

GERSDORFFITE



A relatively uncommon member of the cobaltite group, usually found with other nickel minerals in certain hydrothermal veins and sulfide deposits. Northern Peninsula.

Marquette County: Serpentinite body in sections 20 and 21, T48N, R27W: Rominger (1881, page 139) reports “nickelglanz” (an obsolete name for gersdorffite) associated with magnetite and chromite in serpentinite.

Ontonagon County: Silver City: Reported as an accessory mineral with argentopentlandite (q.v.) in calcite (Cureton, 1989).

FROM: Robinson, G.W., 2004 Mineralogy of Michigan by E.W. Heinrich updated and revised: published by A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum, Houghton, MI, 252p.

UPDATE

Menominee County: Unnamed prospect near Nathan: As a bright silvery patina rimming grains of pyrite in calcite veinlets. Verified by wavelength dispersion electron microprobe analysis. The mean of two such analyses yielded Ni 33.07, Fe 0.49, As 45.00, Sb 0.28, S 20.48, sum 99.32 wt%.

Marquette County: An antimonian gersdorffite has been identified by electron microprobe analysis as inclusions in galena collected from Lake Superior offshore from a sulfide-carbonate vein cutting serpentinized peridotite on Presque Isle in Marquette (Carlson, 2010b). The gersdorffite forms euhedral crystals to 20 microns rimming inclusions of chalcopyrite in galena, and is best observed in polished sections.

UPDATE FROM: Robinson, G.W., and Carlson, S.M., 2013, Mineralogy of Michigan Update: published online by A.E. Seaman Mineral Museum, Houghton, MI, 46p.