

Inspection of a proposed quarry site for the Wynyard Brick Company

by V. M. Threader

A proposed quarry site was visited on 14 June at the request of Mr. W. Gregory, foreman of the Wynyard Brick Company. This company has been unsuccessful in utilising Permian varve material and Permian pebbly mudstone for brick making. Their interest now centres on Quaternary clay and an area has been selected on low lying, flat, agricultural land lying between Deep Creek Road and Camp Creek Road.

At the time of the visit a limited amount of trenching had indicated an average thickness of from three to five feet of clay underlying a foot of soil, with sand and sandy clay under the clay. The area was considered to be unsuitable due to its poor drainage and limited clay thickness. These flats are composed mainly of Pleistocene sand and the hills to the south are composed of Permian pebbly mudstone. It was suggested to the foreman that the maximum thickness of clay could be expected at the base of the hills and that further prospecting should be confined to this zone. This operation was successful and a thickness of colluvial clay in excess of 10 feet was found overlying the pebbly mudstone. This information was already available to the company in the report by geologist R. D. Gee (Gee, 1963; see Figure 1).

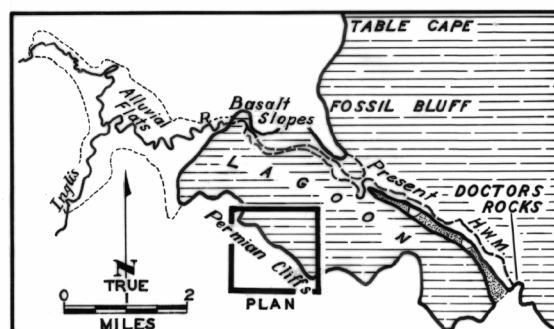
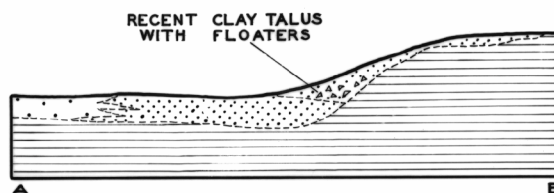
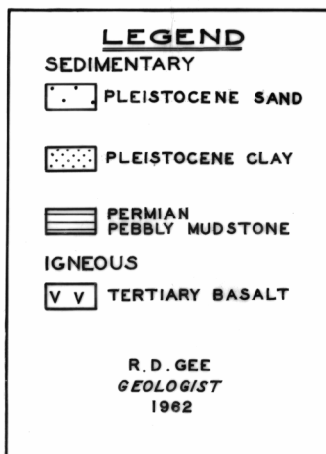
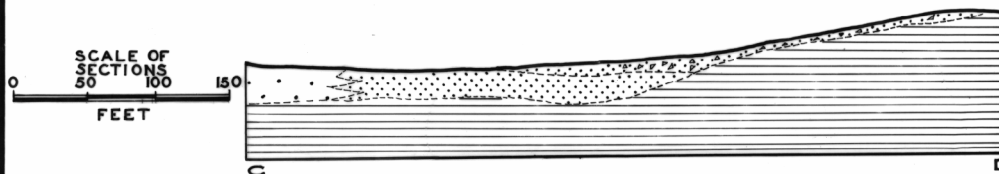
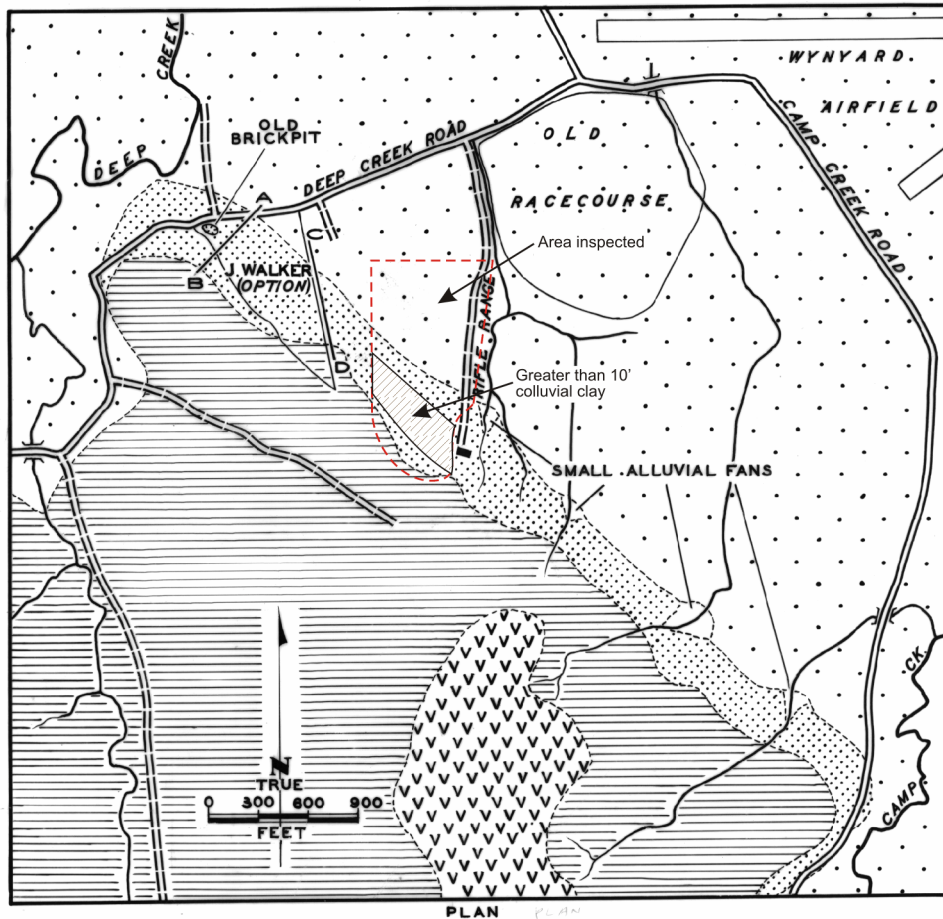
It is understood that the upper three feet of the underlying decomposed mudstone can be utilised along with the clay. There is, therefore, a 50 yard wide strip of land with a probable thickness of four yards of brick-making material. This is estimated to contain 20,000 cubic yards per 100 yards (roughly one acre) along the base of the slope. At the production rate of 100,000 bricks per week each acre of this ground should yield one years supply.

REFERENCE

GEE, R. D. 1963. Report on clay in the Wynyard district. *Tech. Rep. Dep. Mines Tasm.* 7:55–57.

[2 June 1965]

CLAY DEPOSIT — DEEP CREEK ROAD WYNYARD



DEPT OF MINES
2090-22

RECONSTRUCTION — PLEISTOCENE TIDAL LAGOON