Micromounters of New England

Summer meeting to be held June 13 1970, Saturday at the home of John Reiner Hemlock Hollow, Center Harbor, New Hampshire. To reach John's home which is actually in Moultonboro on Lake Winnipesaukee; take the road off route 25 to Long Island (Moultonboro Neck Road), then take small dirt road to the right and his house is the first house on the right. This dirt road is on Long Island just before the end. If you can not find -call John at 253-4189. John again kindly offered us the use of his home for this meeting and since all the members that went to the meeting at his home last summer enjoyed it so much it was decided to do it again. Bring your supper and swim trunks as we will picnic on the lake shores after the meeting. Salads, coldcuts etc. will be available, the same as last time, John writes.

On the next day, Sunday we will go to the Palermo Quarry to collect micro mineral specimens. The quarry at Palermo always produces many micro specimens of the phosphates. I have yet to collect at Palermo that I did not upgrade my collection of micros.

More of the minerals at Palermo:

Triphylite-occurs in small to extremely large crystals at Palermo. Along with graftonite, it is the source of the secondary phosphates that occur at this quarry. The color of triphylite is greenish to blueish gray. It is usually stained with a blue film, which is vivianite.

Graftonite-occurs as laminated intergrowths with triphylite. The color is salmon pink to reddish brown when fresh. Not usually common at Palermo.

Wolfeite-occurs as an alteration of triphylite at Palermo, It is common in the quarry above the regular quarry at Palermo. It is colored pink to reddish yellow to brown. Usually massive at this location.

Vivianite-occurs as bluish stains to colorless crystals in fresh broken specimens that rapidly turn to blue and finally to a dark blue on oxidation. The small micro crystals of vivianite are outstanding at Palermo.

Ferri-sicklerite-occurs as an alteration of triphylite at Palermo. The color is yellowish to dark brown. It is distinguished from heterosite by it's streak which is yellowish to reddish brown. Does not turn purple color after placing in oxalic acid.

Heterosite-occurs as an alteration of triphylite at Palermo. The color is red to purple, best brought out by immersing in oxalic acid. The streak is lighter in color. Purpurite is the alteration of lithiophilite, which does not occur at this location.

Scorzalite-occurs as blue crystals associated with siderite and often massive chit-

locite. Usually does not occur as pocket crystals, usually crystals in a massive groundmass. Crystals labeled lazulite from Palermo are scorzalite, the iron end member of the lazulite group.

Brazilianite-occurs as yellow monoclinic crystals with a four sided form and is associated with quartz, whitlockite and apatite at Palermo. Not as commonly found as at the origonal location at the Chandler Mills Mine in Newport, New Hampshire.

Ludlamite-occurs both as massive green masses in whitlockite and as crystals in whitlockite and siderite. These are beautiful crystals, and in the same cavities on can usually find crystals of vivianite and rarely Reddingite. Ludlamite has a greenish white streak and a perfect cleavage (c). Common at Palermo..

Crandallite-occurs as massive nodules of layers of matted fibers (looks platy) to massive chalcedonic or agate like forms. The color is yellow to white and gray. It is usually associated with apatite in siderite, at Palermo. Usually extremely small, use high power to bring out the platy structure.

Fairfieldite-occurs as foliated to lamellar growths of crystals, usually rounded. It is associated with Ludlamite and siderite. The color and streak are white, sometimes greenish tinted. Not too common at Palermo.

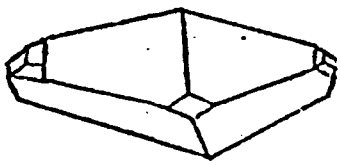
Amblygonite-occurs as small triclinic crystals on hydromuscovite mica associated with colorless quartz crystals. These make good micromounts. Not often found on the dumps at present.

Diadochite-occurs usually as massive yellowish brown to reddish and greenish botryoidal forms. Earthy to glassy. Common at Palermo, can be confused with other similar looking minerals.

Reddingite-occurs as extremely small micro crystals associated with Ludlamite, vivianite and siderite. These crystals are orthorhombic and occur in parallel grouping. They are colorless, white, green to reddish brown. They are associated with Ludlamite, siderite and vivianite. Often missed, since they are so small.

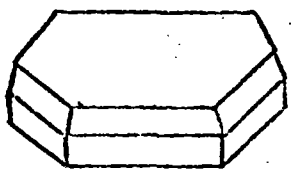
Strengite-occurs as small micro crystals, which are short and stout. These crystals are a beautiful pink color that are transparent. Usually associated with rockbridgeite and beraunite. Not common at Palermo.

