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Nebraska Mineral Operations Review, 1987

Raymond R. Burchett

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NEBRASKA MINERAL OPERATIONS REVIEW, 1987

R. R. Burchett and D. A. Eversoll



*Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources*

May 1988

Nebraska Geological Survey
Conservation and Survey Division
Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources
The University of Nebraska—Lincoln



A total of 3,482 quarries, pits, and mines have been active at various times over approximately the last 87 years in Nebraska (table 1). Of these, there were 368 limestone quarries; 2,942 sand, gravel, and silt pits; 36 clay or shale pits; 94 sandstone pits; 11 quartzite pits; 28 volcanic ash pits; 14 coal mines; one chalk mine; three flint quarries; and five peat pits. These operations have disturbed about 41,711 acres, of which approximately 54 percent have been reclaimed.

During 1987, there were 28 limestone quarries; 657 sand, gravel, and silt or siltstone pits; seven clay or shale pits; and 15 sandstone pits active in Nebraska (table 2). These 707 active mining operations disturbed 980 acres and restored 294 acres during the year. The locations of these quarries, pits, and mines are shown in figure 1.

The Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission reports that 1,838 wells produced 6,090,931 barrels of oil and 678 million cubic feet of casinghead gas. Approximately 583 million cubic feet of dry gas was produced from 20 wells, and 7 gas wells were shut-in during 1987. Locations of the oil and gas fields are shown in figure 2. Of the 215 drilling permits issued by the commission during the year, 123 were for exploration and 92 for development. The largest number of exploration and development wells completed occurred in Hitchcock County, followed by Kimball, Cheyenne, Hayes, Banner, and Morrill counties.

Current information collected by the Conservation and Survey Division (Nebraska Geological Survey), the U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service, and the Nebraska Department of Roads' Materials Division has been compiled and placed on open file at the office of the Conservation and Survey Division, 113 Nebraska Hall, 901 North 17th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0517.

Table 1. Cumulative Summary of Active, Inactive, and Abandoned Nebraska Quarries, Pits, and Mines, 1900-1987

County	-Est. Acres			-- Limestone --			-Sand & Gravel-			- Clay & Shale -			-- Sandstone --			-- Quartzite --			- Miscellaneous-		
	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.
ADAMS	17	162	96	0	0	0	17	162	96	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ANTELOPE	25	360	146	0	0	0	25	360	146	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BANNER	25	132	25	0	0	0	25	132	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BLAINE	7	31	31	0	0	0	7	31	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOONE	8	99	91	0	0	0	8	99	91	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOX BUTTE	8	121	18	0	0	0	1	80	0	0	0	0	7	41	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOYD	18	61	11	0	0	0	18	61	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BROWN	44	324	151	0	0	0	43	322	151	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
BUFFALO	126	1968	1712	0	0	0	126	1968	1712	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BURT	17	56	35	0	0	0	15	48	35	1	4	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
BUTLER	24	516	421	0	0	0	24	516	421	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CASS	203	3362	901	155	2389	353	30	937	547	8	25	0	10	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
CEDAR	84	399	290	2	5	1	82	394	289	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHASE	45	258	155	0	0	0	40	238	136	0	0	0	5	20	19	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHEERY	19	57	17	0	0	0	15	47	17	0	0	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	3	3	0
CHEYENNE	61	578	294	0	0	0	61	578	294	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CLAY	10	206	84	0	0	0	10	206	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
COLFAX	27	615	454	0	0	0	27	615	454	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CUMING	15	619	399	0	0	0	15	619	399	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CUSTER	19	308	75	0	0	0	16	301	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	7	0
DAKOTA	29	326	179	6	9	0	22	316	177	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAMES	35	125	27	0	0	0	35	125	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAWSON	110	1710	1092	0	0	0	110	1710	1092	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DEUEL	35	330	115	0	0	0	35	330	115	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DIXON	21	110	37	5	31	7	16	79	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DODGE	42	2191	1816	0	0	0	42	2191	1816	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DOUGLAS	35	1534	629	0	0	0	35	1534	629	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 1. Cumulative Summary of Active, Inactive, and Abandoned Nebraska Quarries, Pits, and Mines, 1900-1987

