

Description of core from Laffers Show, Heemskirk

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Specimens of core taken from diamond-drill holes on Laffers Show at Heemskirk have been examined in thin and polished section.

66-288B: DDH 6, 351 feet

The hand specimen is a soft, pale yellowish-green rock with a half inch vein of white calcite containing a black metallic mineral with bronze core.

In thin section the rock consists of an intergrowth of colourless, fibrous, banded serpentine and granular calcite. The grains of calcite vary from minute points, scattered in the serpentine, to crystals about a millimetre across coalescing to form a vein of calcite about a centimetre wide. Thin discontinuous veinlets of calcite project in straight lines into the serpentine from the main calcite vein.

In the calcite are irregular aggregates of chalcopyrite coated with black copper oxides.

66-288A: DDH 4, 193 feet

The hand specimen is a fine grained melanocratic rock consisting of masses of minute plates and containing irregular aggregates of magnetite crystals and crystals of pyrite.

In thin section the rock is a mass of interlocking plates of chlorite averaging 0.25 mm across. The chlorite is almost colourless but is dichroic in faint red and green. The mineral is almost uniaxial and shows low anomalous interference colours. Radiating uralitic needles are common in the chlorite, together with occasional minute prisms of apatite. Some carbonate is present and possibly very fine grained cassiterite.

Much magnetite is present in irregular aggregates together with pyrite and a little chalcopyrite.

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