.50
FeO	0.27
CaO	0.60
MgO	0.75
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.20
K <sub>2</sub> O	2.56
MnO	0.02
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.63
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.05
SO <sub>3</sub>	trace
Cl	0.01
CO <sub>2</sub>	0.02
BaO	0.06



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No information on reserves.

Dunbible - 4 miles south of Murwillumbah. "Residual clay resulting from alteration of porphyry dyke about 20 feet wide. Clay remarkably white, used mainly for the manufacture of cold water paint. Said to be suitable for inclusion in whiteware body mixture". (1928)

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent.</u>
H <sub>2</sub> O at 100°C	0.90
H <sub>2</sub> O above 100°C	4.64
SiO <sub>2</sub>	70.64
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	20.14
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.80
CaO	0.24
MgO	0.10
Na <sub>2</sub> O	1.13
K <sub>2</sub> O	1.22

Marrangaroo (Lidsdale) 7 miles northwest of Lithgow. "Clay occurring as a bed 1 foot to 2 feet 6 inches thick at the base of No. 3 coal seam in the upper coal measures. Clay lacking in plasticity, very hard and strong when air dried. Becomes white and stiel-hard on firing. Used in potteries when a vitrified body is required". (1928)

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
H <sub>2</sub> O at 100°C	3.04
H <sub>2</sub> O 100°C	4.54
SiO <sub>2</sub>	67.84
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	16.86
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2.70
FeO	0.27
CaO	0.52
MgO	0.75

1927-1928

Marrangeroo.

<u>Analysis</u> (Cont.)	<u>Per cent.</u>
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.38
K <sub>2</sub> O	3.06
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.10

Mudgee (Gulgong District) - A number of deposits of clay derived from alteration of silurian slates occur in the district. Low in plasticity, vitrify at a relatively low temperature, and have a good firing range between vitrification and the commencement of bloating. Extensively used in Sydney potteries.

Near Puggoon clays also associated with granite; are plastic; have a good body feel. (1928)

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent.</u>
H <sub>2</sub> O at 100°C	0.34
H <sub>2</sub> O above 100°C	3.82
SiO <sub>2</sub>	70.18
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	19.16
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.70
FeO	0.18
CaO	0.18
MgO	0.74
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.21
K <sub>2</sub> O	4.12
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.60
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	trace.

APPD 1905  
p. 161

Mudgee (Puggoon).

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent.</u>
SiO <sub>2</sub>	56.76
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	28.75
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.75
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.70

Sydney District - High-grade clays in the Sydney district are obtained from three sources, namely (a) Wianamatta shale, (b) Hawkesbury sandstone, (c) Dykes intrusive into (a) and (b).

- Wianamatta Shale Formation. Relatively small amounts of ceramic clays have been won from weathered shale beds, chiefly at Heathcote, Loftus and Engadine.
- Hawkesbury Sandstone Formation. Lenticular shale beds within 200 to 300 feet of the top of this formation, are an important source of supply of ball and semi-ball clays. Principal deposits are at Asquith, Brookvale, French's Forest and Hornsby. Brookvale deposit has been the main source of high-grade clay in New South Wales.
- Intrusive Dykes. Plastic clays containing noteworthy percentage of titanium occur in dykes intrusive into the Triassic rocks of the Sydney district. Exact details of occurrence are not stated, but they have been used in Sydney potteries for a long time.

Ceramic clays are also known to occur at the following localities -

Pambula.

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent.</u>
SiO <sub>2</sub>	(72.80 (free and combined) 11.64
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	9.16

Pambula

Analysis (Cont.)

Per cent.

Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.05
FeO	0.14
MgO	0.18
CaO	0.16
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.05
K <sub>2</sub> O	2.41
H <sub>2</sub> O { }	1.56
H <sub>2</sub> O { - }	0.30
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.24
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.06
Cl (as NaCl)	0.24

*G. A. R. D. M.  
1916  
P. 223*

Marulan

Analysis

Per cent.

H <sub>2</sub> O at 100°C	0.42
H <sub>2</sub> O above 100°C	5.23
SiO <sub>2</sub>	74.80
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	16.77
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.50
FeO	0.18
CaO	0.18
MgO	0.18
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.34
K <sub>2</sub> O	1.06
MnO	0.64
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	abs.
SO <sub>3</sub>	abs.
Organic matter	trace

*A. R. D. M., 1905  
P. 161*

Molong

Analysis

Per cent

H <sub>2</sub> O at 100°C	0.34
H <sub>2</sub> O above 100°C	8.77
SiO <sub>2</sub>	66.42
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	21.95
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.10
CaO	0.20
MgO	trace
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.08
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.04
MnO	0.03
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.85
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	trace.

Mount Werong

Analysis

Per cent.

SiO <sub>2</sub>	71.4
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	20.0 (including any TiO <sub>2</sub> and P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> present.)

Ulladulla

Analysis

Per cent.

