

Supplementary Material

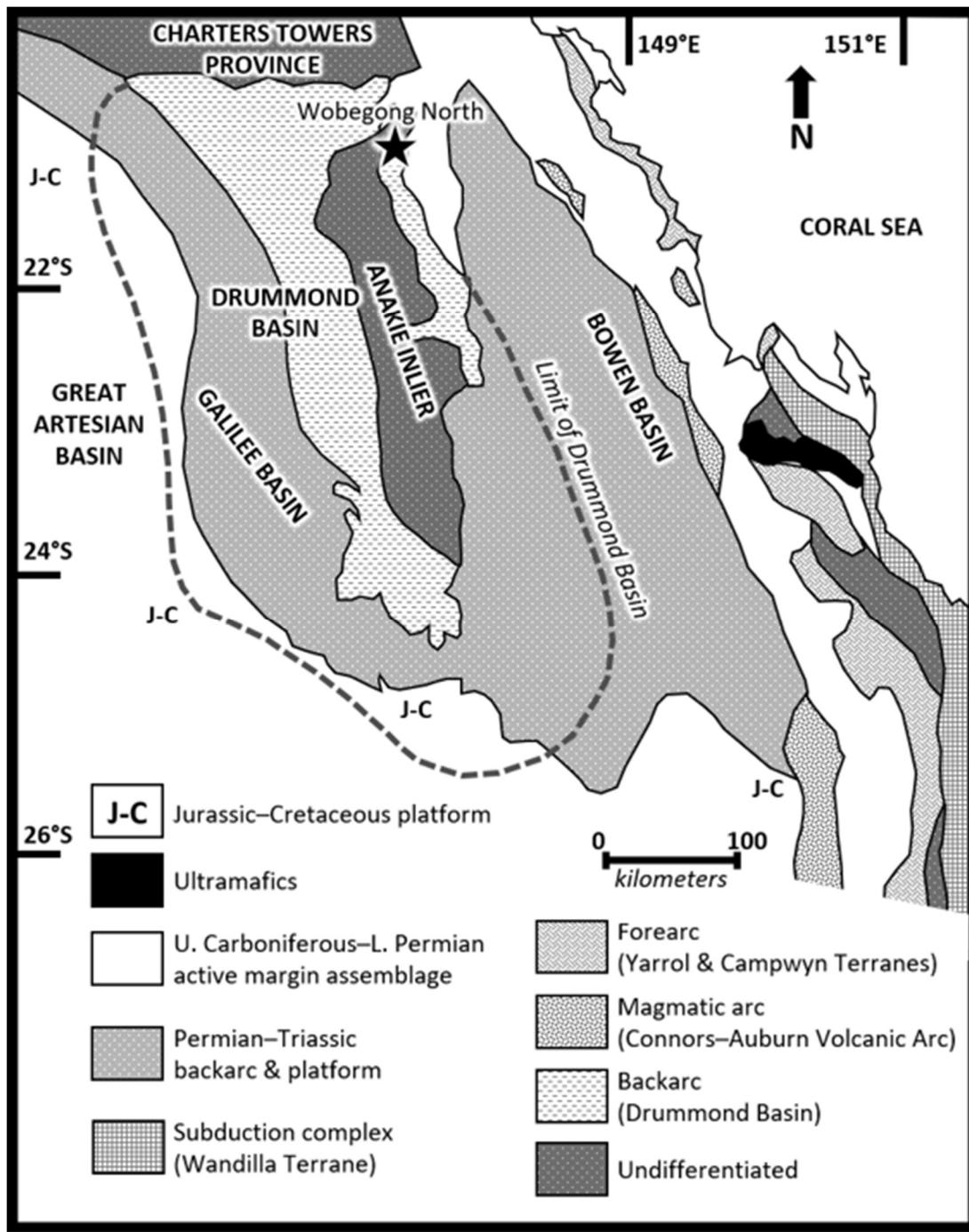


Figure S1. Geologic map of Drummond Basin, showing the location of the Wobegong North sinters within the Conway Hydrothermal System, where the samples from this study were collected (modified from Walter et al. 1996).

