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## Barrerite, a new natural zeolite

In an earlier paper (Passaglia and Pongiluppi, 1974), we described as 'sodian stellerite' a mineral found at Capo Pula, Sardinia, Italy. This mineral gives a powder pattern very similar to that of stellerite, a Ca-zeolite, of space group *Fmmm*; unlike stellerite, our mineral contains  $\text{Na} > \text{Ca}$ , and its space group is *Amma*.

In view of the uncertain status of the nomenclature of zeolites, at the time of publication we named it provisionally 'sodian stellerite'.

Subsequently, Dr. M. Hey of London and Prof. G. Gottardi of Modena both suggested that this phase should be considered a new mineral species, and we decided to name it Barrerite, in honour of Richard M. Barrer, born in New Zealand—but for a long time active as scientist and teacher in Britain—for his outstanding contributions in the field of the chemistry of molecular sieves. The new mineral name has been approved by the Commission on new minerals and mineral names of the International Mineralogical Association.

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