

Review Series

16 DECEMBER 1992

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A Review Series by J. H. Wood

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Urban Development HAVE Suffered Reduced
Options for Quarries. PARTICULARLY IN AREAS
SUCH AS Mt Cotton?

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quartz diorite and granodiorite of the
Quartz Diorite, and andesitic rocks of the
Brookfield Volcanics, which occur in the
Kholo Creek area west of the city. The
deposits are held by Boral Resources (Qld)
Pty Ltd, Pioneer Concrete (Qld) Pty Ltd, the
Brisbane City Council, T&T Mining and Vam
NL as well as some private holdings. Boral
Resources applied in 1987 to the Moreton
Shire Council for consent to commence a
quarrying operation in the diorite and
granodiorite. A decision on this application
has been delayed pending the results of an
environmental impact study for the complex
which has been commissioned by the

The southern Brisbane market is well served
by deposits of greywacke and to a lesser
extent quartzite and greenstone within the
belt of Neranleigh-Fernvale beds which form
the Darlington Range and subcoastal hills
such as Mount Stapylton.

Numerous deposits were outlined in Willmott
& others (1978) and Willmott & Cooper (1980)
and additional deposits are likely. However
rural residential and urban development have
severely reduced the future options for
quarrying, particularly in areas such as
Mount Cotton and Beenleigh.

excavation in an area which would be exposed to view only from State Forest areas to the north. T&T Mining and Vam NL have a sublease over some of the land of Pioneer Concrete (Qld) Pty Ltd.

The Brisbane City Council holds Quarry Reserve R2795 in the northwestern section of the resource where both andesite and rhyolite occur. The Council has not investigated the deposits and does not plan to exploit the resources in the near future. Adjacent land of Mr Addison has quarrying potential based on the results of surface mapping by Whitehouse (1967) with significant resources of rhyolite and andesite.

Because the localised investigation of the quartz diorite by Boral Resources (Qld) Pty Ltd is the only semi-detailed survey of resources and quality of rock, no reliable quantification of the total reserves, likely aggregate yield or possible life of the deposits can be made. However, even allowing for a high percentage of wastage because of weathered or unsuitable altered rock and the loss of resources arising from the need to screen workings from residential development, the deposits would be able to supply the city with aggregates for many decades.

The environmental impact study proposed for the area will investigate the implications of exploitation of the resource, including the sequence of development strategies for monitoring environmental impact, and options for transportation and distribution of products. The study will investigate whether or not impacts from the project can be mitigated to an acceptable level to allow the exploitation of the resource.

Darlington Range – Mount Cotton Area

Large resources of greywacke and to a lesser extent quartzite and greenstone of the Neranleigh-Fernvale beds occur in the northern section of the Darlington Range south of Beenleigh, and in the Wolffdene and Chardon's Bridge areas. Numerous deposits were outlined in Willmott & others (1978) and Cooper (1979), but additional ones are also likely. However, rural residential

development and pressure for other land uses may severely limit the establishment of new quarries in the future, except perhaps for one or two sites in the Darlington Range.

Deposits of quartzite and minor greywacke also occur in the Mount Cotton-west Mount Cotton areas and are outlined in Willmott & others (1978). Here also rural residential development, several environmental parks and areas of conservation value may prevent the establishment of new quarries where deposits occur. One such quartzite forms a prominent northwest trending ridge in the Buhot Creek area of Redland Shire near Avalon Road. An extension of the deposit occurs across the creek in the City of Brisbane where an application for quarrying was rejected in the early 1980s.

Petrie-Dayboro to D'Aguilar Area

Massive greenstone consisting of regionally metamorphosed basic volcanic rocks (basalts) within the Rocksberg Greenstone represent a significant future source of crushed aggregate for the northside of Brisbane. Schist and phyllite which are generally unsuitable for aggregates also occur within the unit which extends from Lake Samsonvale northwards towards D'Aguilar. The extent of the various lithologies within the unit is not known in detail.

The massive greenstone is best exposed and most accessible in road cuttings along the Petrie to Dayboro road. These rocks have been quarried for almost two decades from the large *Readymix Quarry (9386)*, north of the Petrie-Dayboro Road. An application by the then Sellars Holdings to quarry south of the Petrie-Dayboro Road was initially rejected by the Pine Rivers Shire Council but was ultimately approved in the Local Government Court. However, acquisition of the Sellars Holdings by CSR Limited gave ownership of the deposit to The Readymix Group, who because of their large resources on the northern side of the road had not commenced extraction at this site by mid-1991. Boral Resources (Qld) Pty Ltd subsequently applied for a quarry to the west of the Sellars site in 1987, and although initially opposed to the proposal, the Pine Rivers Shire Council