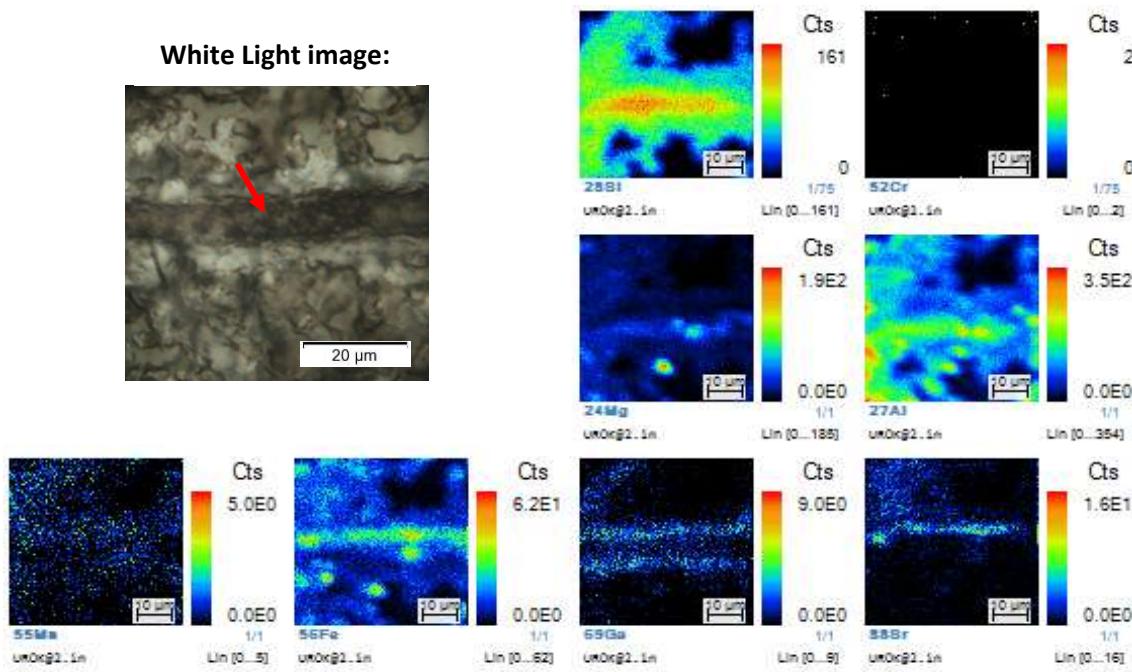


Figure S2. SIMS analyses of a <10,000-year-old cyanobacterial microorganism (noted by red arrow) preserved in a hot spring deposit in Yellowstone National Park, showing similar elemental sequestration trends (notably Sr, Fe, Mg) as to what was observed in Drummond samples (see also Gangidine et al. 2020), but also displaying unique trends (e.g., Gallium).

