



#### Part 2: Minerals N-Z (Native Elements – Zinkenite)

**STETSON UNIVERSITY** 





Native Elements

A native element is a mineral that is composed of only one element. There are close to 100 naturally-occurring elements, but only around 20 of those have been found to be native elements. Native elements are typically divided into 3 different groups: metals, semimetals, and nonmetals.

Un elemento nativo es un mineral compuesto por un solo elemento. Hay casi 100 elementos que se forman naturalmente, pero solo aproximadamente 20 son elementos nativos. Estos minerales se dividen en tres grupos: los metales, los semimetales, y los no metales.





Metals (Gold)

Semi Metals (Silicon)



Nonmetals (Carbon)

Native Elements

Graphite is a native carbon, and its atoms are arranged to form a hexagonal structure. Diamond, another native carbon, is formed with the presence of high pressure and heat, which makes the atoms have a diamond cubic arrangement.

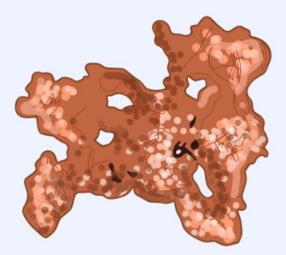
Native sulfur is typically bright yellow. It forms in the presence of hot gasses, as those found near volcanic vents.

Native copper forms in many places in the world, but the best known native copper deposits are in Upper Michigan. It can be red, orange, or brown, like this one.

El grafito está compuesto por carbón, y sus átomos forman estructuras hexagonales. El diamante, que también está compuesto por carbón, se forma con alta presión y temperatura, y sus átomos forman estructuras cúbicas.

El sulfuro es normalmente amarillo. Se forma en presencia de gases de alta temperatura, como los que se encuentran cerca de un respiradero volcánico.

El cobre se encuentra en varios lugares, pero el los depósitos más conocidos están en Michigan. El cobre puede ser rojo, naranja, o marrón.





Native Elements, Sulfur specimen Agrigento Province, Agrigento, Sicily, Italy Gillespie Collection

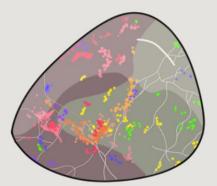


### opal in Matrix Wood

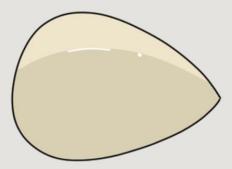
 $[SiO_2 \cdot nH_2O] - Mexico$ 

Opal is a mineraloid that can be a range of different colors, the most prominent being white, grey, and green. There are two types of Opal: precious, which exhibits iridescence, and common. Opal typically occurs in matrixes; this specimen's is enclosed in wood.

El ópalo es un mineraloide que puede tener una variedad de colores, blanco, gris, y verde siendo los mas comunes. Hay dos tipos de ópalo: precioso, con juego de color al verlos, y común. El ópalo se forma en matrizes, y el de este espécimen se formó en madera.



Precious Opal



Common Opal



**Opal in matrix, wood specimen** Mexico Gillespie Collection



**Opal specimen** Ethiopia Smithsonian Institute

# PURPURiTE

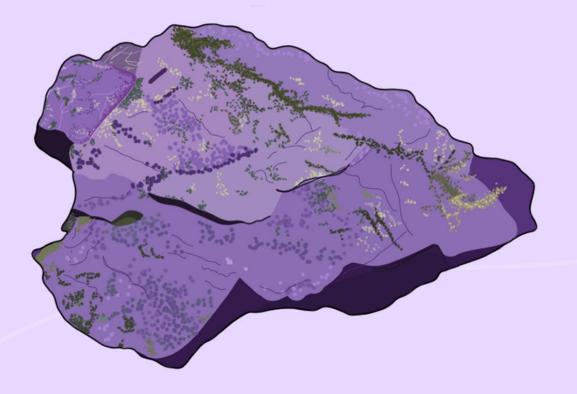


### PURPURITE

[Mn<sup>3+</sup>PO<sub>4</sub>] — Larimer County, Colorado, US

Purpurite was named, in 1905, after the Latin word "purpura", meaning "purple". This mineral is formed when lithiophilite (LiMn<sup>2+</sup>PO₄) is oxidized with Manganese (Mn), the element that gives it its color. Purpurite is less common than Heterosite, a similar mineral formed through oxidation with Iron (Fe).