H <sub>2</sub> O at 100°C	1.17
Combined water	13.88
SiO <sub>2</sub>	43.45
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	.40
FeO	.18
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	39.21
CaO	.23
MgO	.02
K <sub>2</sub> O	.17
Na <sub>2</sub> O	.25
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	.06
V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	.03
TiO <sub>3</sub>	1.05
NaCl	.06

*A. R. D. M.  
1903  
P. 142*

*Datta Chatterjee  
Same reference*

Other Localities - Dubbo, Goulburn, Rockley (Main Ridge) and Walcha.  
No analyses are available for these localities.

The following production of kaolin (including filler clays)  
is recorded for 1946 -

<u>District</u>	<u>tons</u>	<u>£</u>
Barraba	13	13
Blayney	8	24
Gulgong	13761	13869
Gunning	6	18
Mudgee	492	618
Oberon	10	14
Orange	253	507
Pambula	150	200
Parkes	26	99
Tumbarumba	2	2
Urana	6300	6029
	<u>21021</u>	<u>21393</u>

This does not include 935,160 tons valued at £170,482 of  
brick and pottery clays produced in Sydney District.

#### QUEENSLAND.

Pottery clay or kaolin has been recorded from the following  
localities. No analyses have been given.

Edbe Vale Colliery, Dinmore.

Haly Creek - 10 miles south-south-west of Kingaroy.

Nanango Gold and Mineral field.

#### VICTORIA.

Pottery clay is mined and marketed by various firms. Ball  
clay is obtained from the following localities.-

##### Rowsley

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent.</u>
Ignition loss	6.9
SiO <sub>2</sub>	63.5
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	28.5
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	.3
CaO	.9
MgO	.83
TiO <sub>2</sub>	.89
K <sub>2</sub> O	1.29
Na <sub>2</sub> O	.06

##### Axedale

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent.</u>
Ignition loss	7.5
SiO <sub>2</sub>	61.0
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	31.1
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.28
CaO	.6
MgO	.81
TiO <sub>2</sub>	1.57
K <sub>2</sub> O	1.52
Na <sub>2</sub> O	-

##### Campbellfield

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent.</u>
Ignition loss	5.7
SiO <sub>2</sub>	68.8

Campbellfield

<u>Analysis</u> (Cont.)	<u>Per cent.</u>
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	23.4
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.96
CaO	.69
MgO	.5
TiO <sub>2</sub>	-

China clay is obtained from the following localities -

Gordon

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent.</u>
Ignition loss	13.2
SiO <sub>2</sub>	48.4
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	37.4
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	.01-.04
CaO	.4
MgO	.05
TiO <sub>2</sub>	.4
MnO <sub>2</sub>	.002

Lal Lal

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>Per cent.</u>
Ignition loss	12.8
SiO <sub>2</sub>	49.0
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	37.9
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	.05-.2
CaO	.4
MgO	.3
TiO <sub>2</sub>	.64
MnO <sub>2</sub>	.002

Other localities from which kaolin has been recorded are Briagolong, 17 miles north of Sale, Ballan, Ballarat District, Bendigo, Berringa, Bacchus Marsh, Heathcote, Lilydale, Linton - 20 miles west-south-west of Ballarat, Stawell.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Most of the South Australian occurrences are described in Jack, R.C. "Clay and Cement in South Australia", Geological Survey of South Australia, Bulletin No. 12.

Most of the deposits of pottery clay occur within a few miles of Adelaide.

It might be possible to obtain a copy of Bulletin No. 12 by application to the South Australian Mines Department.

TASMANIA.

Many deposits of clay are known to exist, but no investigation of these has been made. Domestic pottery is manufactured in Launceston from local clay.

Ball clay has been recorded from Beaconsfield, Forcet and Chinsclay, from George's Bay, Hagley, Kingston, St. Helena, the Upper Derwent Valley and Zeehan. Most of these are said to be good quality clays, suitable for crockery.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

The State is said to be abundantly supplied with every type of clay. No details of analyses are available but white clay and ball clay have been recorded from -

Baker's Hill - 30 miles east-north-east of Perth (considered in 1919 to be suitable for chinaware).

Bolgart - 62 miles north-east of Perth.

Denmark - 30 miles west of Albany.

Donnybrook - 115 miles south of Perth.

Glen Forrest - 17 miles east of Perth.

Goomalling - 75 miles east-north-east of Perth.

Gosnells - 13 miles south-east of Perth.

Jimperding - 37 miles north-east of Perth.

Indee Station

Morawa West - 180 miles north of Perth.

Mount Helena - 25 miles east of Perth.

Mount Kokeby - 70 miles east-south-east of Perth.

Wagin - 130 miles south-east of Perth (semi refractory clay).

Westonia - 35 miles west of Southern Cross.

The Western Australian Department of Mines would no doubt supply further information on any of these deposits on request.

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N.H. Ludbrook.  
Geologist.