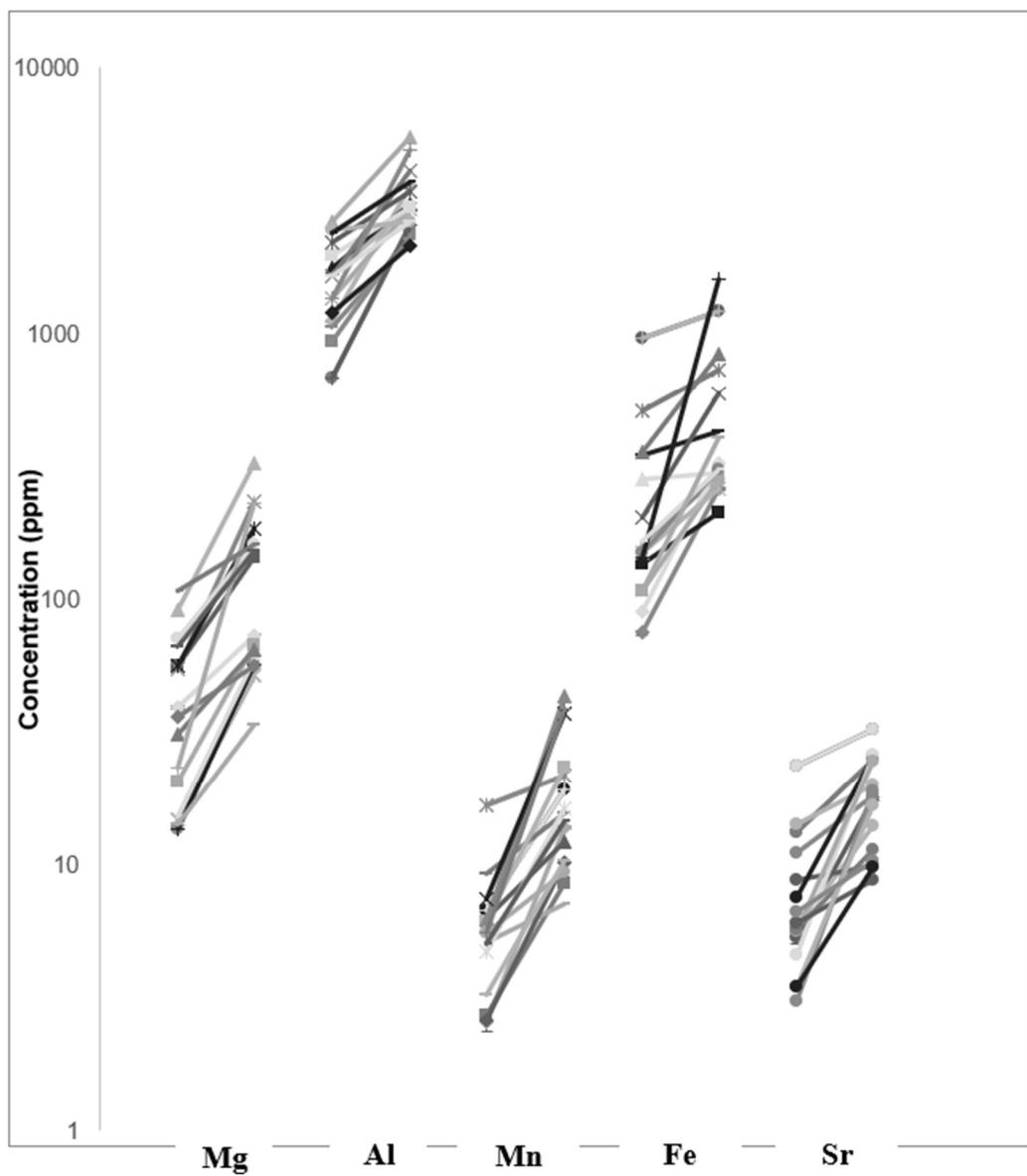


Figure S3. Visual graph illustrating the same data as Figure 3 in the main text, with each background value (left point) attached to the fossil concentration (right point) to show the increased concentration in each fossil analyzed.