La purpurita fue nombrada, en 1905, por la palabra latina "purpura". Este mineral se forma cuando la litiofilita (LiMn<sup>2+</sup>PO<sub>4</sub>) es oxidada con manganeso (Mn), el elemento que le da su color. La purpurita es menos común que la heterosita, un mineral similar que se forma a través de la oxidación con hierro (Fe).





Purpurite specimen Larimer County, Colorado, US Gillespie Collection

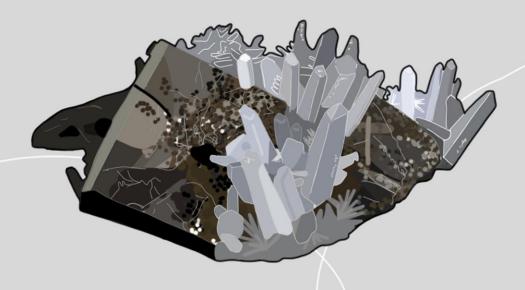
# QUARTZ



#### **QUARTZ ON PYRITE** [SiO2] on [FeS2] - Peru

Quartz is a ubiquitous mineral that was first recorded around 300-325 BCE by Theophrastus. Back then, Quartz was believed to be solidified ice and was named kristallos. Pyrite is a metallic, brass-yellow mineral whose name comes from the Greek word "pyr", meaning fire, alluding to the sparks created when it is struck with another mineral. This specimen has crystal structures of both quartz and pyrite.

El cuarzo es un mineral ubicuo que fue nombrado alrededor del año 300-325 AEC por Theophrastus. En ese tiempo, se creía que el cuarzo era hielo solidificado y fue nombrado kristallos. La pirita es un mineral metálico y latón-amarillo, y nombre viene de la palabra griega "pyr", que significa "fuego" y que alude a las chispas creadas cuando choca con otro mineral. Este espécimen está compuesto por estructuras cristalizadas de cuarzo y pirita.





Quartz on Pyrite specimen Peru Gillespie Collection

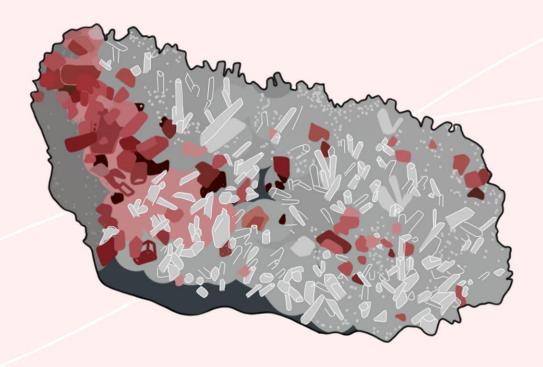




Rhodochrosite

Rhodochrosite was named, in 1813, from the Greek words "ρόδo" and "χρώς", meaning "rose" and "coloring", respectively. While the mineral is usually red when it is pure, in its impure form it can be shades of brown or pink. Rhodochrosite is Argentina's national gemstone!

La rodocrosita fue nombrada, en 1813, por las palabras "χρώς" y "ρόδο", que significan "coloreada" y "rosa", respectivamente. Este mineral suele ser rojo cuando es puro; cuando es impuro, puede tomar color marrón o rosa. ¡La rodocrosita es la gema nacional de Argentina!







