

ALBITE



The Na-end member plagioclase feldspar. Albite is widespread in some pegmatites, particularly those showing late hydrothermal replacement. It is also found in some granitic rocks, low-grade greenschists, and hydrothermal veins. While some references list “oligoclase” (Ab₉₀-Ab₃₀) and “andesine” (Ab₇₀-Ab₅₀) as species, they are considered here as calcic albite (Mandarino, 1999). The variety “peristerite” is distinguished by a bluish, iridescent schiller. It includes albites with compositional range Ab₉₉-Ab₇₅, and consists of submicroscopic parallel intergrowths of Na- and Ca-rich domains, that are responsible for its schiller. Mainly Northern Peninsula.

Dickinson County: 1. Pegmatite quarry, SE ¼ section 19, T42N, R29W, Randville area: Salmon-red albite in aggregates as much as 30 cm long border the quartz core and form stringers in microcline perthite in a post-Animikie pegmatite. Associated species are quartz, microcline, muscovite, beryl, columbite-tantalite, tourmaline, and garnet (James et al., 1961). 2. Groveland iron mine near Randville: With a schiller structure owing to minute goethite inclusions (Hawke, 1976).

Gratiot County: Near Ithaca, T10N, R2W in Michigan Basin Deep Drill Hole in altered basalt-gabbro units as replacement of calcic plagioclase (Stakes, 1978; McCallister et al., 1978; Heinrich and Pollack, 1978). Also in albite-quartz-actinolite-pyrite veinlets cutting the lower unit (Heinrich and Pollack, 1978).

Houghton County: 1. Misery Bay, 16 kilometers west of Toivola: The variety “peristerite” is found as pebbles on Agate Beach (Dorr and Eschman, 1970). 2. In pebbles of the Copper Harbor Conglomerate. 3. Osceola mine.

Keweenaw County: 1. Various localities: Fine-grained andesite immediately below amygdaloids contains plagioclase of “oligoclase-andesine” composition (Ab₇₅-Ab₇₀) (Cornwall, 1951b). 2. North Kearsarge Lode: Occurs as vesicle coatings or perched on “adularia” in vesicles in basalt (Klein, 1939). 3. Five Mile and

Seven Mile Points near Ahmeek: Occurs as “peristerite” pebbles (Dorr and Eschman, 1970).

4. In pebbles in the Copper Harbor Conglomerate. 5. In drill cores south of Eagle Harbor: Plagioclase from altered flow tops is nearly pure albite (Ab₉₇) (Jolly and Smith, 1972).

Marquette County: Approximately 6.5 km northeast of Republic, section 22, T47N, R29W: Thin veinlets of albite (Ab₉₈) occupy fractures in curved microcline of the wall and intermediate zones of the Crockley pegmatite; some “oligoclase” is also present (Heinrich, 1962a).

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