

NOTISER

Notes

Kaolin as a weathering product of Eocambrian sandstone (sparagmite) in the Rondane Mountains, East Norway

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Highly weathered Eocambrian sandstone containing kaolin (identified by DTA and X-ray analysis) has been found along the side of the canyon Store Myldingi in the Rondane Mountains, E. Norway. No typical minerals of hydrothermal origin have been found associated



Partly red coloured highly weathered Eocambrian sandstone on the west side of Store Myldingi in Rondane. In the background the Mountains Veslesvulten and Veslekollhø.

with the kaolin deposit and no evidence of hydrothermal activity has so far been found in the area concerned. Furthermore the drift deposits in Atnedalen have been shown to contain an appreciable admixture of kaolin (Gjems in Clay Min. Bull 4, p 209, 1960), thus the kaolin deposits must sometimes have existed in considerable quantities. For these reasons the deposits are considered to be due to subaeric weathering in contrast to most of the previously described kaolin occurrences in Norway, which probably are of hydrothermal origin. Since kaolin apparently does not form under the present climatic conditions in Scandinavia, this weathering must have taken place in interglacial times or earlier when the climate was warmer than now. The subaeric weathering can be thought to have penetrated deeply along faults in the sandstone and might thus have contributed to the formation of the canyons so commonly occurring in the area.