



# Northwest



## Micro Mineral Study Group



# MICRO PROBE

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"WHY MOUNT" - ANOTHER VIEWPOINT

by Eric Wood (Editor of CMMA)

Reprinted from CMMA , Vol 12, No. 10, Dec 1978 ...a publication of the Canadian Micromineral Association

The Micromounter is part artist and part scientist. Both of these attributes help to label him as a non-conformist. To require a micromounter to abide by a set of rules governing size of box, background material, orientation of specimen, and the like is to impose unrealistic restrictions on his or her artistry. Does a judge of paintings downgrade one because of the size of the canvas and another because the background is not black?

This is not to say that there are well-mounted and poorly-mounted specimens. As in any other endeavour something worth doing is worth doing well. A good micromounter should ensure that his or her finished mount presents a pleasing picture to the viewer.

Specimen and background should complement each other so as to highlight but not detract from the specimen. It is after all the specimen which is the star of the show and the background must not be guilty of upstaging the star. The pedestal and the glue must be unobtrusive; no ugly globs should be visible.

The specimen must present its most interesting face to the viewer. Sometimes the specimen can be attached to the lid of the box so that it can be viewed from all sides.

The serious micromounter will consider all of these aspects before affixing his mount because he is interested not only in studying the physical properties of his specimens but he also wants to enjoy and take pride in his mounting technique.

The micromounter is an unselfish person. He will gladly exchange specimens with others; he will donate material to those who have nothing to swap; he will share his collection with his fellows so that they may learn from and enjoy his specimens; he will identify specimens for others and give tips on collecting and mounting to beginners.

All of us who pursue a hobby do so for various reasons be they social, competitive, scientific or what. Ultimately however it is satisfaction and enjoyment which are the rewards we seek.

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Russ Kenaga has started compiling a MINERAL SPECIES NOTEBOOK, which will be copies of 3x5 cards on all mineral species, containing descriptive data, and references. There will be five cards on each 8x10 sheet, front side, and 5 on the back, so approximately 3,000 species will fit on 300 pages. Each page will have an expansion system to add 21 new species as they are approved, which should be good for some time.



## GOD AND THE EPA

In the beginning God created heaven and earth.

He was then faced with a class action lawsuit for failing to file an environmental impact statement with HEPA (Heavenly Environmental Protection Agency), an angelically staffed agency dedicated to keeping the universe pollution free.

God was granted a temporary permit for the heavenly portion of the project, but was issued a cease and desist order on the earthly part, pending further investigation by the HEPA.

Upon completion of his construction permit application and environmental impact statement, God appeared before the HEPA Council to answer questions.

When asked why he began these projects in the first place, he simply replied that he liked to be creative. This was not considered adequate reasoning and he would be required to substantiate this further.

HEPA was unable to see any practical use for earth since "the earth was void and empty and darkness was upon the face of the deep".

Then God said: "LET THERE BE LIGHT."

He never should have brought up this point since one member of the Council was active in the Sierra-angel Club and immediately protested, asking "how was the light to be made? Would there be strip mining? What about thermal pollution? Air pollution? God explained the light would come from a huge ball of fire. Nobody on the council really understood this but it was provisionally accepted assuming (1) there would be no smog or smoke resulting from the ball of fire, (2) a separate burning permit would be required and (3) since continuous light would be a waste of energy it should be dark at least one-half of the time.

So God agreed to divide light and darkness and he would call the light Day and the darkness Night. (The Council expressed no interest with in-house semantics)

When asked how the earth would be covered, God said, "let there be firmament made amidst the waters: and let it divide the waters from the waters."

One ecologically radical Council member accused him of double talk, but the Council tabled action since God would be required to first file for a permit from the ABLM (Angelic Bureau of Land Management) and further would be required to obtain water permits from appropriate agencies involved.

The Council asked if there would be only water and firmament and God said, "Let the earth bring forth the green herb, and such as may seed, the fruit tree yielding fruit after its kind, which may have seeded itself upon the earth."

The Council agreed, as long as native seed would be used. About future development God also said, "Let the waters bring forth the creeping creatures having life, and the fowl that may fly over the earth."

Here again, the Council took no formal action since this would require approval of the Game and Fish Commission coordinated with the Heavenly Wildlife Federation and Audubongelic Society.

It appeared everything was in order until God stated he wanted to complete the project in six days, at which time he was advised by the Council that his timing was completely out of the question .....the HEPA would require a minimum of 180 days to review the application and environmental impact statement, then there would be public hearings.

