

Description of a specimen from Geeveston

by G. B. Everard

64-356 Geeveston

The hand specimen is a mesocratic, medium grained rock consisting of brown crystals of pyroxene with sub-adamantine, almost metallic lustre, in a white finer grained feldspathic matrix.

In thin section the texture is ophitic, but markedly inequigranular, composed of stubby, lamellar twinned laths of plagioclase, averaging about 0.5 mm long and groups of brown pyroxene crystals averaging about 3 mm long. The pyroxene is strongly coloured because of pronounced schiller and of very irregular outline because of its ophitic relationship with the plagioclase crystals. It has a small but variable optic axes angle and consists of pigeonite rich in enstatite. The feldspar is cloudy with opaque white alteration products.

Accessory minerals include magnetite in irregular aggregations of small euhedral crystals, and a yellowish brown mica in irregular masses of sub-radiating minute flakes.

The rock is a Jurassic dolerite, unusual in its texture and the strong schillerization of the pyroxene.

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