

*'Iron-rhodonite' (from slag) and pyroxmangite and
their relation to rhodonite.*

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[Read March 11, 1937; communicated by Professor C. E. Tilley.]

THE pyroxmangite and rhodonite, here examined by X-ray methods, are from the Lewisian schists at Glen Beag, in the Glenelg district, Inverness-shire. The material was exhibited by Prof. C. E. Tilley at the meeting of the Society on November 5, 1936, and it has since been described by him.¹ The specimen of 'iron-rhodonite' was from the iron slag described by Whiteley and Hallimond, and is no. 7a in their table of analyses.²

The unit cell of the 'iron-rhodonite' was determined by means of the Weissenberg goniometer and the data obtained are compared in table I with Gossner and Brückl's determination for rhodonite.³ The

TABLE I.

		Rhodonite.	'Iron-rhodonite.'	Pyroxmangite.
<i>a</i>	... ..	7.77 Å.	7.49 Å.	7.4 Å.
<i>b</i>	... ..	12.45	17.2	17.1
<i>c</i>	... ..	6.74	6.81	6.7
<i>a</i>	... ..	85° 10'	82° 48'	83°
<i>β</i>	... ..	94 4	94 20	94
<i>γ</i>	... ..	111 29	113 17	113
		<i>a : b : c</i>		
Axial ratios	{	Rhodonite ... ..	...	0.624 : 1 : 0.541
		'Iron-rhodonite' ... ..	...	0.435 : 1 : 0.396
		Pyroxmangite ... ..	...	0.43 : 1 : 0.39

unit cell of pyroxmangite was determined by taking a Weissenberg photograph about the *c*-axis and oscillation photographs about the *a*- and *b*-axes. It has not been possible to determine the cell-dimensions of pyroxmangite as exactly as those of 'iron-rhodonite', since only very imperfect cleavage fragments were available; the

¹ C. E. Tilley, *Amer. Min.*, 1937, vol. 22, p. 720. [*Min. Abstr.* 6-528.]

² J. H. Whiteley and A. F. Hallimond, *Journ. Iron and Steel Inst.*, London, 1919, vol. 99, p. 201. [*M.A.* 1-164.]

³ B. Gossner and K. Brückl, *Centr. Min.*, Abt. A, 1928, p. 316. [*M.A.* 4-108.]

spacings and angles have here to be taken as ± 0.1 A. and $\pm 1^\circ$ respectively.

Oscillation photographs have also been taken about the a -, b -, and c -axes of the three minerals. The patterns of reflections on the photographs of 'iron-rhodonite' and pyroxmangite are identical and the corresponding intensities are very similar. On the photographs of rhodonite fundamental variations can be observed in the arrangement of the spots and in their relative intensities, apart from the large difference in the length of the b -axis.

Table II shows the intensities of the corresponding reflections of rhodonite, pyroxmangite, and 'iron-rhodonite' on Weissenberg diagrams taken about the c -axis. Columns 4 and 5 show the intensities on Weissenberg diagrams of 'iron-rhodonite' taken about the a - and b -axes; they may be helpful in further structure work on the mineral.

The data obtained show that the structure of the slag 'iron-rhodonite' of Whiteley and Hallimond is the same as that of pyroxmangite. On the other hand, there can be no doubt that rhodonite does not belong to the same solid solution series, although it shows many features in common. G. Tunell has already suggested the difference between pyroxmangite and rhodonite after examination of the powder photographs of the two minerals.¹

TABLE II.

Rhodonite c-axis.	Pyroxmangite c-axis.	'Iron-rhodonite'					
		c-axis.		b-axis.		a-axis.	
030 —	030 mw	030 w	001 w	030 vvw			
050 vvw	050 —	050 —	002 s	070 w			
070 m	070 vw	070 vw	003 ms	080 vw			
080 —	080 vvw	080 vvw	004 vvw	090 vvw			
090 —	090 w	090 w	007 vw	0.10.0 s			
0.10.0 —	0.10.0 s	0.10.0 ms	008 vvw	0.14.0 vw			
100 w	100 —	100 w	100 m	0.17.0 vw			
200 s	200 m	200 m	200 ms	001 w			
300 m	300 w	300 mw	300 vw	002 m			
400 w	400 —	400 —	105 w	003 w			
1.10.0 w	160 vvw	1.14.0 w	101 s	015 mw			
180 vw	150 vvw	150 —	102 s	014 m			
130 s	140 vs	140 s	104 w	013 m			
120 vvw	130 w	130 —	106 vvw	026 m			

s = strong, m = medium, w = weak, vs = very strong, &c.

