Romarchite

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Crystal Data: Tetragonal. Point Group: $4/m \ 2/m \ 2/m$. In massive crusts.

Physical Properties: Hardness = n.d. D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = [6.40]

Optical Properties: Semitransparent. Color: Black.

Optical Class: Uniaxial. $\omega = \text{n.d.}$ $\epsilon = \text{n.d.}$

Cell Data: Space Group: P4/mmm (synthetic). a = 3.802 c = 4.836 Z = 2

X-ray Powder Pattern: Boundary Falls, Canada. 2.98 (10), 1.601 (9), 1.799 (7), 2.679 (6), 1.491 (6b)

Chemistry: (1) Boundary Falls, Canada; X-ray spectrographic analysis detected only tin and a trace of iron.

Occurrence: As an alteration product on tin pannikins immersed in a river (Boundary Falls, Canada); replacing herzenbergite replacing cassiterite (Maria-Teresa mine, Bolivia); on tin ingots from the cargo of a ship wrecked in a Red Sea cove (Sharm Abhur, Saudi Arabia).

Association: Hydroromarchite (Boundary Falls, Canada); abhurite, kutnohorite, aragonite (Sharm Abhur, Saudi Arabia).

Distribution: At Boundary Falls, Winnipeg River, Ontario, Canada, where tin pannikins had been dropped by a voyageur between 1801 and 1821. From the Maria-Teresa mine, near Huari, between Oruro and Uyuni, Bolivia. In a cove of the Red Sea known as Sharm Abhur, about 30 km north of Jiddah, Saudi Arabia.

Name: For the Royal Ontario Museum ARCHeology Department.

Type Material: Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada, M28744.

References: (1) Organ, R.M. and J.A. Mandarino (1971) Romarchite and hydroromarchite, two new stannous minerals. Can. Mineral., 10, 916 (abs.). (2) (1972) Amer. Mineral., 57, 1555–1556 (abs. ref. 1).