

SAND AND GRAVEL RESOURCES OF TALBOT COUNTY

Introduction

This map shows past and present mining operations and areas of potential mineral resources in Talbot County. Sand and, to a more limited extent, gravel are the county's only mineral resources. Because the county is located at a considerable distance from the major population centers, most of the material is used locally. The gravels of the Eastern Shore counties tend to be finer grained than those west of Chesapeake Bay. In most pits 90% of the material will pass 16mm.

The sand and gravel industry has grown from several farm pits in 1975 to ten licensed operations in 1994. Production from Talbot County in 1993 was 348,602 tons, a marked increase over the 190,605 tons extracted in 1992 and 187,093 tons in 1991.

Several hundred acres have been disturbed by mining since the Surface Mining Act 1975. The following chart summarizes the current mining activity as of mid-1994:

Total Acreage Under Permit	Actual Working Acreage	Reclaimed Acreage
233.7	100.4	14.9

These acreage data were compiled by the Minerals, Oil & Gas Division of the Water Resources Administration, Maryland Department of Natural Resources. They were derived from surface-mining permits, field investigations, aerial photographs, and information furnished by various sand and gravel operators. Numerous small pits, some not found and some obliterated by time, are not reflected in these figures.

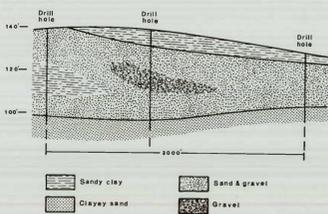
Geology

The sand and gravel deposits of Talbot County are confined principally to two stratigraphic units. In decreasing order of importance, these are the Beaverdam Sand, (Upper? and Middle? Pliocene) and the Pensauken (Upper Miocene). The sand- and gravel-bearing units, depending on their locations, can be in excess of 25 feet thick.

These formations are not everywhere suitable for aggregate or fill. The quality of the material is variable and its use is often determined by its location and the particular specifications of the job for which it is needed. In addition, suitable aggregate or fill material may sometimes be found outside the area outlined as potential sand and gravel resources.

During the course of this investigation, 16 exposures and a number of drill hole logs were examined. Using sand and gravel thickness from these sources, an attempt was made to delineate those areas in which economic sand and gravel deposits are most likely to occur, but deposits tend to be site specific and no continuity could be established. No attempt was made to examine quality or overburden thickness. The information on this map should be used with great caution because sand and gravel deposits commonly change in thickness and composition over short distances, and in some cases location is the determining factor as to whether a particular deposit can be used. Specific site investigations must be made before any actual reserve estimates or economic projections can be made.

The following cross section from a site west of Leonardtown, Maryland serves to illustrate both the lateral and vertical facies changes that can occur over relatively short distances.



Resource Pre-emption

Other factors not considered here influence economic viability of sand and gravel operations in certain areas. Important among these are both the proximity to and pre-emption by urban development.

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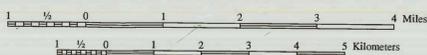
State of Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MARYLAND GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Emery T. Cleaves, Director