GOD AND THE EPA (Continued)

It would take 10 to 12 months before a permit could be granted.

And God said, "TO HELL WITH IT...."

.....From Congressional Record No. 155 part III, (Proceedings and debates of the 93rd Congress, Second Session)  
by The Honorable Andrew J Hinshaw, House of Representatives

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WHATS IN A NAME?

Are you ever embarrassed to learn that you have mispronounced the name of a new acquaintance? Or some other name or word? It has happened to me.

Some years ago Rudy T called me from a Eugene Motel, for some information. I had to call back with it a few minutes later, The desk clerk blurted out, in a very relieved tone, "So that's how you say it", when I asked for Rudy Tschernich.

A fixed memory is having been corrected on my pronunciation of Cerusite (which according to Hey is SÜRÜ·SAIT or SER·ESAIT or SIR·ŪSAIT ). There is a prevailing difference in pronouncing CHABAZITE. I prefer using the Greek for 'CH' since the name comes from the Greek word for 'hailstone', however some use 'CHI' as in Christian. Hey, in his pronouncing guide (p 672) gives in order of preference

- (1) KHĀ·BEZAIT
- (2) SHĀ·BEZAIT
- (3) CHĀ·BEZAIT (this is most common, but least correct)

Then there are German derived mineral names. Most people know that in the vowel combinations 'IE' and 'EI' only the second vowel is sounded. But this does not apply to 'OE' which according to Hey is like the 'U' in 'FUR'. Then add the fact that Germanic tongues do not use the English dipthong 'TH'. Those letters are separated... Of course we are leading to pronunciation of GOETHITE. For this Hey gives GO·TAIT with the Ō sounding like 'u' in 'fur'.

I have been publicly introduced as Mr Drum, Mr Rumm, and once received a letter to Mr Dumb. Lets settle for Harold. Thanks.

Harold Dunn

Ed. Note: Since minerals are often named for real people and personal names are pronounced in strange ways, I blame the following on M.H. Hey's "Chemical Index of Minerals". These minerals are included in the pictorial section of this issue:

- |                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Clinoptilolite | KLAINŌPTAI·LŌLAIT      |
| Datolite       | DĒ·TŌLAIT or DĀ·TŌLAIT |
| Erionite       | ĪR İYŌNAIT             |
| Heulandite     | HYŪ·LENDAIT            |
| Phillipsite    | FĪ·LĪPSAIT             |



Mesolite ME·ZÖLAIT

Yugawaralite YUGA·WARALAIT

Zektzerite ZĖK·TĖR·AIT

where: AI as in aisle  
 E as a in rate  
 E as e in bet  
 O as o in both  
 I as i in marine  
 Y as i in fit  
 A as a in father  
 U as the oo in boot

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## SAND BARITE CRYSTALS

Most collectors are familiar with the fascinating sand calcite crystals that have been found at Rattlesnake Butte in the Badlands of South Dakota. At this locale well formed crystals of calcite crystallize with large amounts of sand included. These are extreme examples of inclusions in crystals.

However, did you know that there is a sand barite analog of the sand calcite crystal? Sand barite crystals are found weathering out of a sandstone formation in the lower cretaceous Inyan Kara group. They are found about 1/4 mile north of the Cheyenne River in Fall River Country. The sand grains (0.1 to 0.5mm) are included in or cemented by the optically continuous single crystals of barite. These crystals range from less than 12mm to over 127mm.

The crystals weather out as single crystals or crystal groups. They show many of the usual barite habits such as the well defined cleavage. The crystals are all elongated along the b axis. It is interesting to note that both the famous sand calcite crystals and the less well known sand barite crystals are found relatively close together in the southwest corner of South Dakota.

Reference: Rapp & Martin, Am. Min., Vol 47 #9-10 p 1189 (1962)

Contributed by Robert J Smith

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## COMING MEETINGS:

Friends of Mineralogy, 2 June 1979 at Clark County PUD Building, Vancouver, Washington. (John Mihelcic will present a slide program)

Friends of Mineralogy, 11 August 1979 at Clark County PUD Building, Vancouver, Washington (Possible field trip)

5th Annual Northwest Mineral Symposium. Date uncertain but will be in Seattle, Washington sometime in the fall.