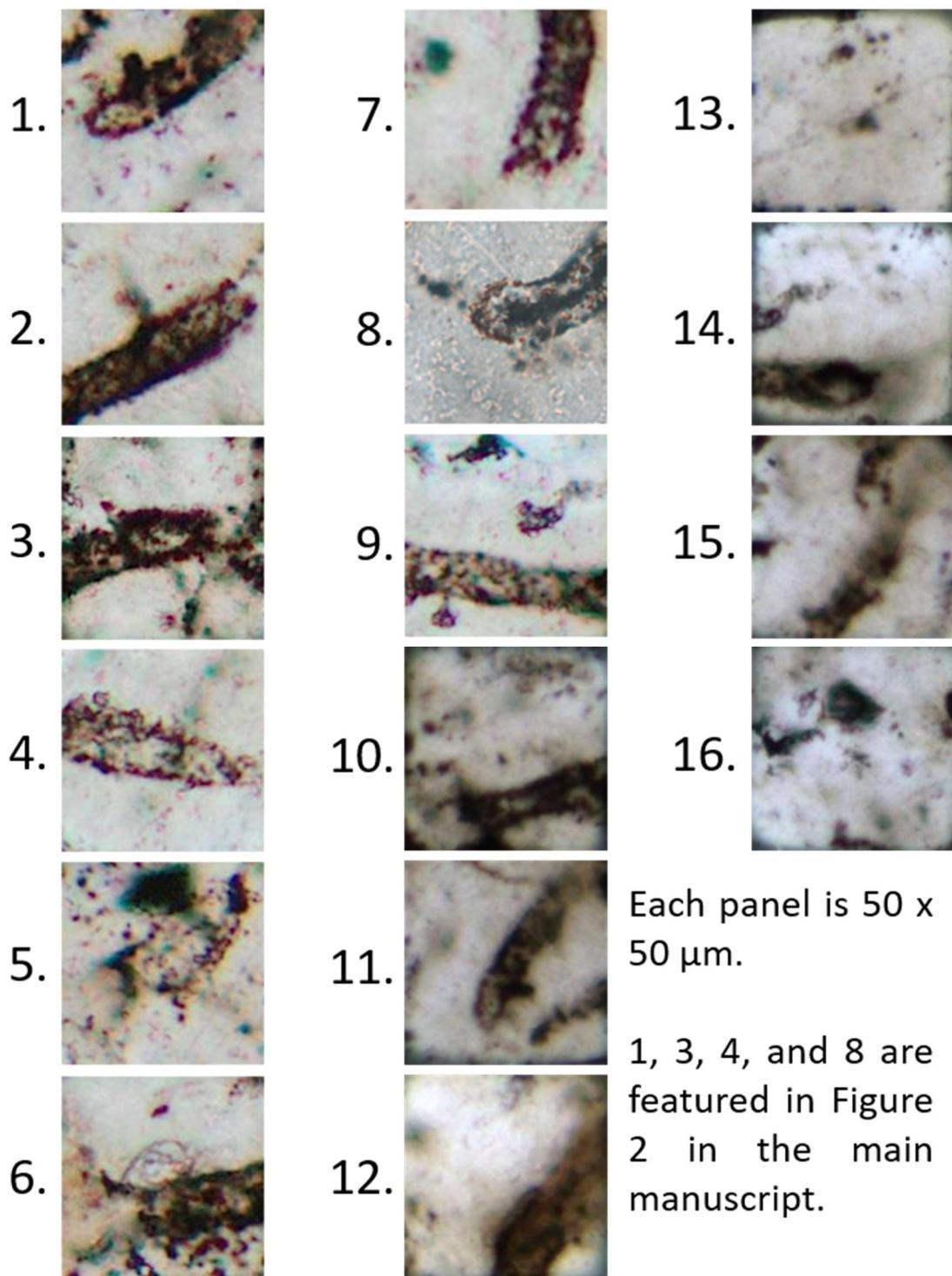
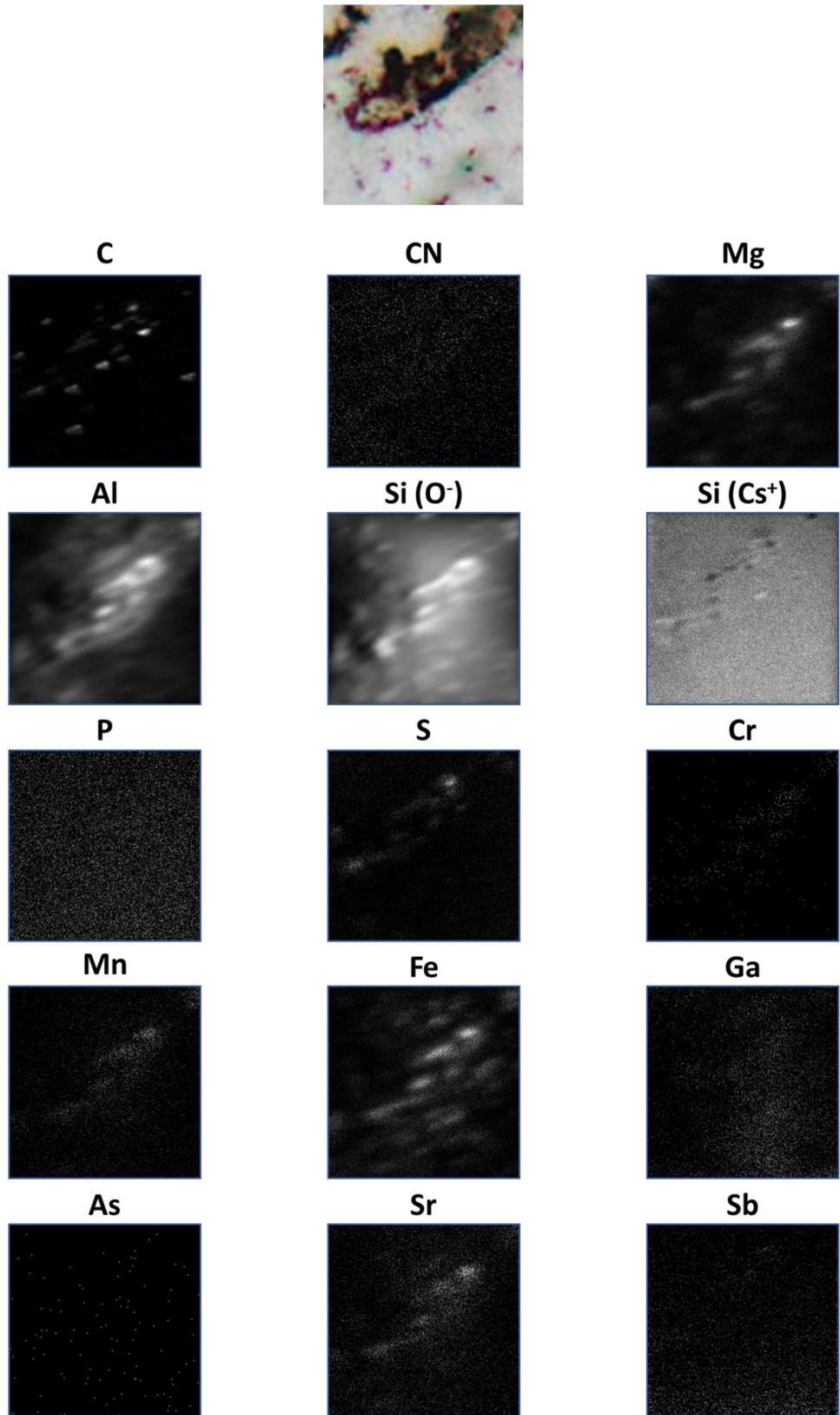
