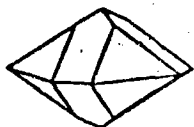


MICROMOUNTERS OF NEW ENGLAND

CASSITERITE (SnO₂)



Stoneham, Me.

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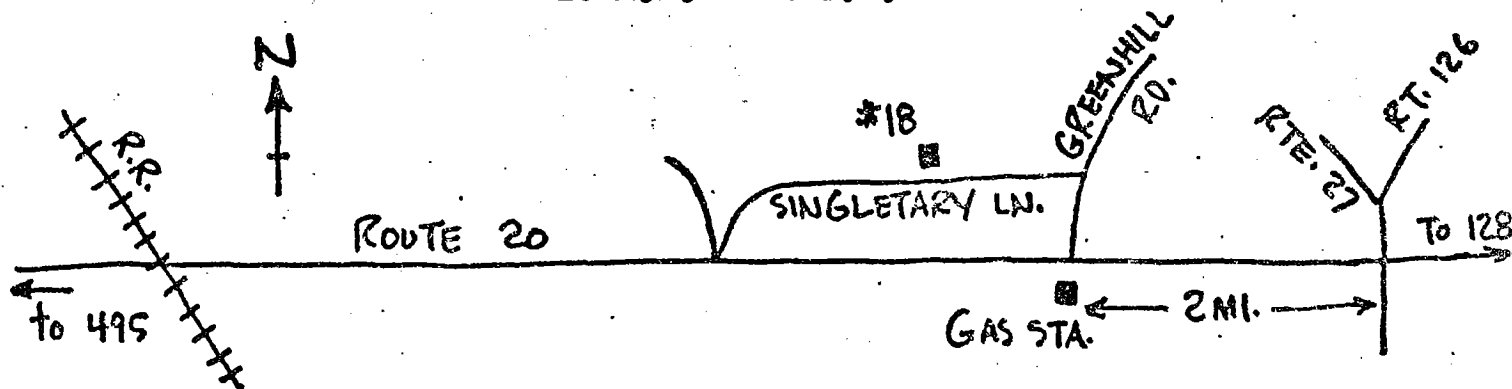
NEWSLETTER #55

MAY 2, 1980

NEXT MEETING: Sunday - May 18, 1980

LOCATION: The Cares' Home
Sudbury, Massachusetts (See Map)

TIME: 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.



Nominations for Club Officers will be accepted and voted on at this meeting. The nomination committee has selected the following:

PRESIDENT: Cleaves Dodge, Manchester, NH
VICE PRESIDENT: Raymond Denicourt, Bristol, RI
SEC'Y/TREASURER: Janet Cares, Sudbury, Mass.

As many of our members already know, Bob Whitmore is now the sole owner of the Palermo Mine in Groton, NH. As of this date, the collecting procedures will be the same as in the past.

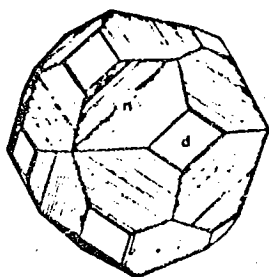
It is with deep regret that we note the passing of fellow micro-mounter Seward Mariner, on May 3, 1980. The Club's sympathy is extended to the family.

The North Shore Rock and Mineral Club will hold its 16th Annual Gem and Mineral Show at the Masconomet Regional Center in Topsfield, Mass. (Endicott Road Exit Off I-95) on June 14 and 15. A room will be set aside for micromounters and we are all invited to participate. Speakers include Vandall T. King, Mineralogist at Ward's in Rochester, NY, who will talk on "Garnets" and "Pegmatite Phosphates"; Bob Whitmore on the "Palermo Mine" and Dr. George Robinson of Ogdensburg, NY on the "Minerals of the Grenville Province". A recent article on Dr. Robinson occurred in the March-April 1980 issue of Rocks and Minerals (Vol. 55 No. 2).

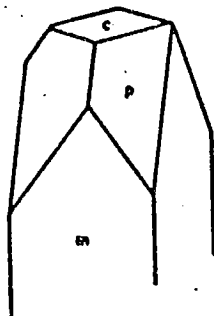
The Gilsum Rock Swap will be on June 28 and 29. The Capitol Mineral Club will hold the show at Sunapee State Park on August 16 and 17. Speakers include Violet Anderson, Author of the "Microminerals" column in the Mineralogical Record and John Reiner, Author of the "Thumbnails" column in Rocks and Minerals and host of our past summer outings on Lake Winnepesaukee.