COLLECTING IN CANADA : NEW RULES

by Calvin M George

Reprinted from The American Federation Newsletter, May 1979

On September 6, 1977 the Canadian Cultural Property Export and Import Act came into effect. Considerable study preceded Canada's legislation to ensure compliance with certain premises deemed essential...voluntary compliance (no policing at the border); an opportunity to retain in Canada those things deemed important to the national heritage; persons owning such property must not be penalized just because they wish to sell it abroad; the system of voluntary compliance must be practical if it is to work; the import of cultural property into Canada must be done in such a way that the laws of other countries are respected.

What is "cultural property"? The Canadian law divides it into 7 groups: objects recovered from the soil or waters of Canada (minerals, fossils, archeological artifacts); ethnographic art and objects; military objects; objects of decorative art; objects of fine art; scientific or technological objects; books, records, documents etc. The Canadian Cultural Property Control List specifies those items which may not be exported without a permit. The law provides that the Control List may not include any object less than 50 years old or which was made by a person still living.

A new law and regulation should not affect the average U.S. rockhounds who likes to collect in Canada. No permit is necessary for mineral specimens in bulk from a specific location weighing less than 500 lbs, invertebrate or plant fossil specimens in bulk weighing less than 50 lbs from a specific location, or vertebrate fossil specimens in bulk weighing less than 25 pounds.

A Permit is required for: "type" mineral or fossil specimens; "described" mineral specimens; a single mineral specimen with a fair market value in Canada of more than \$1,000; a collection of 10 or more mineral specimens of a fair market value in Canada of more than \$2,500 from the same mine, quarry, or locality; meteorites or tektites of any value. Also a permit is required for: fossil amber of any value; a vertebrate fossil specimen of a fair market value in Canada of more than \$50; an invertebrate fossil specimen of a fair market value in Canada of more than \$250.

While voluntary compliance is the basis for administering this law, penalties are provided...fines up to \$25,000, jail up to 5 years, or both. The law applies to persons of all categories: dealers, collectors, museum and educational personnel, as well as we amateurs. Those who may be involved in aspects of the law other than this brief description for the average rockhounds, should promptly obtain more information from the Office of Movable Cultural Property, Department of the Secretary of State, 13E1, 15 Eddy St, Les Terrasses de la Chaudiere, Hull, Quebec K1A 0M5.