MINERAL RESOURCES OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

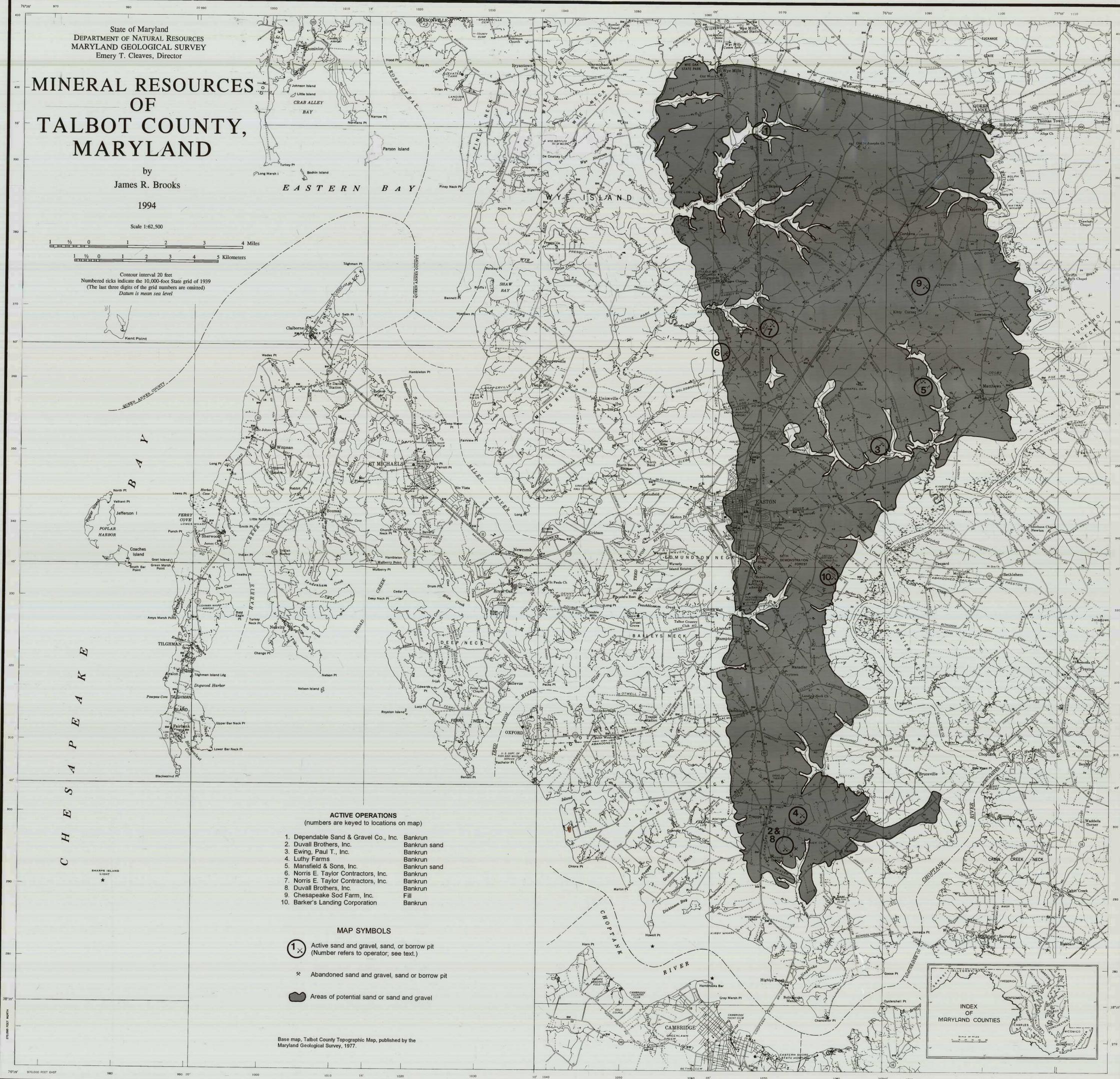
by
James R. Brooks

1994

Scale 1:62,500



Contour interval 20 feet
Numbered ticks indicate the 10,000-foot State grid of 1939
(The last three digits of the grid numbers are omitted)
Datum is mean sea level



ACTIVE OPERATIONS
(numbers are keyed to locations on map)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Dependable Sand & Gravel Co., Inc. | Bankrun |
| 2. Duvall Brothers, Inc. | Bankrun sand |
| 3. Ewing, Paul T., Inc. | Bankrun |
| 4. Luthy Farms | Bankrun |
| 5. Mansfield & Sons, Inc. | Bankrun sand |
| 6. Norris E. Taylor Contractors, Inc. | Bankrun |
| 7. Norris E. Taylor Contractors, Inc. | Bankrun |
| 8. Duvall Brothers, Inc. | Bankrun |
| 9. Chesapeake Sod Farm, Inc. | Fill |
| 10. Barker's Landing Corporation | Bankrun |

MAP SYMBOLS

- ① Active sand and gravel, sand, or borrow pit
(Number refers to operator, see text.)
- ✱ Abandoned sand and gravel, sand or borrow pit
- Areas of potential sand or sand and gravel

Base map, Talbot County Topographic Map, published by the Maryland Geological Survey, 1977.

