

PARAGONITE



A sodium aluminum mica. Found with muscovite in some phyllites and schists. Usually requires X-ray and chemical analyses for identification. Northern Peninsula.

Marquette County: Some specimens of the silvery white mica (often mislabelled as talc) associated with quartz and black tourmaline from both the Champion and Humboldt mines are in fact paragonite. Electron microprobe analyses of these micas show they are often comprised of both paragonite and sodian muscovite, with the Na-dominant phase averaging 80 to 90 mole percent paragonite. Paragonite also has been reported from the neighborhood of Horserace Rapids and the Big Quinnesec Falls (Menominee River) in Dickinson County (Bayley, 1904); the Kierman quadrangle, northeast of Crystal Falls in Iron County (Gair and Wier, 1956); and near Palmer in Marquette County (Long et al., 1960), but none of these occurrences has been verified.

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.