

## Petrographic descriptions of rock specimens from King Island

by G. B. Everard

The following are petrographic descriptions of two rock specimens received from Mr H. Bartlett of King Island.

### **Sample 1**

The hand specimen is a dark green coarse-grained lustrous rock composed of interlocking crystals of amphibole showing characteristic cleavage.

In thin section the rock consists of ragged crystals of amphibole with a smaller amount of finer grained interstitial plagioclase and irregular and skeletal crystals of magnetite.

The amphibole has the pleochroic scheme X pale yellow, Y yellow green, Z green and absorption  $Z > Y > X$  and is therefore hornblende. The crystals, although large, are often very ragged with inclusions of feldspar and magnetite.

The feldspar is much finer grained than the hornblende and occupies interstices between the hornblende prisms. It contains many minute inclusions, and simple and lamellar twinning are common. The mineral is in the andesine–labradorite range.

Magnetite occurs freely as minute crystals, rods and irregular aggregates.

The rock is an amphibolite.

### **Sample 2**

In hand specimen the rock is pale coloured and coarse grained, consisting of pale grey, rectangular, lustreless masses and dark acicular crystals up to 5 mm long, and stained brown by weathering.

In thin section the rock consists of euhedral prismatic crystals of amphibole, now altered to serpentine and fine-grained opaque white material, possibly garnet. In between the larger amphibole prisms is a feldspar, largely euhedral, but consisting of crystals smaller in size and now altered to a fine-grained micrographic mixture of quartz and feldspar. A little fine-grained disseminated iron ore mineral is represented by leucoxene stained with limonite. Some irregular granular masses of quartz, fairly free from feldspar, also occur.

The rock is a metamorphosed diorite.

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