

## Memorial of Katharine Mather October 21, 1916–February 4, 1991

**BRYANT MATHER**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg, Mississippi 39180-6199, U.S.A.

Katharine Mather, a fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America, was born in Ithaca, New York, on 21 October 1916 and died in Jackson, Mississippi, on 4 February 1991. She graduated from Bryn Mawr College in 1937 with an A.B. in Geology and was a graduate student in geology at the Johns Hopkins University from 1937 to 1940, where she completed her preliminary examination for a Ph.D. and, in 1938, was elected to Sigma Xi. She received an Honorary D.Sc. from Clarkson University in 1978. She became a Registered Professional Geologist in Georgia in 1976. She was a Life Member of The Mineralogical Society (London).

After working as a Research Assistant at Johns Hopkins (1939–1940) and at the Field Museum of Natural History (1940–1941), in 1942 she joined the staff of the Concrete Laboratory of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where she worked until her retirement in 1982. Except for two years when her title was Engineer (Concrete Research), her title was Geologist. She served as Chief, Petrography and X-Ray Branch, Engineering Sciences Division, and as Special Assistant. She was a guest lecturer at the General Electric Company X-ray Diffraction School in Milwaukee in 1956 and 1960. In 1960 she attended a special course in clay mineralogy at Penn State.

She represented the U.S. Army in the Technical Cooperation Program of the U.S., U.K., Canada, and Australia from 1961 to 1971.

She was awarded the Department of the Army Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service in 1962, the Department of Defense Decoration for Distinguished Civilian Service in 1964, and the Federal Woman's Award in 1963, with which came a reception at the White House given by Mrs. John F. Kennedy. She was the first Waterways Experiment Station Woman of the Year, in 1974, and was elected to the WES Gallery of Distinguished Former Employees in 1984. President Johnson appointed her to the President's Study Group on Careers for Women in 1964. She chaired the WES History Committee when it produced the WES history, in 1979.

In the American Concrete Institute she was a fellow, Honorary Member, a Director (1968–1971), and a member of many committees. She received, with Tom Kennedy, the Wason Medal for Research for 1955 for the paper "Correlation between Laboratory Accelerated Freezing and Thawing and Weathering at Treat Island, Maine"; and in 1982 she received the Arthur R. Anderson Award.

She joined the American Society for Testing and Ma-



terials in 1954 and was active in committees on cement and on concrete and concrete Aggregates. She received the C-9 Sanford E. Thompson Award in 1953 for her paper "Applications of Light Microscopy in Concrete Research," presented at the ASTM 50th Anniversary Meeting in New York on 25 June 1952. In 1983 she received the ASTM Charles B. Dudley Award, as the author of Chapter 11, "Petrographic Examination of Concrete," in STP-169B, *Significance of Tests and Properties of Concrete and Concrete Making Materials*. She was a member of the subcommittee on sub-sieve testing of ASTM Committee E-1 and a member of Committee E-25 on microscopy. She was made an honorary member of ASTM in 1979. In Committee C-9 she served on the Executive Subcommittee. She was chairman of the subcommittee on petrography from 1960 to 1983 and of the subcom-

mittee on volume change from 1983 to 1990 and was a member of a number of other subcommittees. In Committee C-1, of which she became an honorary member in 1989, she served as chairman of the subcommittee on sulfate resistance from 1974 to 1990, and was a member of a number of other subcommittees.

In the Transportation Research Board of the National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences, she was made an honorary member of the Concrete Division and its committees in 1986, having been chairman of the Committee on Basic Research from 1970 to 1976 and a member of the Committee on Durability.

In the Clay Minerals Society she was a charter member, Secretary, Vice President, and President (in 1973).

In the Mississippi Academy of Sciences she was editor and director from 1960 to 1966 and received awards for distinguished service to the Academy in 1980 and to Science in 1986.

She was honored, with Bryant Mather, at the International Conference on Concrete Durability at Atlanta in 1987, the Proceedings of which were issued as ACI SP-100 (in two volumes with 2179 p.), and from which came the Katharine and Bryant Mather Fellowship of the American Concrete Institute.<sup>1</sup>

She received the Distinguished Alumna Award of St. Catherine's School, Richmond, Virginia, 1971 and Woman of the Year Award of the Jackson, Mississippi, Business and Professional Women's Club, 1968. She served as chairman of the Papers Review Committee, Cements Division, American Ceramic Society, 1978 to 1979 Chairman, Committee on Cement, Lime, and Gyp-

sum, AIME, 1957. She attended 25 or more international conferences and study tours in England, France, Canada, Mexico, Yugoslavia, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, the U.S.S.R., Japan, Brazil, Spain, Denmark, Iceland, Australia, New Zealand.

#### SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF KATHARINE MATHER<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> To which memorial contributions may be made: ATTN: Education Department, Box 19150, Detroit, Michigan 48219 U.S.A.

<sup>2</sup> A copy of the complete bibliography of Katharine Mather may be ordered as Document AM-91-485 from the Business Office, 1130 Seventeenth Street NW, Suite 330, Washington, DC 20036, U.S.A. Please remit \$5.00 in advance for the microfiche.