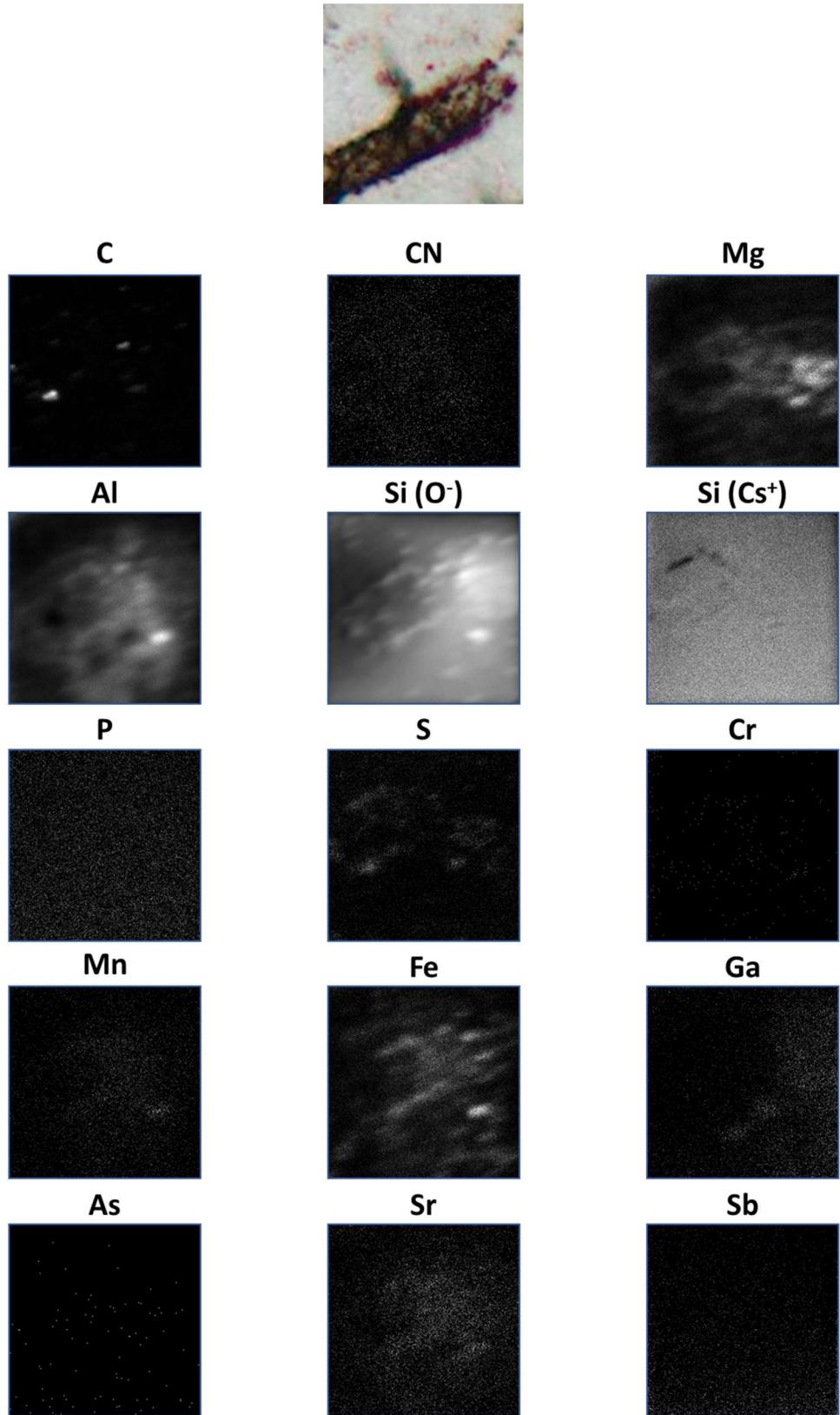


