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COVER

Surface of an obsidian sample (× 215), of high silica content; a framework silicate glass in which approximately 15 percent of the silica atoms of silica glass has been replaced with aluminum atoms with the charge balancing potassium and sodium ions residing within the open framework (see page 177). [Electron micrograph courtesy of J. Arem and W. Brown, U.S. National Museum of Natural History]