County	-Est. Acres			-- Limestone --			-Sand & Gravel-			- Clay & Shale -			-- Sandstone --			-- Quartzite --			- Miscellaneous-		
	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.
DUNDY	64	231	161	0	0	0	64	231	161	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FILLMORE	8	156	147	0	0	0	8	156	147	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FRANKLIN	34	401	106	0	0	0	30	334	106	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	67	0	0	0	0
FRONTIER	8	63	26	0	0	0	4	25	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	34	5	1	4	4
FURNAS	36	273	84	5	23	0	28	247	84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0
GAGE	79	817	316	16	135	34	57	666	281	1	2	0	5	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
GARDEN	45	96	31	0	0	0	45	96	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GARFIELD	7	48	45	0	0	0	7	48	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GOSPER	11	137	132	0	0	0	10	134	132	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
GREELEY	11	23	17	0	0	0	11	23	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HALL	147	2055	1172	0	0	0	147	2055	1172	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HAMILTON	31	291	225	0	0	0	31	291	225	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HARLAN	12	189	135	0	0	0	10	163	109	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	26	26
HAYES	12	114	83	0	0	0	12	114	83	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HITCHCOCK	33	233	122	0	0	0	32	231	120	0	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOLT	95	699	197	0	0	0	93	689	193	0	0	0	2	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOOVER	9	60	48	0	0	0	9	60	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOWARD	18	231	93	0	0	0	18	231	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JEFFERSON	48	416	165	11	57	0	32	322	139	4	36	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
JOHNSON	14	34	19	2	12	4	12	22	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEARNEY	16	260	198	0	0	0	16	260	198	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEITH	83	1118	703	0	0	0	83	1118	703	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEYA PAHA	67	188	85	0	0	0	39	109	53	0	0	0	26	78	32	0	0	0	2	1	0
KIMBALL	64	333	155	0	0	0	64	333	155	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KNOX	43	592	294	0	0	0	43	592	294	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LANCASTER	62	430	210	11	226	98	35	120	85	4	50	4	12	34	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
LINCOLN	143	1887	1144	0	0	0	133	1861	1143	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	26	1

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County	-Est. Acres			-- Limestone --			-Sand & Gravel-			- Clay & Shale -			-- Sandstone --			-- Quartzite --			- Miscellaneous-		
	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.
LOGAN	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LOUP	19	110	81	0	0	0	19	110	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MADISON	25	971	345	0	0	0	25	971	345	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MCPHERSON	2	16	0	0	0	0	2	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HERRICK	61	727	555	0	0	0	61	727	555	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MORRILL	93	518	160	0	0	0	82	498	157	0	0	0	11	19	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
NANCE	15	217	94	0	0	0	15	217	94	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NEMAHA	73	638	153	60	582	108	13	57	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NUCKOLLS	30	242	77	2	8	0	27	233	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
OTOE	30	161	92	11	86	31	13	55	54	6	20	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PAWNEE	33	177	136	14	121	97	14	45	39	5	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PERKINS	21	124	34	0	0	0	21	124	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PHELPS	12	130	54	0	0	0	12	130	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PIERCE	15	358	123	0	0	0	15	358	123	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PLATTE	37	1369	826	0	0	0	37	1369	826	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
POLK	19	450	404	0	0	0	19	450	404	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RED WILLOW	41	650	521	1	2	2	36	644	515	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
RICHARDSON	58	449	247	26	236	68	27	210	179	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROCK	22	112	71	0	0	0	22	112	71	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALINE	31	289	79	3	14	0	28	275	79	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SARPY	57	1390	917	18	323	87	33	1056	830	2	4	0	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SAUNDERS	74	1344	779	1	126	52	70	1212	728	0	0	0	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SCOTTS BLUFF	128	698	386	0	0	0	128	698	386	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SEWARD	18	71	21	4	30	5	14	41	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHERIDAN	39	119	17	0	0	0	34	104	17	0	0	0	5	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHERMAN	10	12	9	0	0	0	10	12	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SIOUX	18	41	13	0	0	0	18	41	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 1. Cumulative Summary of Active, Inactive, and Abandoned Nebraska Quarries, Pits, and Mines, 1900-1987

County	-Est. Acres			-- Limestone --			-Sand & Gravel-			- Clay & Shale -			-- Sandstone --			-- Quartzite --			- Miscellaneous-			
	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	
STANTON	13	311	204	0	0	0	13	311	204	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
THAYER	52	566	143	3	23	0	48	542	143	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
THOMAS	21	251	146	0	0	0	21	251	146	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THURSTON	22	44	14	2	7	0	20	37	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VALLEY	15	198	106	0	0	0	13	195	105	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	1
WASHINGTON	8	168	78	3	160	70	5	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WAYNE	2	4	4	0	0	0	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WEBSTER	23	304	31	7	8	0	16	296	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WHEELER	2	12	12	0	0	0	2	12	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
YORK	32	554	364	0	0	0	32	554	364	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals for All pits, quarries, and mines:																						
ACTIVE	707	12225	3526	28	1230	275	657	10872	3214	7	81	29	15	42	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	
INACTIVE	1214	14010	7080	108	1787	515	1053	12061	6518	2	4	0	32	121	46	0	0	0	19	37	0	
ABANDONED	1561	15486	12097	232	1595	226	1232	13566	11769	27	70	7	47	105	54	11	105	9	12	44	32	