The New Haven Mineral Club is organizing a Memorial Day Weekend (May 24-26) trip to St. Hilaire, Francon and Asbestos. Most of us are familiar with St. Hilaire and Francon, but may be a little vague on Asbestos. The Jeffrey Mine in Asbestos is about 100 miles east of Montreal and is the second largest asbestos deposit in the world. The 4000 foot wide by 900 foot deep open pit was first worked in 1881 by W. J. Jeffrey.

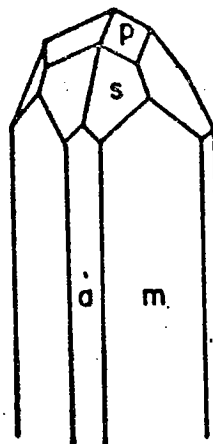
The grossulars, var hessonite are probably the most famous species from Asbestos. The green grossulars, pectolite, prehnite and vesuvianite are also commonly seen and are no slouches. Presently about 45 species are known to occur at the Jeffrey Mine. Last year, some truly astounding green and pink vesuvianite crystals were found. At a quick glance, they resemble the tourmalines of Southern California. An excellent article on the Jeffrey Mine may be found in the March-April 1979 edition of the Mineralogical Record (Vol. 10 No. 2). Micromounter members interested in going on the trip should call Norm Biggart to make reservations.



Grossular, hessonite variety

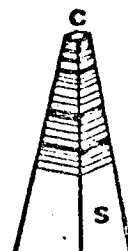


apophyllite



vesuvianite

prehnite



#55

Atlantic Micromounters Conference Summary
Submitted by: Ray Denicourt

I arrived at College Park, Maryland to attend the 8th Atlantic Micromounters Conference on Friday afternoon, March 21, 1980. After checking in at the University Adult Conference Center, I familiarized myself with the building, where both rooms and meals are available.

At about 6 PM, I left the center for downtown Washington and the Smithsonian's Natural History Center. At the Smithsonian, members of the Atlantic Micromounters were present to register arrivals and direct them to the refreshments. These were served while small groups were escorted to the Museum's Naturalist Center and the "Green Room". The Naturalist Center is one of the Museum's newest activities where individuals can have access to microscopes, micromount collections, a thin section collection as well as a small collection of technical books. The "Green Room" is a large vault in which most of the Museum's recent (of the past 15 years) and valuable acquisitions are kept. They will be stored here until its displays are changed. After a pleasant evening at the Smithsonian, I returned to College Park.

Saturday morning marked the official opening of the conference. It was held in the Conference Center in a large room well equipped for a micromounter's meeting. After setting up my microscope, meeting a few people, looking at some of the giveaways and dealers' micros, it was time for the first lecture. All lectures were held in this same room. The most notable were:

- 1 - A talk by the Chemist serving the Mineral Section of the Smithsonian. He described various methods used to analyze minerals at this time. He discussed the pros and cons of each method and left the impression that the quicker methods of analysis are more frequently used these days, rather than the more accurate but time-consuming methods. This is progress!
- 2 - A talk about Zeolites, their structures, locations and availability.
- 3 - A talk on the minerals and geology of the Amity, N.Y. area.
- 4 - An open discussion on micromounting. Various people got up and discussed their preferences on mounting micros, breaking up specimens, etc.

There were 3 or 4 dealers present. Most spent only part of their time selling, while the remaining time was spent at their microscopes. Only micro minerals and items such as plastic boxes, corks and dental picks were available from these dealers. A representative of a local scientific supply house was also present who had a selection of microscopes and fiber optic lights available. All were expensive.

The Sunday session started late and many of the micromounters began by leaving by noontime. I also left at this time with a good selection of micros from Virginia, Alabama and Georgia.

All in all, it was a good conference which I highly recommend. NOTE: This conference should not be confused with the Baltimore Symposium which is held later in the year, but is attended by the same people.

NORTHEAST MINERAL SERVICES

John and Sue Anderson

17 Ginley Road

Walpole,

Massachusetts 02081

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2-4-80

You are invited to join other members of the New England Micromounters to an informal meeting at our house (see enclosed map) on Saturday, February 16, 1980.

Come in the late morning - stay until afternoon or evening. All of our micromounts will be on sale at 1/3 off!! Also, we have on loan a 560 specimen micromount collection from Harvard University which you may view.

If there is time or interest we can look at some mineral slides or discuss photographing micros through a scope. Please come.

John + Sue

