

Sabatier, or the 'rhombic section', according to theory, we cannot decide even though these two planes make an angle of 40° (measured on the Wulff net). Such a composition plane could exist only in the early stages of growth and would become obliterated by later growth, which would account for one crystal wrapping itself around the other (this explanation goes back to G. Friedel, 1926).

Addendum. Dr. Sabatier informs us (letter dated 1 February 1974) that more good specimens of the Nevada twin have been collected in the same locality by Dr. Fabien Cesbron.

*Dept. of Geological Science,
McGill University, Montreal*

SUZANNE FORTIER
GABRIELLE DONNAY

*Département de géologie,
Université de Montréal, Montréal*

J. D. H. DONNAY

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Sapphirine in the Sittampundi complex, India

DURING recent work on the Sittampundi anorthosite intrusion, Salem District, Tamil Nadu (Madras) State, India (Subramaniam, 1956) we discovered a plagioclase (*c.* An₇₃)-rich rock with colourless gedrite ($2V_\gamma 82^\circ$) and nearly colourless clinoamphibole, corundum, chrome spinel, rare prismatic sillimanite, rare phlogopite, and a little pale granular sapphirine, a mineral not previously recorded from this intrusion. The sample occurs between chromitite layers 2 km north-east of Pamandapalaiyam. The corundum is a vermicular, skeletal ruby that occurs mostly in association with the perfectly fresh plagioclase, sometimes as thin strips following the plagioclase grain boundaries, but a few skeletal grains also occur inside the amphibole. The sapphirine has $2V_\alpha 50 \pm 2^\circ$, occurs in isolated granules or prismatic crystals that are sometimes skeletal, is usually associated with the plagioclase, and has a very pale sapphire to colourless pleochroism. The rock contains some late chlorite, especially replacing the gedrite, and patches of an unidentified colourless mica-like mineral occurring in aggregates that sometimes are radiating.

The occurrence of sapphirine in anorthositic rocks in association with sillimanite and corundum is reminiscent of refractory desilicated dealkalized pelitic relics surviving from the partial melting of original country rock just as the sapphirine in the Cordtlandt complex occurs in the sillimanite-bearing emery rock xenoliths (Barker, 1964). However, the presence of a little chrome spinel and two distinct amphiboles and the strongly banded nature of the rock indicates that the rock has a rather complex petrogenesis, which we are investigating. Sapphirine has been recorded from the Fiskenaasset anorthosite in Greenland (Herd *et al.*, 1969), an intrusion closely similar to that of Sittampundi, both in its elongated lens-shape and in the mineralogy of anorthite (An_{90+}), plagioclase, and chromite layers that are present in both bodies. The Fiskenaasset sapphirine only occurs at the edge of the anorthosite at its contact with the country rock amphibolite and this is a significant difference from the present occurrence.

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*Department of Geology,
University of Mysore, Manasa Gangotri,
Mysore 570006, India*

A. S. JANARDHANAN

*Department of Geology,
University, Glasgow G12 8QQ, Scotland*

B. E. LEAKE

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Note added in proof. After the submission of this note, Dr. B. F. Windley informed us that the late Dr. A. P. Subramaniam knew of the sapphirine but had not published the information.

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