

WAIRAKITE
 $\text{Ca}[\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{12}] \cdot 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$

A rare zeolite mineral structurally related to analcime. Northern Peninsula.

Keweenaw County: Wairakite has been identified by X-ray diffraction (and confirmed by X-ray fluorescence analysis) in samples of drill core taken through the Portage Lake Volcanics between Ahmeek and Copper Harbor, where it occurs in amygdaloidal flow tops below the Hancock Conglomerate (Pueschner et al., 1999; U. Pueschner, personal communication, 2000). The wairakite is white to pale rose in color, and is associated with laumontite, chlorite, corrensite, quartz, and calcite. Livnat (1983) also found minute grains of a mineral he tentatively identified as wairakite in a single specimen from an amygdule in an andesitic basalt layer near the top of the Portage Lake Volcanic series. However, the grains were too small for confirmation by X-ray diffraction.

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.