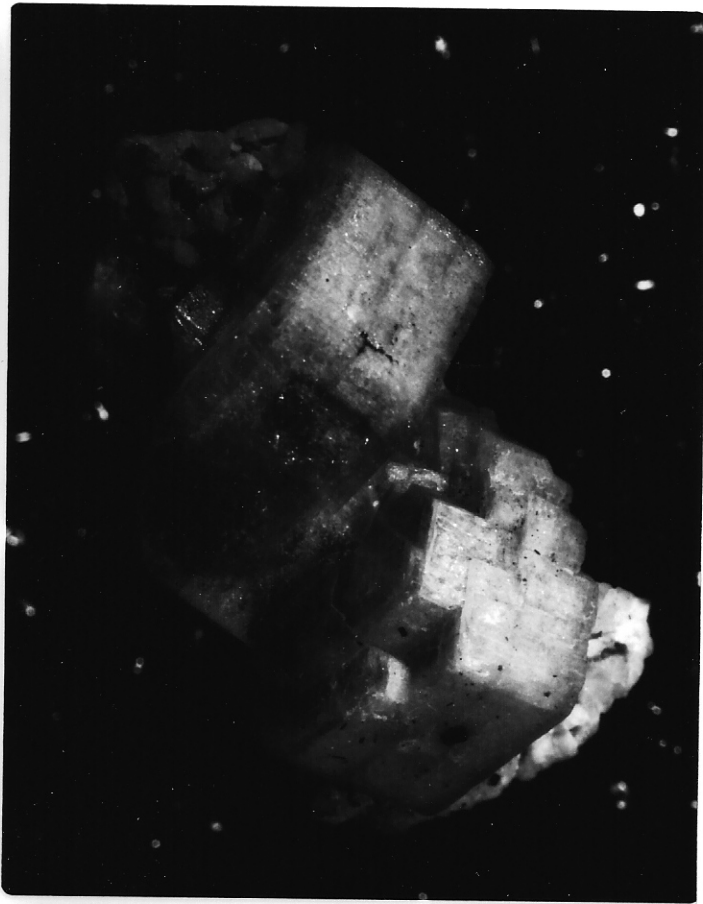


Figure 1 - Zektzerite - Washington Pass

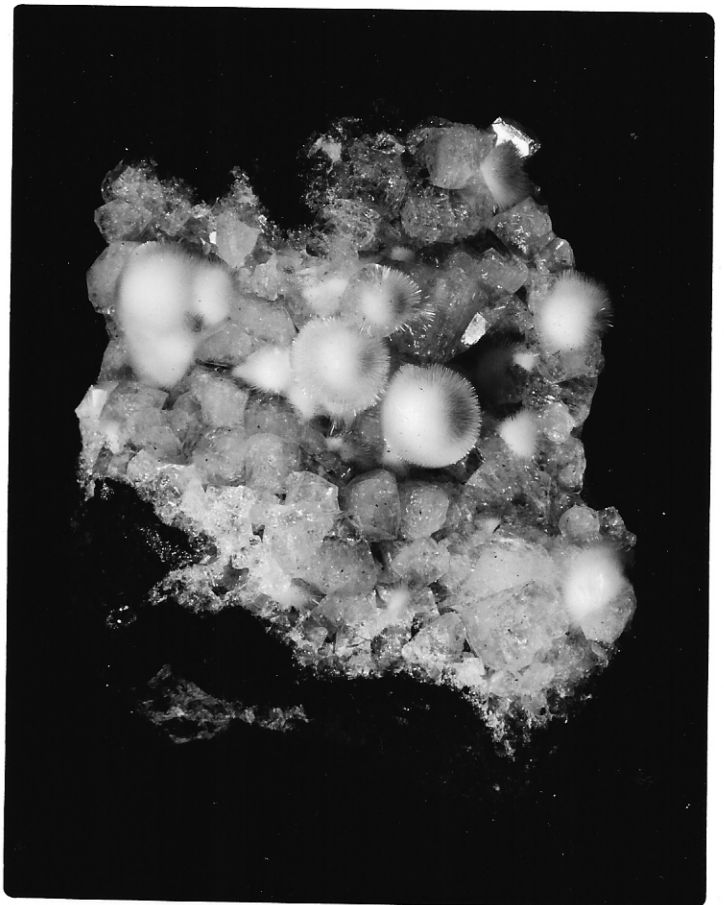


Fig 2 - Mesolite on Chabazite - Burnt Cabin Creek  
Spray, OR

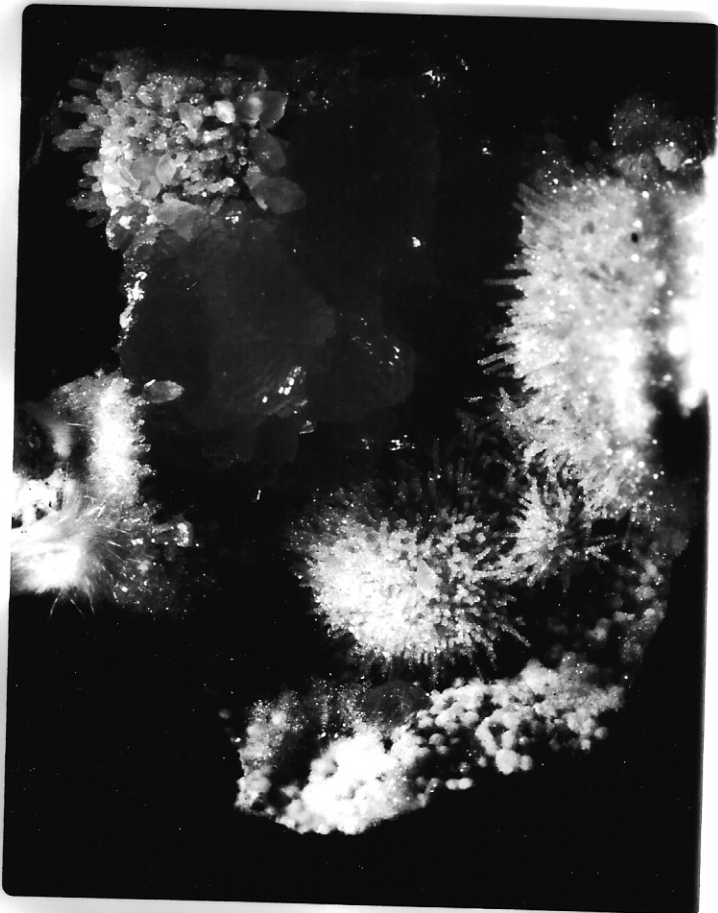


Fig 3 - Calcite, Clinoptilolite on Erioste  
Cape Lookout, Tillamook, Oregon



Fig 4 - Phillipsite twin, Chabazite var. Phacelite  
Clifton Hill, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