Figure S4 (1–16). The above photomicrographs show the 16 Drummond Basin microfossils analyzed in this study. The following pages show the SIMS images generated for each microfossil. Each panel shows a greyscale SIMS image for the noted element.

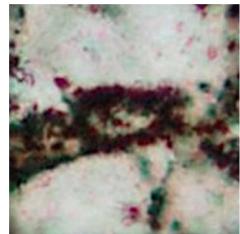
Sample 1



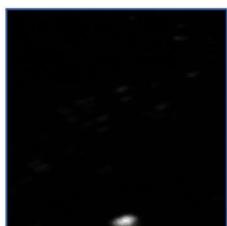
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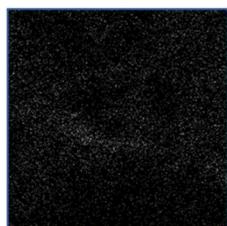
Sample 3



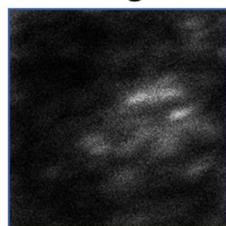
C



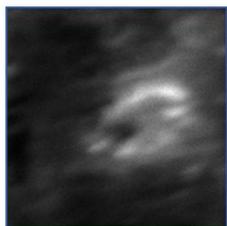
CN



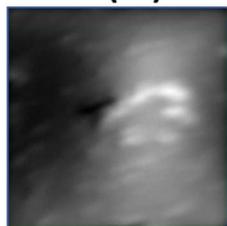
Mg



Al



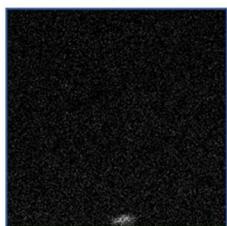
Si (O^-)



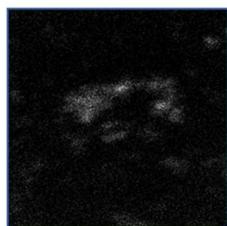
Si (Cs^+)