Dickinsonite-occurs as masses and crystals of a greenish color. Can be confused with Ludlamite, which has two cleavages, while dickinsonite has only one. Dickinsonite has a micaceous structure with curved lamellations. When in crystals has a different form from Ludlamite, and often has triangular striations on the "c" face (001).

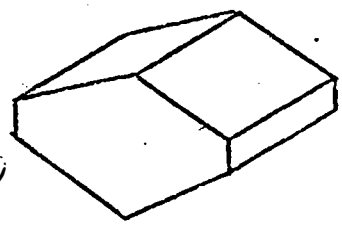


Brazilianite
Monoclinic; prismatic
$NaAl_3(PO_4)_2(OH)_4$

Strengite
Orthorhombic; dipyramidal
$Fe'''(PO_4).2H_2O$

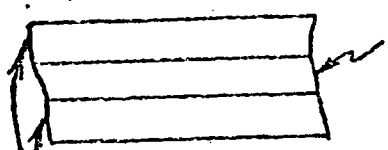


Ludlamite
Monoclinic; prismatic
$(Fe'', Mg, Mn)_3(PO_4)_2.4H_2O$



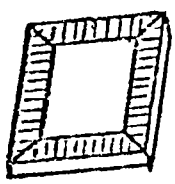
Triphylite
Orthorhombic; dipyramidal
$Li(Fe'', Mn'')(PO_4)$

Crandallite
Hexagonal
$CaAl_3(PO_4)_2(OH)_5H_2O$

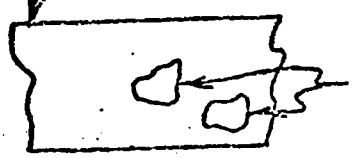


Graftonite
Monoclinic; prismatic
$(Fe, Mn, Ca)_3(PO_4)_2$

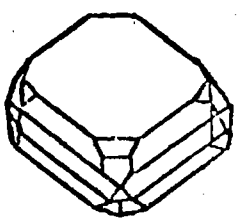
Triphylite



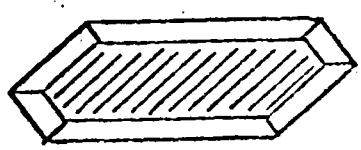
Amblygonite
Triclinic; pinacoidal
$(Li, Na)Al(PO_4)(F, OH)$



Wolfeite
Monoclinic; prismatic
$(Fe'', Mn'')_2(PO_4)(OH)$



Herderite
Monoclinic; prismatic
$CaBe(PO_4)(F, OH)$



Vivianite
Monoclinic; prismatic
$Fe''_3(PO_4)_2.8H_2O$

Newsletter #12

Micromounters Of New England

5 June 1971

The next meeting of the New England Micromounters will be held at Boston University, which is located at 725 Commonwealth Ave in Boston, Massachusetts. Tentative dates and future locations are as follows-

July 10, 11 John Reiner, s home in Center Harbor, New Hampshire.
September 11 Probably at Boston University
November 13
March 14

This would be a meeting on the second Saturday of every second month. The meetings will start at 1 PM to 5 PM. We are going to hold less meetings, to see if we can improve on the number of interested members. Announcing future dates also will allow more to plan in advance to come to the meetings. For information call - Ted Agos, 1 Meadowbrook Rd., Northboro, Mass. 617-393-8856
(New president)
Gil George, 82 Chapin Ave, Prov., R.I. 401-331-3042
(Vice president)
Ralph Carr, 25 Farnum Rd., Warwick, R.I. 401-467-3823
(Secretary and treasurer)

Local collecting in Rhode Island is slow in spite of the extensive blasting going on for road construction. At the 295 road cut where it intersects with route 7 in Smithfield, R.I., 20 different minerals were found, the best being a few micro cubic crystals of galena that had been covered by pyrrhotite that had been altered away, leaving nice xls of galena.

Collecting at St. Hilaire continues, as this past weekend some of our members of the micromount group made their spring trip to this most famous collecting site. A new location to look into when on vacation in Canada is at Wakefield Lake, Quebec. At the present time I do not know if one can collect at this location or not, but the location so far has yeilded 60 different minerals some as yet not named. Rare minerals are wakefeildite, heliandite, tengerite, beyerite, doverite, eulytine, cerosite, and about nine as yet unnamed minerals!

Ciquelly Quarry in East Haven, Conn. closed due to large groups collecting there especially the <u>unattended youngsters</u> climbing all over the equipment!

Hope to see you all at the next meeting, even if some of you feel that some of us are too advanced for you- we also had to start at the bottom-I know of no better way for a beginner to learn minerals, than at a meeting where the entire meeting is devoted to looking at micro mineral specimens!

