

## BOOK REVIEW

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*The Electron-Optical Investigation of Clays*. Edited by J. A. Gard. Mineralogical Society, 41, Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR. 1971, 383 pp., \$31.25.

THIS book is the latest in a series of monographs published by the Mineralogical Society on Methods of investigation of clay minerals. Authors of the various chapters are world-wide in their distribution and outstanding in their qualifications. The first three chapters are concerned with the technology of electron-optical methods and interpretation of electron micrographs and electron-diffraction patterns. The next ten chapters deal individually with the various kinds of minerals that make up clay materials. The last chapter is a short discussion of practical applications of the methods.

The book is outstanding from several points of view. The basic principles are well presented and together with the many references, make it a necessity for anyone interested in this field. Many electron micrographs and electron diffraction patterns of high quality are included. The page size is larger than those of previous monographs of the Mineralogical Society permitting the use of relatively large figures. The figures are usually well integrated into the subject at hand rather than being mere displays. The paper quality is first rate. The scanning electron microscope and the microprobe analyzer were considered to lie outside the scope of this volume. There is therefore relatively little in the monograph on these instruments. It is regrettable that some mineral terms are used which are far from being generally accepted. For example the term "hormites" is used occasionally for the "sepiolite-palygorskite group".

On balance the monograph must be considered to be an outstanding contribution and one which many scientists interested in clays will want to have available.

M. M. MORTLAND