P



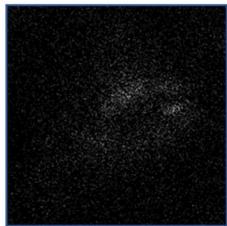
S



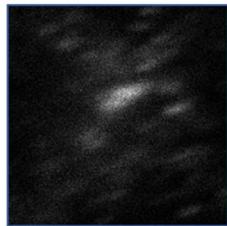
Cr



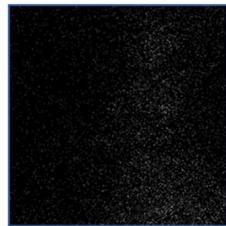
Mn



Fe



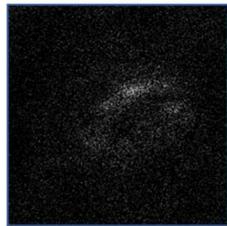
Ga



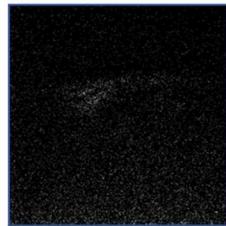
As



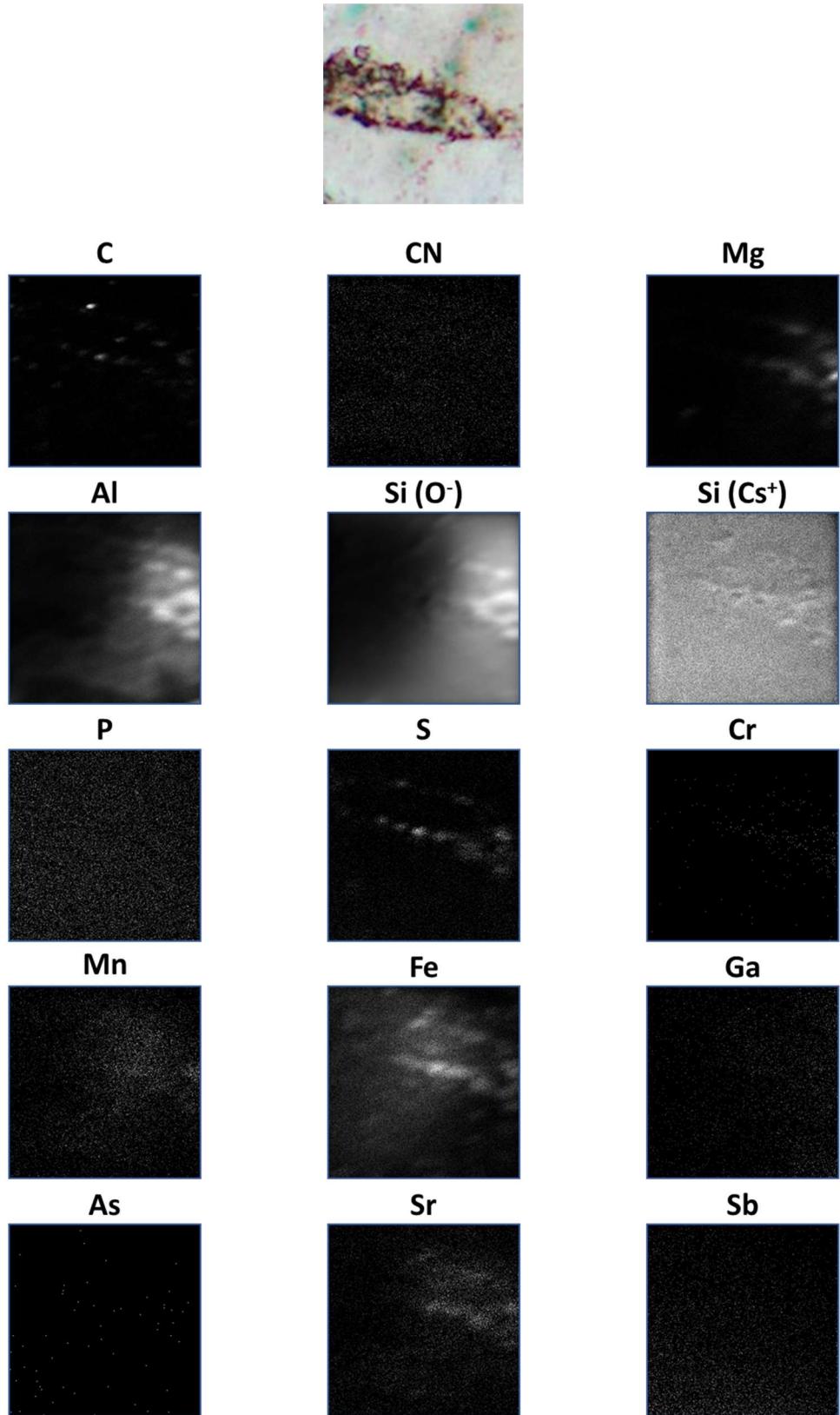
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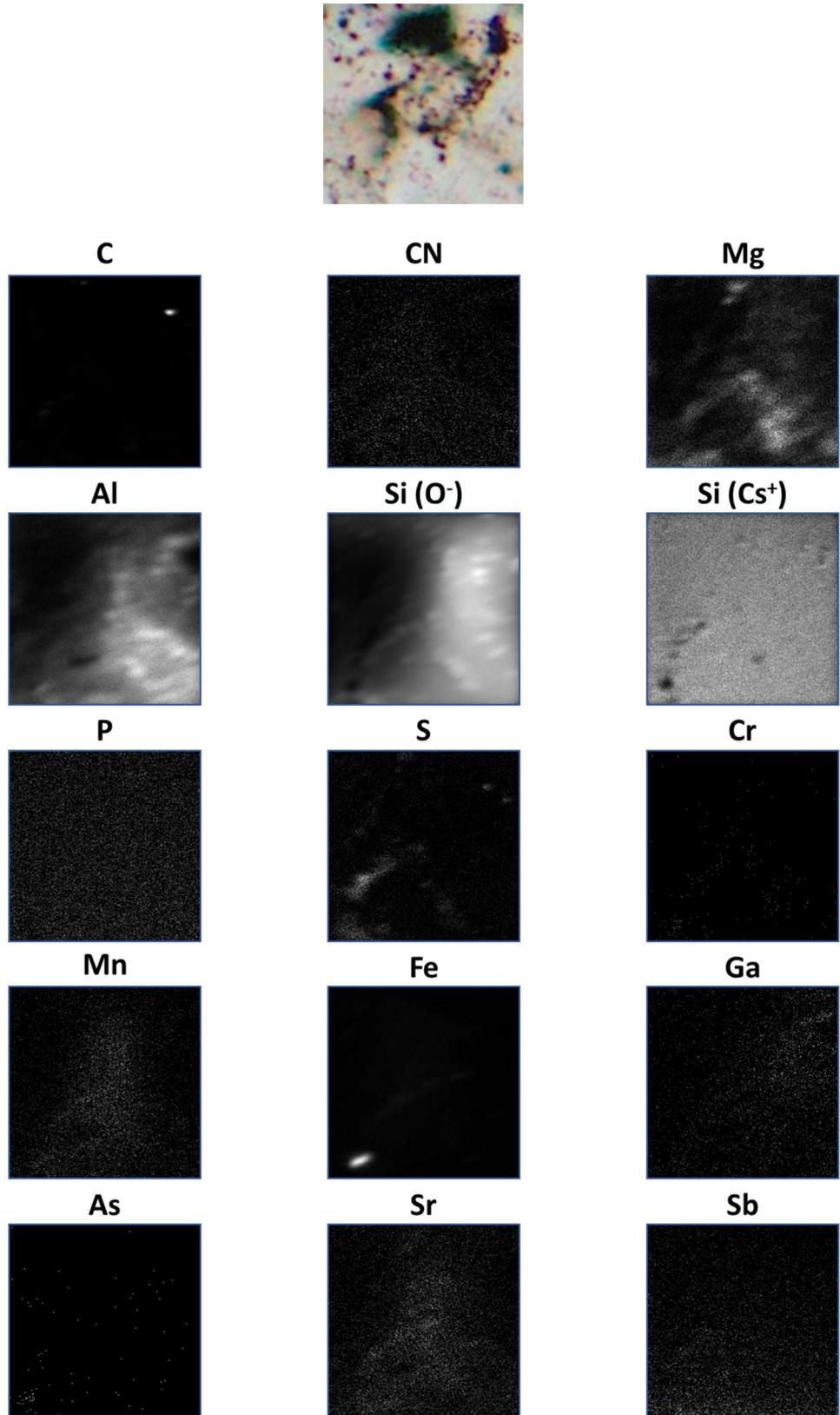
Sb