Rhodochrosite specimen Pasto Bueno Mining District, Ancash, Peru Gillespie Collection

# STIBNITE

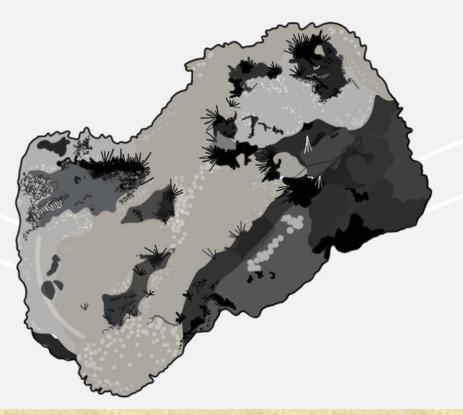


#### STIBNITE ON CALCITE

[Sb<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>] on [CaCO<sub>3</sub>] – Fesbanya, Romania

Stibnite, a sulfide mineral, is the biggest source of Antimony (Sb). It was first named "spiesglass" in 1430, and renamed, in 1832, to what we know it as today. In this specimen, Stibnite's metallic, lead-gray color contrasts Calcite's white and vitreous.

La estibina, un mineral del grupo de los sulfuros, es la mena del antimonio (Sb) más grande. Fue nombrada por primera vez, en 1430, como "spiesglass", y renombrada, en 1832, como la conocemos hoy. En este espécimen, el color gris y metálico de la estibina contrasta el color blanco y vítreo de la calcita.



#### Neffotography

Stibnite on Calcite specimen Romania Gillespie Collection





#### [Mg<sub>3</sub>Si<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>]—Zillertal, Schwaz District, Tyrol, Austria

Talc, with a hardness of 1 as measured by the Mohs scale, is the softest mineral known! This specimen is the pearly variation and is grey in color, but the color of Talc can range from white to green. Did you know that powdered Talc is used to make baby powder?

¡El talco, que tiene un valor de 1 en la escala de Mohs, es el mineral más blando! Este espécimen es de la variación perlada y es gris, pero el talco puede variar del color blanco al verde. ¿Sabías que el talco en polvo es utilizado para hacer polvo para bebés?

**Talc, pearly specimen** Zillertal, Schwaz District, Tyrol, Austria *Gillespie Collection*  eD





#### **Userice** [NaCa[B<sub>5</sub>O<sub>6</sub>(OH)<sub>6</sub>] $\cdot$ 5H<sub>2</sub>O] — Boron, California, US

Ulexite is known as "TV stone" given its optical properties: its parallel fibers act as optical fibers by transmitting light as a result of internal reflection and refraction of rays. This mineral was named, in the 19th century, after George Ludwig Ulex, the first person to analyze it. Ulexite dissolves when in contact with hot water.

La ulexita es conocida como la "piedra televisión" dadas sus propiedades ópticas: sus fibras paralelas actúan como fibras ópticas al transmitir luz como resultado del reflejo y la refracción de los rayos. Este mineral fue nombrado, en el siglo 19, en honor a George Ludwig Ulex, la primera persona en analizarlo. La ulexita se disuelva cuando entra en contacto con agua caliente.