Table 2. Summary of Active Nebraska Quarries, Pits, and Mines for 1987

County	-Est. Acres-		-- Limestone --			-Sand & Gravel-			- Clay & Shale -			-- Sandstone --			-- Quartzite --			- Miscellaneous-		
	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.
ADAMS	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ANTELOPE	3	10	0	0	0	0	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BANNER	13	22	0	0	0	0	13	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BLAINE	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOONE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOX BUTTE	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOYD	8	2	0	0	0	0	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BROWN	17	17	1	0	0	0	17	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BUFFALO	23	48	0	0	0	0	23	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BURT	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BUTLER	4	7	9	0	0	0	4	7	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CASS	17	60	0	10	8	0	6	52	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CEDAR	9	28	4	0	0	0	9	28	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHASE	17	23	0	0	0	0	17	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHERRY	5	1	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHEYENNE	32	19	0	0	0	0	32	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CLAY	5	19	8	0	0	0	5	19	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
COLFAX	5	21	3	0	0	0	5	21	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CUMING	3	5	17	0	0	0	3	5	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CUSTER	3	5	3	0	0	0	3	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAKOTA	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAWES	16	3	0	0	0	0	16	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DAWSON	15	23	0	0	0	0	15	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DEUEL	18	24	0	0	0	0	18	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DIXON	3	1	24	1	0	0	2	1	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DODGE	7	48	33	0	0	0	7	48	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DOUGLAS	3	9	0	0	0	0	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 2. Summary of Active Nebraska Quarries, Pits, and Mines for 1987

County	-Est. Acres-		-- Limestone --				-Sand & Gravel-				- Clay & Shale -				-- Sandstone --				-- Quartzite --				- Miscellaneous-				
	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.
DUNDY	34	7	0	0	0	0	34	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FILLMORE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FRANKLIN	4	15	0	0	0	0	4	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FRONTIER	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FURNAS	3	4	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GAGE	14	19	4	4	2	0	10	17	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GARDEN	11	2	0	0	0	0	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GARFIELD	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GOSPER	2	10	10	0	0	0	2	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GREELEY	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HALL	10	21	0	0	0	0	10	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HAMILTON	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HARLAN	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HAYES	2	0	9	0	0	0	2	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HITCHCOCK	7	6	3	0	0	0	7	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOLT	27	9	2	0	0	0	26	9	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOOKER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOWARD	4	3	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JEFFERSON	8	6	2	0	0	0	6	6	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JOHNSON	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEARNEY	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEITH	16	51	25	0	0	0	16	51	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEYA PAHA	13	2	0	0	0	0	10	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KIMBALL	39	22	0	0	0	0	39	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KNOX	15	16	11	0	0	0	15	16	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LANCASTER	11	3	0	2	1	0	4	1	0	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LINCOLN	15	26	0	0	0	0	15	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 2. Summary of Active Nebraska Quarries, Pits, and Mines for 1987

County	-Est. Acres-		-- Limestone --		-Sand & Gravel-		- Clay & Shale -		-- Sandstone --		-- Quartzite --		- Miscellaneous-		
	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.	No.	Mined	Recl.
LOGAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LOUP	5	6	0	0	0	0	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HADISON	8	16	29	0	0	0	8	16	29	0	0	0	0	0	0
MCPHERSON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HERRICK	7	13	0	0	0	0	7	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MORRILL	50	52	10	0	0	0	43	51	10	0	0	0	7	1	0
NANCE	3	13	0	0	0	0	3	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NEMAHA	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NUCKOLLS	5	2	0	1	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OTOE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PAWNEE	2	7	3	1	7	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PERKINS	9	6	0	0	0	0	9	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PHELPS	7	25	10	0	0	0	7	25	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
PIERCE	2	12	0	0	0	0	2	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PLATTE	11	38	40	0	0	0	11	38	40	0	0	0	0	0	0
POLK	3	6	3	0	0	0	3	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
RED WILLOW	12	13	13	0	0	0	12	13	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
RICHARDSON	6	1	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROCK	5	1	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SALINE	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SARPY	7	23	2	3	6	2	3	17	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
SAUNDERS	11	42	2	0	0	0	11	42	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
SCOTTS BLUFF	9	6	0	0	0	0	9	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SEWARD	3	1	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHERIDAN	14	32	2	0	0	0	14	32	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHERMAN	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SIOUX	5	1	0	0	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 2. Summary of Active Nebraska Quarries, Pits, and Mines for 1987

