

PREFACE

THE Twelfth Clay Minerals Conference held at Atlanta, Georgia, September 30–October 4, 1963, marks the beginning of the Clay Minerals Society, a group from many diverse scientific disciplines who have a common interest in clay and clay minerals. The abundant success of twelve years of operation as a committee under the aegis of the National Research Council has dictated the independent organization. Membership in the Society is open to all persons who wish to contribute to any of the many facets of the science and technology of this field.

Under the sponsorship of the Georgia Institute of Technology, the Conference was held at the Atlanta Biltmore Hotel in an environment of warm Southern hospitality. Three days of carefully planned scientific programs were followed by two days of field trips through one of the largest clay-producing areas in the world. The chairman of the local committee, W. E. Moody, was ably assisted by his colleagues at the Georgia Institute of Technology, Emory University, Georgia Department of Mines, Mining and Geology, the University of Georgia, Florida State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and representatives of the major clay producers in the area in arranging this largest and most successful Clay Minerals Conference.

R. A. ROWLANDS, *President*

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