Newsletter No. 13

MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND
July 10th and 11th, 1971

Saturday, July 10- Meet at the Palermo Quarry in N. Groton, N.H. to collect phosphates at this micromounters paradise. I have yet to collect at this location without finding good micro material. Many of the dumps have never been turned over since they were first placed there years ago. Specimens from here can always be traded to fellow collecters. If you find any specimens that are unknown to you, take them to the next day's meeting- to be held

Sunday, July 11 - Meet at the home of John Reiner's on Long Island in Center Harbor, New Hampshire, at noon till five o'clock in the afternoon. Bring a snack, and enjoy it on the shores of Lake Winnipesaukee. Best way to get there from the south-take route 93 to route 3 East to route 25 in Meredith-go East to Moultonborough, take road right to Long Island. Just before the end is a small road to the right. The first house on the right is John Reiner's home. If the weather holds out, we will hold our meeting outdoors. Hope to see you all there-this is always the highlight of the micromounters group.

The directions to the Palermo Quarries are- From route 93 in Plymouth, take route 25 West, past the "Polar Caves" and take the next road (paved) on the left past the old chimney, which is on the left. This paved road takes you to North Groton. When you come to the end of this road -go left to first house on right, take the path here (looks like a driveway-but goes to other homes as well as to the Quarries). Sometimes the road is badly washed out and one has to walk to the quarry, and mines. For those that want to collect at the Rice Mine, it is also on this road, but is a good climb on foot. For the ambitious, one can also collect at the Davis Mine, which is nearby-and is an easy walk from the road.

Collecting at the Ciquelly Quarry in East Haven, Conn. is now permitted by paying a small fee. Beryl crystals are now being found at a new road cut on Route 2 near Holyoke College which is past Fort Devens, Massachusetts. I have not as yet been there but heard about this location-worth a try! Good beryl specimens have been found in this area in the past.

NEWSLETTERS #14 and #15

MICRO-MOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND

NEXT TWO MEETINGS

FIRST ONE AT TAMWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE, SEPT. 18, SATURDAY

SWAP, TALK, AND BRAG DAY — AND — SWAP, TALK, AND BRAG DAY

9 AM to 6 PM — Micromounters,s Fall Roundup ********** — 9 AM to 6 PM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1971 !! Tamworth, Tamworth, Tamworth, Tamworth, N.H.
Sponsored by the Saco Valley Gem and Mineral Club, Inc.

PLACE..Kenneth A. Brett School, Rte. 113, Tamworth, New Hampshire
A recent fire at the Lower Bartlett Town Hall is responsible for this change of location.
From Conway--leave route 16 at Chocorua turning right, take Rte. 113 about 4½ miles...From Portsmouth--leave routes 16 and 25 at West Ossipee. Go west 4 miles on Rte. 25 to Whittier, turn right to Rte. 113, over the bridge, Go about ½ mi. and it,s there. ...From Meredith north on Rte. 25, turn left at Whittier onto Rte. 113, cross bridge, drive about ½ mi.. school's on the right.

WHAT...Informel get-together for swapping, talking, and bragging.
WITH
AN AUCTION OF MINERAL SPECIMENS AND CUTTING MATERIALS AT 3 PM.

GENERAL INFORMATION: DONATION.....25¢

Light lunch will be available at noontime and refreshments will be served through the day from 10 AM on....by Tamworth Sportsman's Club.

MICROMOUNTERS CAN SET UP INSIDE. Bring extensions and tables.

Please bring your own tables for display. If it rains they'll be needed inside. TAILGATING IS LEGAL. SELLING IS NOT LEGAL.

OVERNIGHT: There are many camping facilities, motels, inns, etc., in the area. Write to chambers of commerce in Tamworth, West Ossipee, Madison, Conway, or North Conway.

SECOND MEETING

ON SATURDAY, SEPT. 25, 1971 AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY GEOLOGY DEPT. ON COMMONWEALTH AVENUE FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

Newsletter #16.

MICROMOUNTERS of NEW ENGLAND

Meeting on Saturday, November 20, 1971 from 12 M to 5 P.M.

At the Boston University Geology Department at 725 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass.

Pete Dunn will expound on "Crystallography for Micromounters".

Gil George will show his latest slides.

A separate table will be set up for members to put their give-aways on.

SPECIAL NOTE: We meet at Boston University through the courtesy of Pete Dunn. It would be most helpful if all who own microscopes would bring them. If everyone does this, it will reduce the amount of "Host" work that Pete has to do. Please cooperate.

Door Prizes will be given away - For Members Only (And prospective members)

Bring your 'Scope, your Swaps, and your "Classics".