County	-Est. Acres-		-- Limestone --			-Sand & Gravel-			- Clay & Shale -			-- Sandstone --			-- Quartzite --			- Miscellaneous-			
	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	No.	Mined Recl.	
STANTON	3	2	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THAYER	7	3	0	0	0	0	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THOMAS	4	4	4	0	0	0	4	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THURSTON	3	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VALLEY	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WASHINGTON	2	8	8	2	8	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WAYNE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WEBSTER	6	4	1	2	0	0	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WHEELER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
YORK	6	7	2	0	0	0	6	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Totals for Active mines:

ACTIVE	707	980	294	28	32	13	657	945	281	7	0	0	15	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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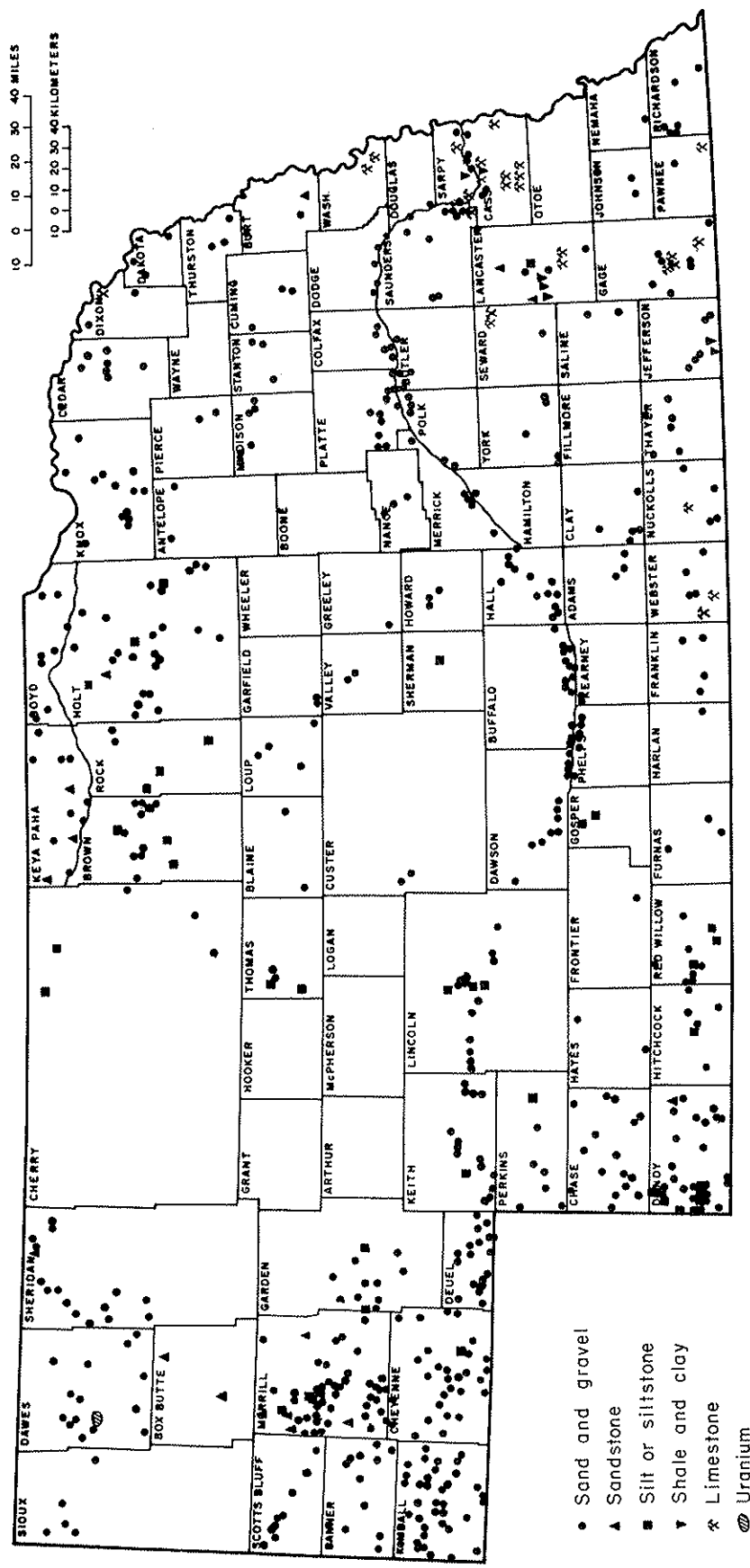


