

ORTHOCLASE



(see also microcline)

A common and widespread monoclinic potash feldspar. It occurs in granites, granodiorites, and various granitoid and feldspathic gneisses. Most so-called orthoclase from granitic pegmatites is actually microcline, the triclinic dimorph. Likewise, much of the “orthoclase” (or “adularia”) reported from the native copper deposits of the Keweenaw is also probably microcline (q.v.). Northern Peninsula.

Houghton and Keweenaw Counties: As both phenocrysts and in the matrix of felsite (Butler and Burbank, 1929).

Marquette County: Republic: In coarse-grained gray Archean granite in crystals up to 5 cm long, showing Carlsbad twinning (Van Hise and Bayley, 1897). One locality given as NW ¼ NE ¼ section 18, T46N, R29W.

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