

THE PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY OF STONE PRESERVATION

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Human intervention to slow down or arrest stone decay is primarily concerned with monuments and historic structures, and with time scales of the order of centuries. Measures that can appropriately be taken must be based upon a thorough understanding of the physical and chemical properties of the stone involved, as well as of the mechanisms of the several decay phenomena at work.

Two approaches have traditionally been employed in this field: (1) isolation (generally only partial) of the stone from the aggressive factors attacking it; or (2) introduction of impregnants to coat, consolidate, and harden it. A recent, new approach consists in chemically modifying certain types of stone so that they cease to be vulnerable to specific agents of decay.

The physical chemical principles underlying these approaches will be discussed, and their effectiveness, in the present state of the art, will be critically assessed.

UTILIZATION OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

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Geothermal energy is a natural heat source which can be utilized in a variety of ways. Optimum utilization depends on the characteristic of the source, i.e. temperature, pressure, liquid or vapor dominated, chemical composition etc. Present uses are for the production of electrical power. This paper discusses other applications such as space heating, production of process steam, air conditioning and desalting along with power production.

Where the geothermal energy is to be used in a flash process to produce power, trade offs in selecting the flash separator temperature must be made. These trade offs should consider the economic objectives of both the producer and the user. For low temperature sources, below 350°F, it can be shown that the greatest revenues will be produced where space heating applications are possible. Such applications will require long range industrial planning as well as conventional geothermal exploration programs.

Projected revenues from a typical source are given for seven different end uses. The range of revenues vary by a factor of 5 - 7 depending on the specific application.

U-PB AGES OF THE SPAVINAW AND TISHOMINGO GRANITES, OKLAHOMA

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Exposures of Precambrian basement rocks in Oklahoma include the Spavinaw Granite in the northeastern part of the state and the Tishomingo Granite in the Arbuckle Mountains region. U-Pb ages of suites of cogenetic zircons from both rocks are about 1400 m.y. Previously reported mineral ages from these granite bodies are about 1350 m.y. and a Rb-Sr isochron derived from whole-rock samples from the northeastern Oklahoma basement

... yielded an age of about
The zircon ages reported
are somewhat older than previous
significantly younger than
of the Francois Mountains of
the Spavinaw Granite and
through basement rocks of
are petrographically similar
record a complex history of

DATING MEXICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
GEOMAGNETIC FIELD EXCURSION

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A possible geomagnetic field
excursion at the Tlapacoya, Mexico
of the center of Mexico City
during upper Quaternary sea level
of demagnetized natural remanent
pre-10,000 yr B.P., 6 m-thick
near-shore marsh deposits, the
field direction back to at least
field excursion of 90 degrees
steepening of inclination, the
years, is documented in its
1-8) that is dated at approximately
excursion in the same mudstone
deposition or penecontemporaneous
excursion is recorded. Whether
this geomagnetic field excursion
occurred at other sites in Mexico.

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MORPHOLOGY OF THE CAMPECHE

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A bathymetric survey was carried
out along the Campeche Escarpment in
the Gulf of Mexico following the discovery
of canyons transecting the escarpment
at embayments were observed.
The first is a large canyon
trending shoreward for more than
depth of 1600 m, or about 200
miles. The second valley type
sometimes within the larger

176
180