Fig. 1. Location of active quarries, pits, and mines in Nebraska, 1987

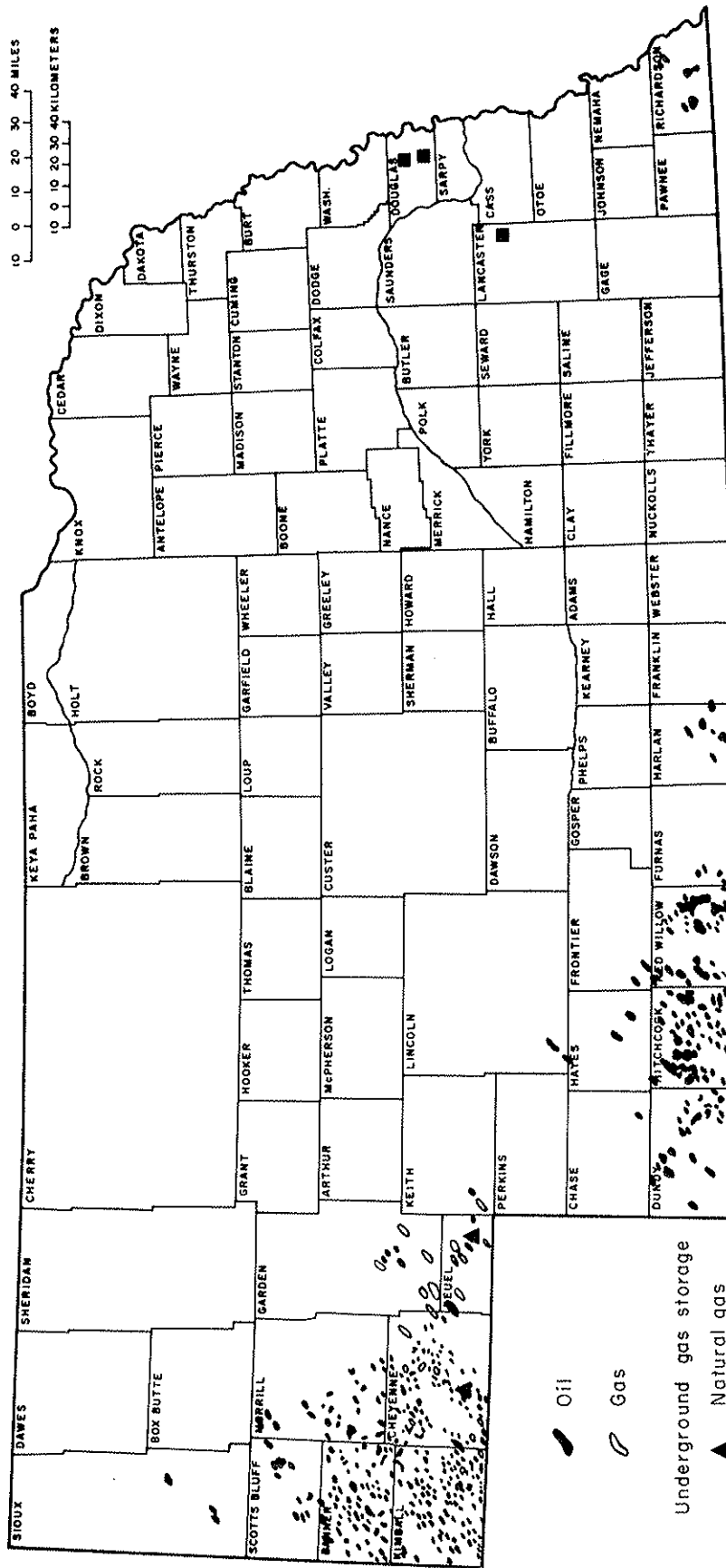


Fig. 2. Location of active oil and gas fields in Nebraska, 1987

Role of Minerals in State Economy

Few Nebraskans live a single day without using raw mineral products or materials manufactured from, processed by, fertilized with, or in some other way affected by minerals or mineral products. Unlike some natural resources, minerals are not renewable.

The value of mineral production in Nebraska during 1987 was \$191.5 million (fig. 3). About 2,400 people are employed by the mining industry in Nebraska, the greater number working in the counties with the largest mineral production value. The 1987 mineral production of Nebraska, as reported by the U.S. Bureau of Mines and the Nebraska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, follows:

Table 3. Preliminary data on mineral production¹ in Nebraska during 1987

	-----1987-----	
	Quantity	Value thousand dollars
Clays thousand short tons	205 ^P	827 ^P
Lime do	W	W
Sand and gravel:		
Construction do	10,400 ^P	26,000 ^P
Industrial do	W	W
Stone (crushed) do	3,900 ^P	17,600 ^P
Combined value of cement, gem stones, and values indicated by symbol W	XX	40,681 ^P
Natural gas...million cubic feet	1,261	3,051
Petroleum...thousand 42-gallon barrels .	6,021	103,389
Total	XX	\$191,548 ^P

^P Preliminary. XX Not applicable.