Ulexite specimen Boron, Kern County, California, US Gillespie Collection

# Vanadinite

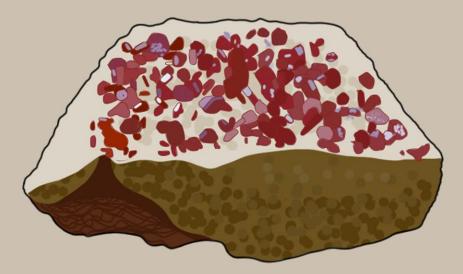


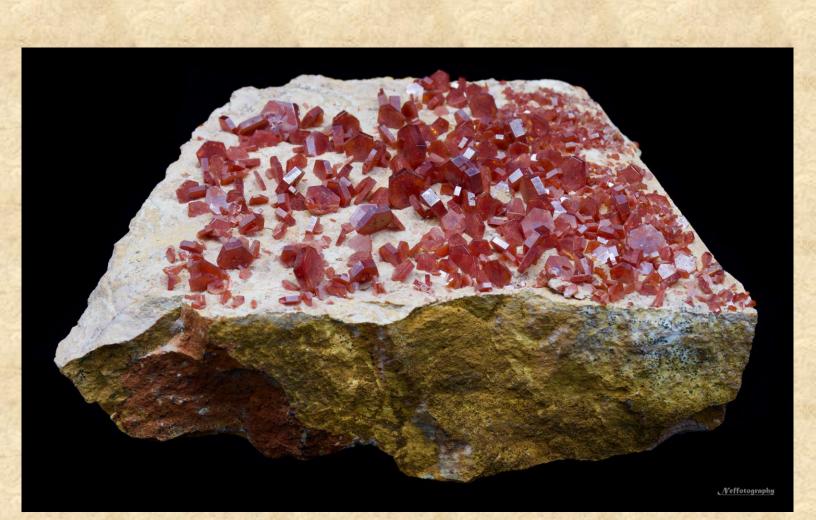
### Vanadinite

[Pb<sub>5</sub>(VO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Cl]—San Carlos Mining District, Chihuahua, Mexico

Vanadinite takes the form of hexagonal-shaped crystals that are usually bright red in color, like this specimen. The mineral is used as a minor source of lead, but it is better known as an ore of vanadium. It is because of its vanadium content that Vanadinite got its name; it had been originally named "brown lead" when it was found, in 1801, but its name changed after vanadium was discovered, decades later.

La vanadinita toma la forma de cristales hexagonales de color rojo brillante, como este espécimen. El mineral es utilizado como una fuente de plomo, pero es mas conocido como una fuente de vanadio. Es por su contenido de vanadio que la vanadinita tomó su nombre; la llamaron "plomo marrón" cuando la descubrieron, en 1801, pero su nombre cambio después de el descubrimiento del vanadio, décadas después.





Vanadinite specimen San Carlos Mining District, Chihuahua, Mexico Gillespie Collection

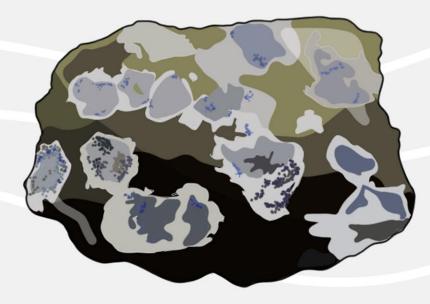
(Davellite

(1) avellite

[Al<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(OH, F)<sub>3</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O] — Magnet Cove, Arkansas, US

Wavellite is a secondary mineral often found in metamorphic rocks as green or yellow crystals. It was named, in 1805, after Dr. William Wavell, who discovered the mineral. This specimen was found in Magnet Cove, a former town in Arkansas that was named after the shape of its terrain. In the Magnet Cove igneous site, a variety of minerals, common and rare, can be found.

La wavellita es un mineral secundario que puede ser encontrado en rocas metamórficas como cristales verdes o amarillos. Fue nombrado, en 1805, en honor a Dr. William Wavell, quien descubrió el mineral. Este especimen fue encontrado en Magnet Cove, que solía ser un pueblo y que fue nombrado en honor a su terreno con forma de ensenada. En el sitio ígneo de Magnet Cove, muchos minerales, comunes y raros, pueden ser encontrados.





Wavellite specimen Magnet Cove, Arkansas, US Gillespie Collection

# **XLS: CRYSTALS**



## **XLS: CRYSTALS**

In the world of mineral collecting, xl stands for crystal:

XL CRYSTAL XLS CRYSTALS XLN CRYSTALLINE

### **XLS: CRYSTALS**

Quartz

Crystals can have very flat surfaces called facets. They can form geometric shapes such as triangles, rectangles, and squares. These shapes are a direct result of the type of molecules and atoms that make up the crystal. Smaller crystals and larger crystals that were formed of the same molecules and in the same method should have similar shapes. Quartz (SiO<sub>2</sub>) is in the hexagonal crystal group; it has six faces. Pyrite (FeS<sub>2</sub>) is a cubic crystal; it is shaped like a cube.