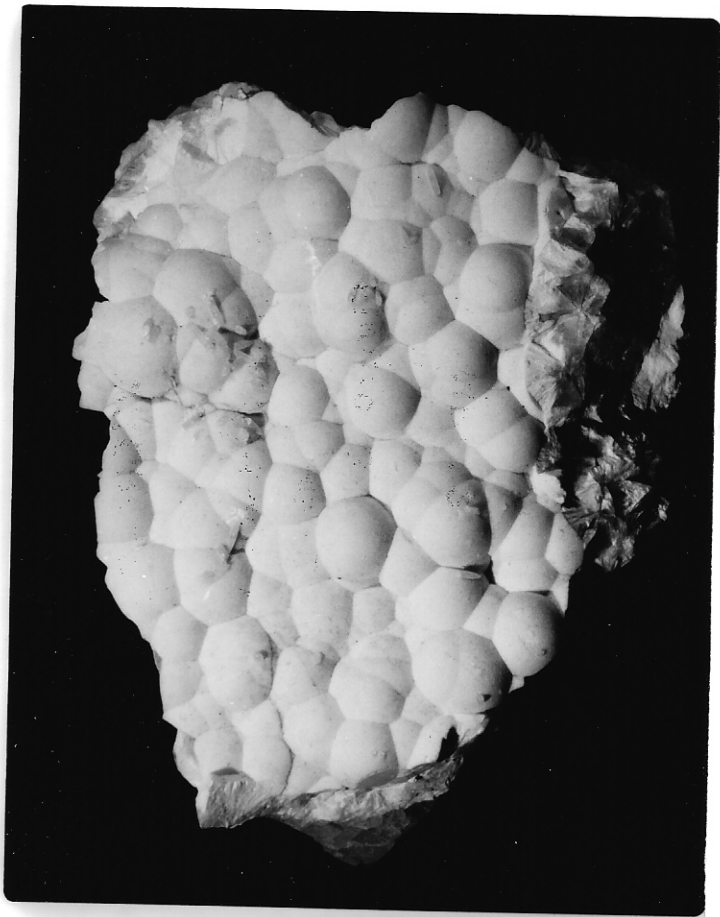


Fig. 5 Datolite - Lewis River WA.