¹ G. Tunell in E. P. Henderson and J. J. Glass, Amer. Min., 1936, vol. 21, p. 293. [M.A. 6-528.]

TABLE II (continued).

Rhodonite c-axis.	Pyroxmangite c-axis.	'Iron-rhodonite'		
		c-axis.	b-axis.	a-axis.
140 vw	160 vw	160 vw	107 vvw	027 m
170 s	1.10.0 vs	1.10.0 vs	108 vvw	024 vs
250 vw	240 m	240 ms	203 vw	023 w
230 ms	210 m	210 m	201 vs	022 w
220 vvw	230 —	230 vw	202 w	033 vvw
210 m	240 vw	240 vw	203 m	032 w
220 vw	250 mw	250 mw	302 w	033 w
230 vw	260 vvs	260 vvs	303 ms	043 w
240 vs	270 vw	270 vw	304 w	042 mw
250 w	280 vw	280 —	305 vw	054 m
2.10.0 vw	290 w	290 w	306 vvw	054 w
2.11.0 vw	2.13.0 vw	2.13.0 w	401 w	067 ms
3.10.0 vvw	2.14.0 w	2.14.0 w	403 m	066 w
330 mw	2.16.0 vw	2.16.0 mv	404 m	062 s
320 w	340 vvw	340 vw	502 w	084 w
310 ms	310 w	310 mw	506 w	083 w
320 w	320 mw	320 m	505 s	082 w
340 w	330 w	330 mw	601 m	0.10.2 vvw
3.11.0 w	360 ms	360 mw	606 w	0.10.1 m
490 vvw	390 vw	480 w		0.10.2 w
420 s	3.16.0 w	420 m		0.11.1 mw
410 m	420 w	420 ms		0.11.1 ms
440 vw	460 w	450 w		0.12.6 m
480 w	4.12.0 m	460 w		0.12.4 vw
490 vw	4.13.0 m	4.12.0 mw		0.14.2 w
510 s		4.13.0 mw		0.14.1 s
550 m		570 vw		0.15.2 m
610 w		560 vvw		0.16.2 vvw
620 mw		520 w		0.16.3 w
710 w		530 vw		
720 vw		5.10.0 vvw		
		620 w		
		630 vw		
		640 vw		
		740 vw		

s = strong, m = medium, w = weak, vs = very strong, &c.

The indices of the planes are given according to Gossner and Brückl's orientation for rhodonite, in which (100), (010), and (001) correspond to ($\bar{1}\bar{1}0$), (00 $\bar{1}$), and (1 $\bar{1}0$) respectively referred to the axes of G. Flink (1885), as adopted in the treatises of Dana and Hintze. The first principal cleavage of all our fragments is parallel to (100), and the second principal cleavage is parallel to (001).

There is a marked similarity between the cleavage-zone distances

of 'iron-rhodonite' and enstatite if the indices are correlated so that the first principal cleavages coincide.

'Iron-rhodonite'	...	9.7 [101]	...	10.4 [10 $\bar{1}$]
Enstatite	...	8.8 [010]	...	9.1 [200]

The cell-volume V of 'iron-rhodonite' has been calculated, and its specific gravity determined by suspension in Clerici solution. The values of V , d , and the mass of the cell m show the following comparison with the values obtained by Gossner and Brückl for rhodonite:

	V .	d .	$\frac{m}{H (= 1.662 \times 10^{-24})}$
'Iron-rhodonite'	... 866 Å. ³	3.79	1970
Rhodonite	... 605	3.65	1345

It has not yet been possible to determine n , the number of molecules in the cell, with certainty, as the chemical composition is only partly known. Only the percentages of FeO (35.0) and MnO (14.5) were determined by J. H. Whiteley, and we know that the remainder is composed of CaSiO₃ and MgSiO₃. The following rough computation gives $n = 15.3$, suggesting the possibility that the number of (Fe,Mn,Mg,Ca)SiO₃ molecules in the cell might be 16, which corresponds to the number of MgSiO₃ molecules in enstatite.

	Percentage of weight.	Molecular ratios.	n .
FeSiO ₃	... 64.2	0.487	9.7
MnSiO ₃	... 26.8	0.204	4.0
MgSiO ₃ }	...	0.083	1.6
CaSiO ₃ }	... 9.0		
	100.0		15.3

I am greatly indebted to Mr. J. D. Bernal, F.R.S., for his helpful advice, and I must also thank Professor C. E. Tilley for supplying the material and for his friendly encouragement.