

due to magmatic waters, acceptance of this idea of magmatic origin means acceptance of the difficulty of the passage of these waters through a rather thick sedimentary section. On the other hand a descending meteoric origin requires rocks above the Fern Glen which contain or did contain barite. Any artesian theory inherently has difficulties similar to both of these theories.

Thus the necessity for a reinvestigation as to whether commercial Missouri barite is sedimentary or magmatic, or both, becomes apparent.

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NAMING OF MICROSCOPIC ORE MINERALS

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The microscopical examination of polished ore specimens by means of reflected light frequently reveals opaque or other ore minerals of microscopical dimensions. In order that other investigators may be able to identify such minerals as having been previously described they should receive a special name. Those of us interested in the special subject, mineragraphy, recognize that the usual type of name conflicts with existing rules governing nomenclature. In order to avoid this controversial subject I offer the suggestion that all minerals of homogeneous character from which a considerable amount of mineragraphic data have been obtained, be given a distinctive name accompanied by the prefix "micro." Thus the "micro" prefix can be dropped when and if the mineralogist eventually recognizes the mineral involved as an authentic new species. On this basis the name "dunhamite" which I recently proposed would become "micro-dunhamite." Mineragraphers with whom I have discussed this matter are in hearty favor of some such special designation.