

WORKSHOP ON THE AVAILABILITY AND UTILIZATION
OF NORTH CAROLINA MINERAL RESOURCES

December 1966 Progress Report

Minerals Research Laboratory

by

Philip N. Sales

On September 30, 1966 the Minerals Research Laboratory, in cooperation with the Division of Continuing Education and North Carolina State Technical Services Program, sponsored a workshop entitled, "Availability and Utilization of North Carolina Mineral Resources" at the North Carolina State University Faculty Club, Raleigh, North Carolina. Four hundred and fifty invitations were mailed to available names of mineral producers, consumers, and State, area and local development organizations.

The objective of the workshop was to disseminate ideas and create contacts which would result in new and economical uses of the State's mineral resources. The purpose was to present current information to producers and users of mineral products sold or used in North Carolina.

The program began at 9:00 A.M. with Carroll P. Rogers, Jr., president of the North Carolina Mining Association, presiding. Program speakers included Dean Henry B. Smith, Dr. John V. Hamme, Dr. W. Grigg Mullen, Immo H. Redeker and Grant Feasby of North Carolina State University; Dr. E. O. Cummings of High Point College, Tom Kesler of Mineral and Chemical Philipp, Inc., George Herbert of Research Triangle Institute, and John W. Cowand of Reigel Paper Corporation. Fifty-two persons registered for the meeting. They came from the mineral industry, and federal, state and local development or service organizations. A good cross section of these groups attended. Our greatest disappointment was the failure of consuming industry representatives to attend.

In an effort to evaluate the workshop, a questionnaire was mailed to each person who registered. Twenty-three responded with answers. The response gave general agreement on at least six items:

- 1) Useful information obtained by most organizations represented.
- 2) Need for technical manpower directory.
- 3) Need for directory of minerals produced, their specifications, properties, and names of producers.
- 4) Publish workshop proceedings.
- 5) Need for more detailed workshops for specific industries such as brick and tile.
- 6) Need to attract more consuming industry representatives.

It is recommended that future work be along two lines. The first would be to concentrate on liaison with current industry with particular emphasis on the compilation of a directory of technical personnel and a directory of mineral products and producers. The second would be to ask the Industrial Extension Service staff to guide Minerals Research staff members with in-depth contacts with the consuming industry. These should lead to additional comprehensive workshops in which greater overall participation by both consuming and producing industry could be expected.