**Pyrite** 

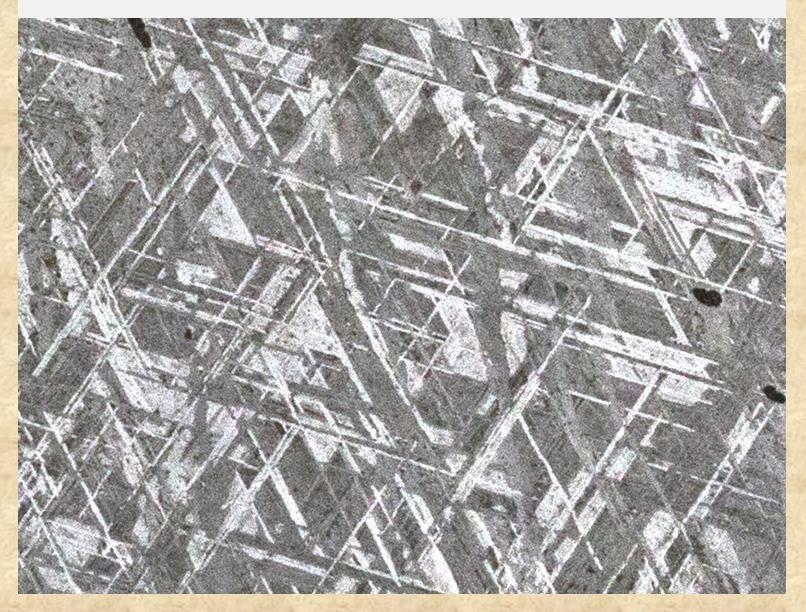


#### XLS-crystals, Amethyst Vug specimen Brazil Gillespie Collection (8 feet tall, 800 pounds!)



**XLS-crystals, Quartz and Pyrite specimen** Spruce Claim, Washington, US USGS

## Yasmin and Caitlin's pick! METEORITE



### METEORITE

[Composition: Nickel (7-13%), Iron (87-93%)]—South Africa

Sometimes, Solar System bodies penetrate a planet or moon's atmosphere and reach its surface—their remains are known as meteorites. This meteorite is a rare Iron specimen that has a small percentage of Nickel. Iron meteorites are formed when liquid material cools inside an asteroid. They are believed to be the same age as our Earth, 4.5 billion years old. This meteorite was purchased by the Gillespie Museum through Sotheby's Auction from the Freilic collection.

A veces, cuerpos del sistema solar penetran la atmosfera de un planeta o luna y llegan a su superficie—sus restos son conocidos como meteoritos. Este meteorito es un espécimen de hierro poco común que tiene un porcentaje bajo de níquel. Los meteoritos de hierro se forman cuando el líquido dentro de los asteroides se enfría. Se cree que tienen la edad de el planeta tierra, 4.5 billones de años. Este meteorito fue comprado por el Gillespie Museum a través de Sotheby's Auction de la colección Freilic.



Meteorite specimen South Africa Gillespie Collection

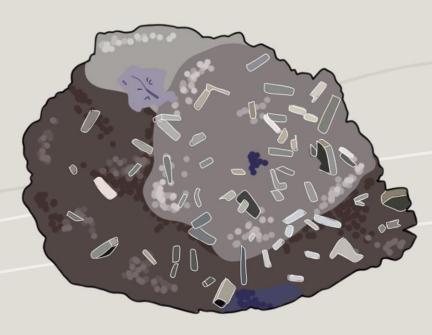
# Zinkenite





This metallic, steel-gray mineral known as Zinkenite usually takes the form of acicular—or needle-shaped—crystals in a hexagonal system. This rare mineral was discovered by and named after German mineralogist Ludwig Carl Zincken in the 19th century. When mined, it is often used as an ore of lead and antimony.

Este mineral metálico y gris, conocido como zinkenita, toma forma de cristales aciculares—es decir, con forma de aguja—en un sistema hexagonal. Este mineral poco común fue descubierto por el minerólogo alemán Ludwig Carl Zincken en el siglo XIX. Es utilizado como mena de plomo y antimonio.





#### Zinkenite specimen San Juan County, Colorado, US Gillespie Collection

#### Special Thanks To

Stetson student staff members Yasmin Nagah Abdou and Caitlin Bhagwandeen

> Photographers Ed Dillenbeck and Rodney Neff





#### Links to Other Resources

The Gillespie Museum Educational Resources webpage: https://www.Stetson.edu/other/gillespiemuseum/educational-resources.php





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