¹ Production as measured by mine shipments, sales, or marketable production (including consumption by producers).

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; value included with "Combined value" figure.

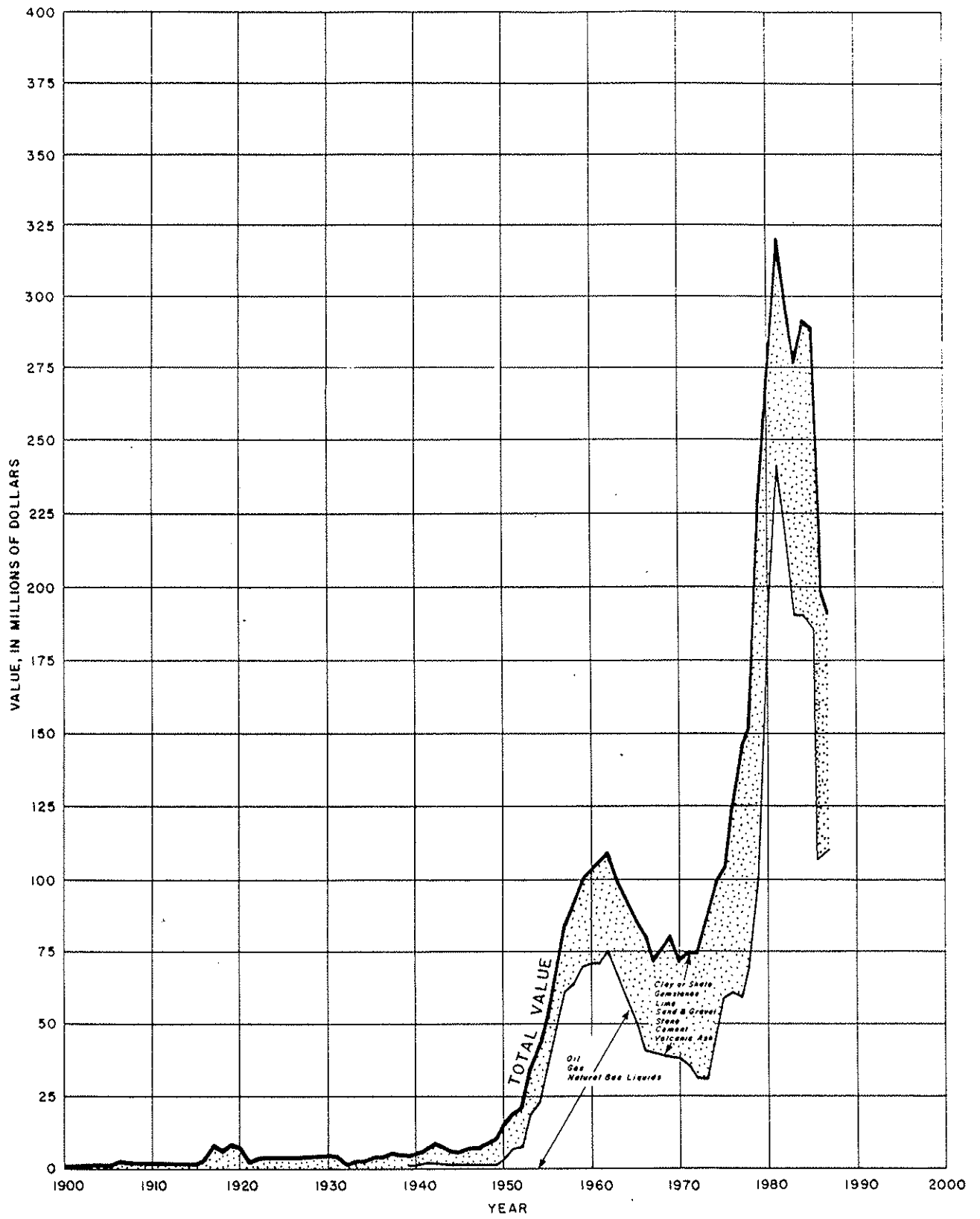


Fig. 3. Value of mineral production in Nebraska

Mineral Resource Industries

Industrial plants manufacturing products from mineral resources are scattered throughout Nebraska. These plants, whose locations are shown in figure 4, are discussed below:

Agricultural Lime Plants. Three firms produce agricultural lime exclusively. They are located near Garland in Seward County, near Nelson in Nuckolls County, and near Ponca in Dixon County. Most crushed limestone plants, largely in southeast Nebraska, produce some agricultural lime.

