

## **Augite Tempered Colluvial Fabric Group**

(MC 2013/1, 89, 103) (Fig. 5)

### **Inclusions**

30-35%. sa-sr. Moderately to poorly sorted. Single-spaced and randomly (samples MC 2013/1, 89) to moderately oriented (sample MC 2013/103). Bimodal grain size distribution.

#### **Coarse Fraction**

30-35%. < 5-1.5 mm

*Predominant:* Clinopyroxene; sa-r. < 4 mm. Second order colours and high relief. Augite.

*Predominant-Common:* Zeolite; eq & el r. < 5 mm. Euhedral microphenocrysts of leucite in a brown to deep brown opaque groundmass (samples MC 2013/1, 89, 103).

*Common:* Sanidine Feldspar; eq. a-sa. < 2 mm. Occasionally shows fine needle-shaped minerals in the core as the result of weathering/alteration. Some are simply twinned (samples MC 2013/1).

*Common:* Iron-manganese inclusions; eq & el., r. < 2-2.5 mm. Discrete opaque inclusions with variable impregnation, varying from light-brown to deep-brown.

*Common:* Argillaceous inclusions: r. < 2 mm. Reddish-brown. Might contain feldspar and biotite inclusions.

*Common-Few:* Pyroclastic rock; el r. < 4.5 mm. Light-coloured and with vesicles. Clasts derived from magma. Pumice (samples MC 2013/1)

*Few-Rare:* Chert; eq a-sa. < 3 mm (sample MC 2013/1)

#### **Fine Fraction**

65-70%. < 1.5 mm

*Common:* Feldspar

*Common:* Opaque inclusions

*Common:* Biotite

### **Matrix**

40-45%. Reddish-brown in XP, and orange-red brown to dark grey-brown in PPL (sample MC 2013/89), or deep brown in both XP and PPL (samples MC 2013/1, 103). Distinctive firing horizons (sample MC 2013/1). Rather heterogeneous due to the presence of variable impregnated iron-manganese inclusions. Optically active (samples MC 2013/1, 89, 103).

### **Voids**

5-10%. Consisting of macro-vughs (samples MC 2013/1, 89, 103), or channels (sample MC 2013/103). No alignment to margins of the section (samples MC 2013/1, 89, 103).

### **Comments**

This fabric group is defined by sand-sized augite, zeolite, and occasional chert and sanidine inclusions, set in a red-base clay with fine feldspar and biotite. The matrix is further characterised by red argillaceous inclusions and iron-manganese concretions, which appear to be naturally embedded in the red clay. By contrast, augite inclusions appear to have been deliberately added, which is suggested by their quantity, size and shape. In two samples, the coarse inclusions don't show a particular alignment to the margins of the sections (samples MC 2013/1, 89), which might suggest that the vessels were handmade. Some samples are fired in reducing atmosphere (samples MC 2013/1, 103), whereas others are fired in oxidizing atmosphere (samples MC 2013/89). All three samples were fired at a low temperature. This fabric occurs at the site 12317, where it was used for the manufacture of storage jars (sample MC 2013/1). It was identified on two consumption sites near the Via Appia (samples MC 2013/89, 103).

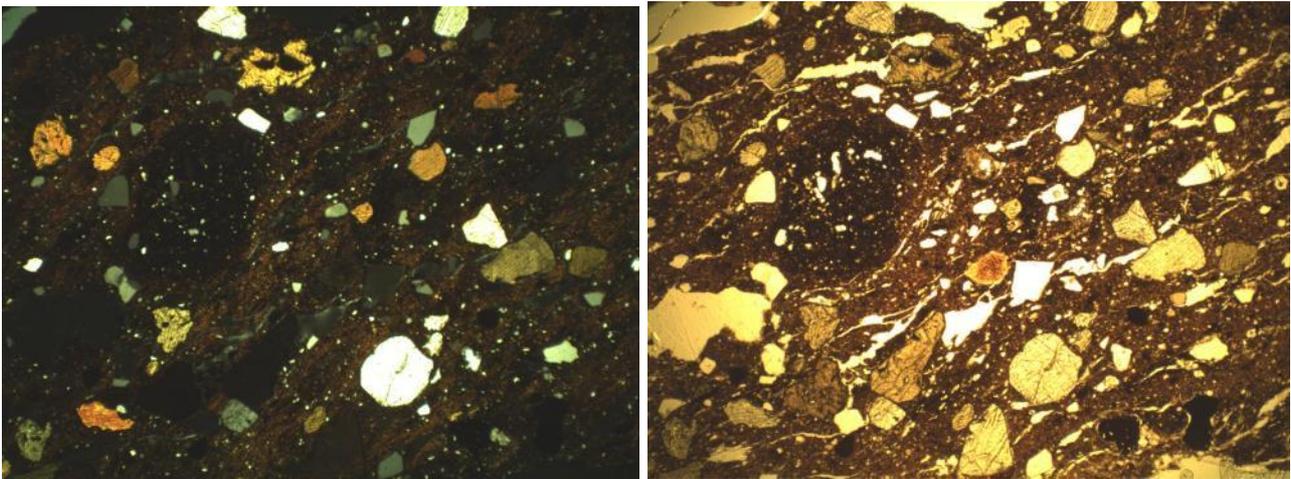


Fig. 5: Augite Tempered Colluvial Fabric in XP (left) and PPL (right). Width of individual images = 5.8 mm.