

Fine Sedimentary Fabric

(Sample MC 2013/69) (Fig. 17)

Inclusions

10-15%. eq sr-r. < 4 mm. Double- to open-spaced. Well-sorted. Unimodal grain size distribution.

Coarse fraction

15-20%. 4-1 mm.

Common-Few: Mono-crystalline quartz; eq. sa-sr. < 1 mm. Can show undulose extinction.

Common-Few: Argillaceous inclusions; r. < 4 mm. Light brown to greyish. Very compact, consisting of clay and some silt-sized quartz and opaque inclusions. Clay pellet

Common-Few: Opaque inclusion; eq & el.

Few-Absent: Micrite deposited in voids.

Fine fraction

80-85% < 1 mm

Common: Quartz

Common: Opaque inclusions

Common-Few: Biotite

Matrix

75-85%. Light brown in XP, brownish-grey in PPL. Optically inactive.

Voids

5-10%. Consisting mainly of micro- and meso-vughs, and some macro-channels. Comprise birefringent rims, which might be suggestive of calcite (in the form of micrite). No alignment with margins.

Comments

The sample in this fabric is defined by quartz inclusions, set in a light-coloured clay matrix with fine quartz and biotite inclusions. The clay matrix is characterised by large clay pellets, which comprise occasionally quartz and biotite inclusions. Calcitic micrite has been deposited in voids. The well-sorted nature of the inclusions suggests that the clay may have been processed, or levigated, prior to its use. The sample has been fired at a high temperature, and in an oxidising to slightly neutral atmosphere, for which the buff white colour attests. It comprises a tile, which was found on a Roman site near the abbey of Fossa Nova/Priverno.

The clay in this fabric shows similarities to the Sedimentary Fabric Group, given that it is light-coloured and comprises fine quartz inclusions. However, the difference is that this fabric comprises fine biotite inclusions and clay pellets, whereas the Sedimentary Fabric Group is characterised by the presence of augite and microfossils.

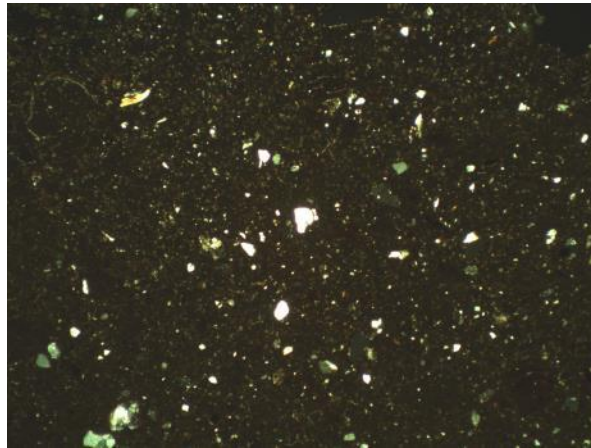


Fig. 17: Fine Sedimentary Fabric in XP. Width of image = 5.8 mm.