Brick Plants. Three firms produce brick in Nebraska: Endicott Clay Products Company near Endicott in Jefferson County; Yankee Hill Brick Manufacturing near Lincoln in Lancaster County; and Omaha Brick Works near Ralston in Douglas County. Common and face brick are the main products of these plants.

Cement Plant. Cement is produced by Ash Grove Cement Company near Louisville in Cass County. Limestone, shale, and gypsum are the chief raw materials used in cement manufacture.

Concrete Products Plants. Many plants across the state produce concrete products such as block, brick, precast and prestressed slabs and construction beams, tile, pipe, vaults, septic tanks, steps, feed bunks, and bunker silos.

Crushed Limestone Plants. There are approximately 17 limestone plants in the eastern third of Nebraska. Principal producers are Fort Calhoun Stone Company, Kerford Limestone Company, and Martin Marietta Aggregates. Cass and Washington counties are the leaders in production. Crushed limestone is used for aggregate in concrete, cement manufacture, road base, riprap, agricultural lime, wallstone, and mineral fillers.

Cut Stone Plants. Stone imported from other states is cut by Nebraska

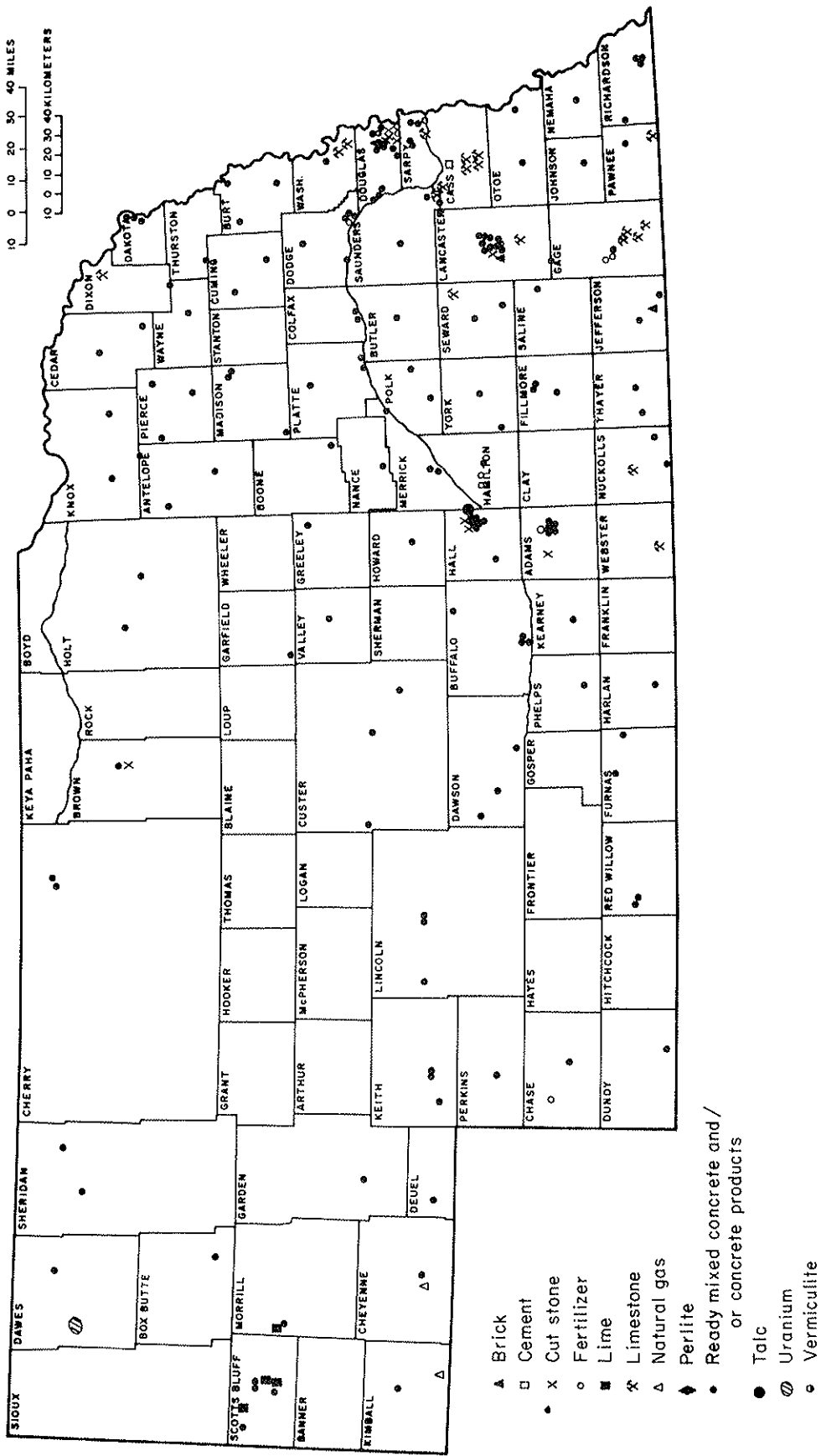


Fig. 4. Location of mineral-resource processing plants in Nebraska, 1987

firms. Two of these firms are near Grand Island in Hall County, two near Lincoln in Lancaster County, one near Juniata in Adams County, one near Ainsworth in Brown County, and four near Omaha in Douglas County.

Fertilizer_Plants. Some of the larger producers of ammonia, urea, and ammonium nitrate include Arcadian Corporation at La Platte in Sarpy County; Farmland Industries, Inc. at Fremont in Dodge County; and Phillips Chemical Company at Beatrice in Gage County. A Farmland Industries plant at Hastings in Adams County produces ammonia. Ammonium nitrate is produced by Cominco-American in Beatrice.

Gem_and_Ornamental_Stone_Plants. Many small firms around Nebraska cut and polish gems and ornamental stones such as agate, quartz, jasper, chalcedony, chert, and petrified wood.

Glass_Plants. Several firms around the state manufacture items from glass produced in other states.

Ground_Limestone_Plants. Three firms in Nebraska produce finely ground limestone (calcium carbonate) for feed supplements and fillers for cement, paint, and rubber. Kerford Limestone Company and Iowa Limestone Company are west of Weeping Water in Cass County, and Texasgulf is southeast of Weeping Water.

Lime_Plants. Western Sugar Company produces lime from limestone imported from their quarry in Wyoming. Limekilns are located at Scottsbluff and Mitchell in Scotts Bluff County, and at Bayard in Morrill County. The lime is used mainly for sugar refining.