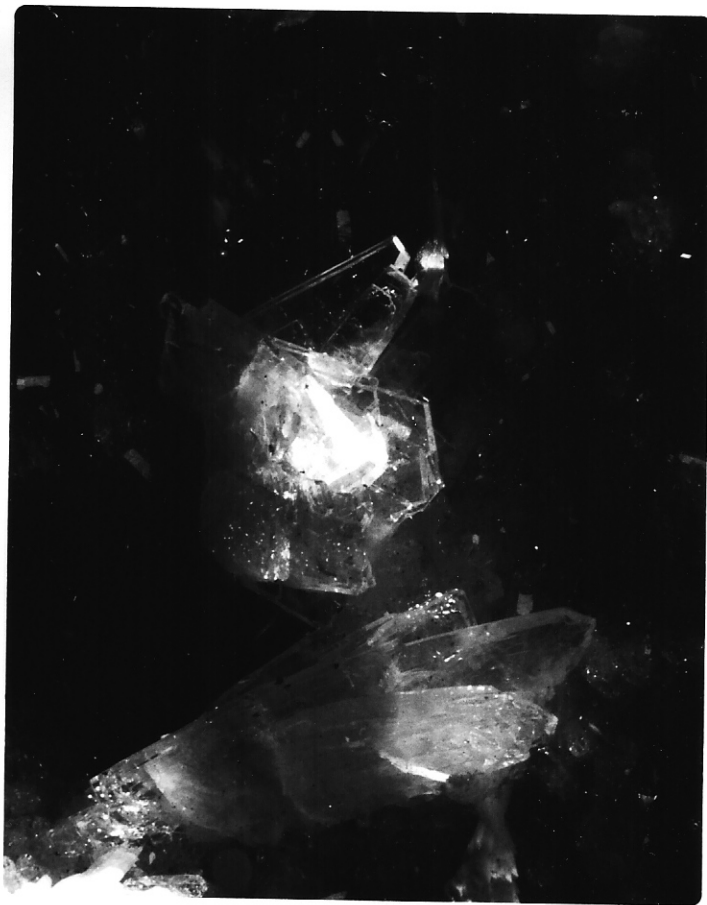


Fig 6 - Yugawaralite - Bombay, India

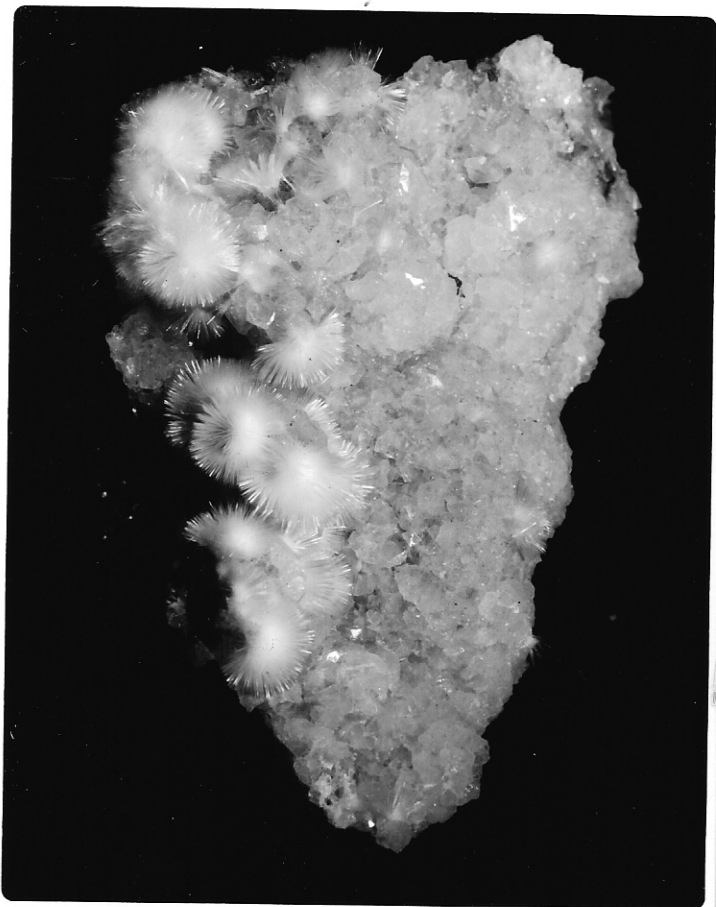


Fig 7 - Mesolite or Chabazite - Burnt Cabin Creek  
Spray, Oregon

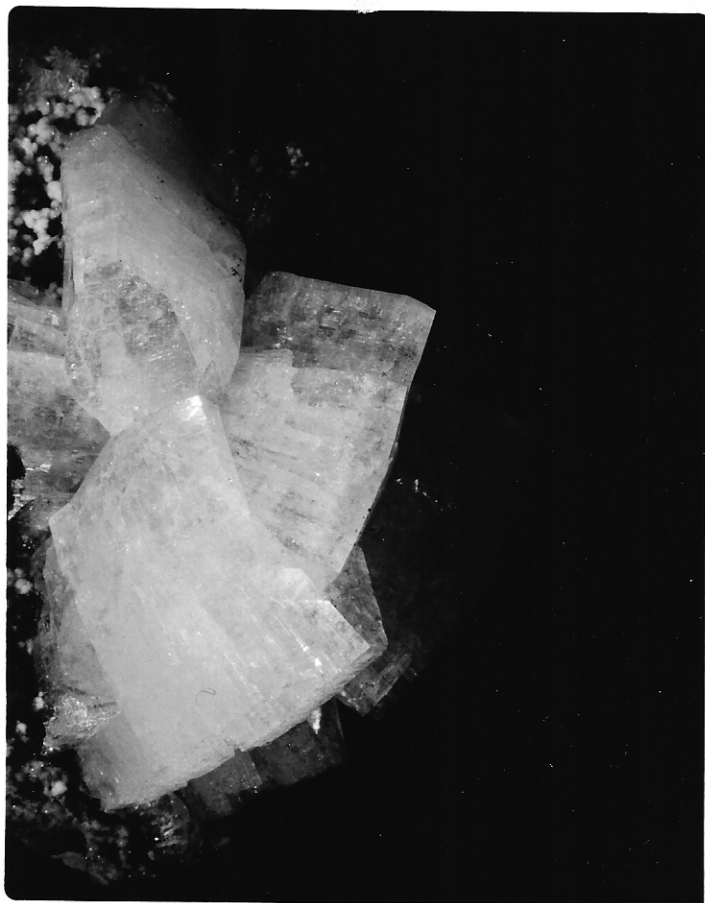


Fig 8. Heulandite, Ashland, Oregon