Limestone_Pelletizing_Plant. Ampel Corp. of Des Moines, Iowa, makes limestone pellets. The plant is located on a reclaimed quarry site west of Weeping Water in Cass County. The patented pellets are for agriculture, lawn, and garden use.

Natural Gas Processing Plants. Two natural gas processing plants are located in Nebraska. One, south of Kimball in Kimball County, is operated by Oxy Cities Service NGL, Inc. The other, west of Sidney in Cheyenne County, is operated by Marathon Oil Company. Production from these two plants includes natural gasoline, cycle products, liquid petroleum gases, and ethane.

Perlite Plant. The Zonolite Division of W. R. Grace & Company is the sole manufacturer of expanded perlite in Nebraska. Its plant near Omaha in Douglas County imports crude perlite from other states, expands it, and sells it as filler material, as aggregate for plaster and concrete, and as a horticultural product.

Ready-Mix Concrete Plants. Ready-mix concrete plants located throughout the state produce wet concrete for construction purposes. Some of these plants also manufacture cured concrete products.

Sand and Gravel Plants. All but eight of Nebraska's counties produce sand and gravel. Among the largest producers are Central Sand and Gravel Company in Butler, Madison, Pierce, and Platte counties; Hartford Sand and Gravel Company in Douglas and Dodge counties; Lyman-Richey Sand and Gravel Corporation in Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Morrill, Platte, Sarpy, and Saunders counties; and Western Sand and Gravel Company in Cass, Dodge, and Saunders counties.

Talc Plants. Cyprus Industrial Minerals Co., United Sierra Division's plant near Grand Island in Hall County, is the only producer of ground talc in Nebraska. The unground talc is obtained from outside the state. The product is used in paper, ceramics, rubber, paint, insecticides, textiles, and toilet articles.

Underground Gas Storage Terminals. There are five underground gas

storage areas in Nebraska. Two are natural gas storage areas operated by Kansas-Nebraska Natural Gas Co. and are located in Cheyenne and Deuel counties in western Nebraska,. The remaining three are liquid propane gas-storage areas, two of which are located in Douglas County near Omaha and one in Lancaster County near Lincoln. The Douglas County storage units are operated by Metropolitan Utilities District. The storage unit near Lincoln is operated by Mid-America Pipeline Company.

Uranium_Pilot_Plant. Ferret Exploration Company of Nebraska, Inc. produced ore known as yellowcake from their pilot plant located southeast of Crawford in Dawes County.

Vermiculite_Plants. The only producer of exfoliated vermiculite is the Construction Products Division of W. R. Grace & Company near Omaha in Douglas County. Montana is the source of crude vermiculite. The expanded product is used principally for insulation, concrete aggregate, and fireproofing.