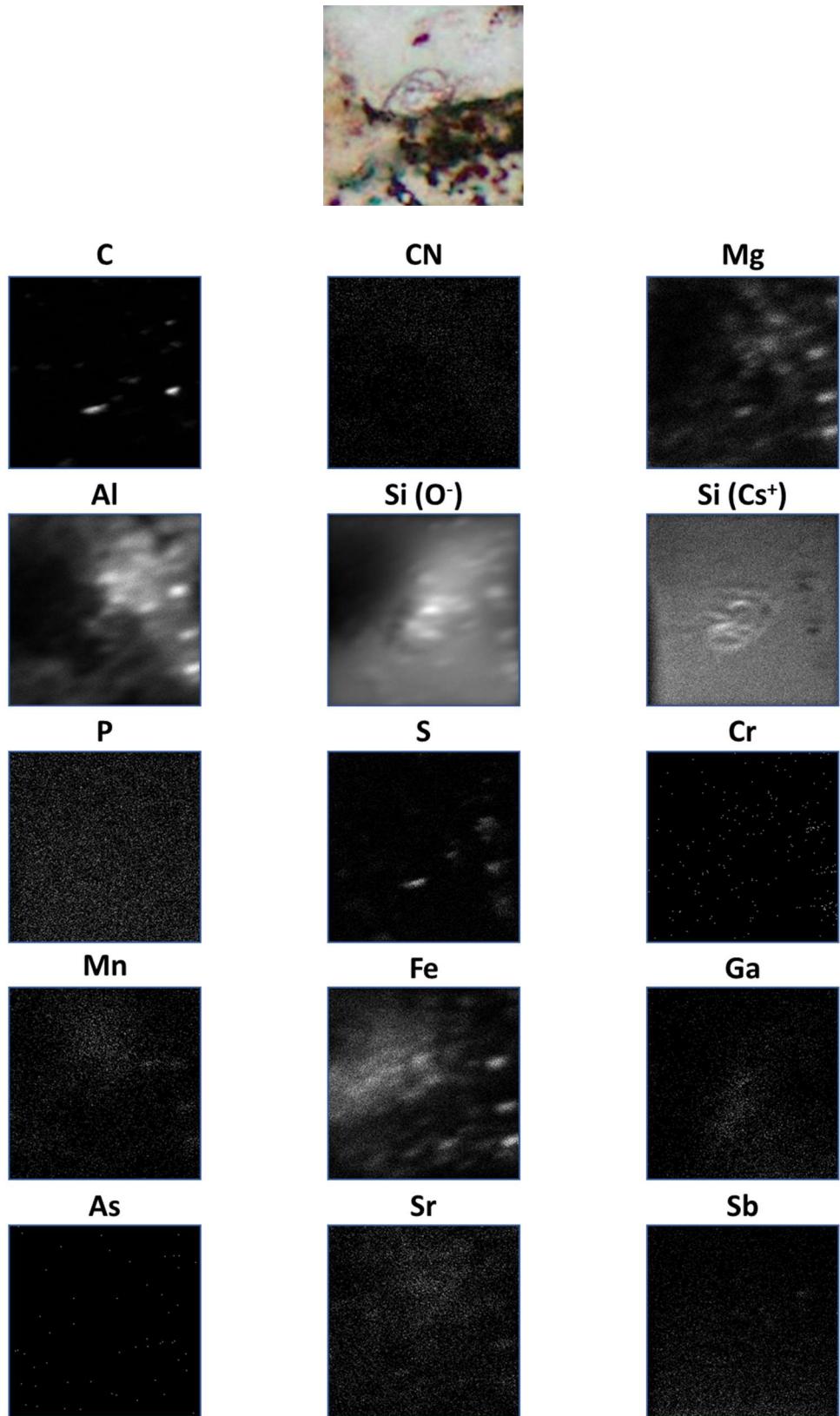
Sample 4



Sample 5



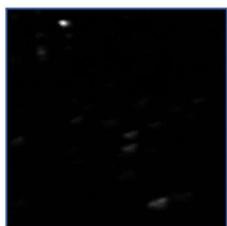
Sample 6



Sample 7



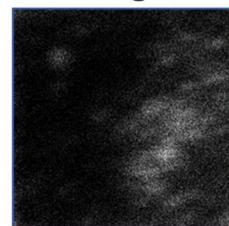
C



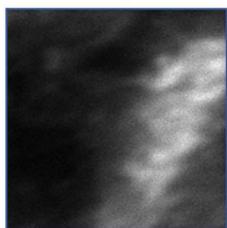
CN



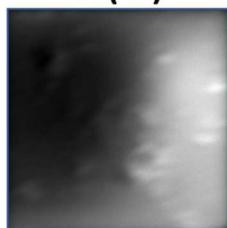
Mg



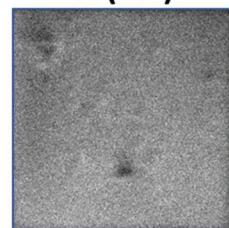
Al



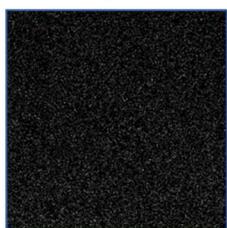
Si (O^-)



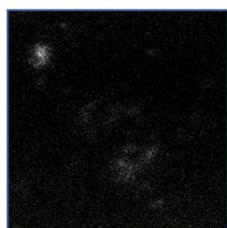
Si (Cs^+)



P



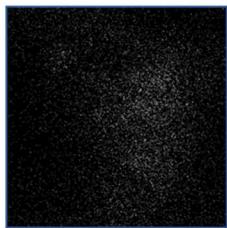
S



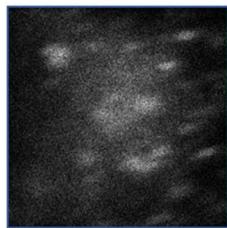
Cr



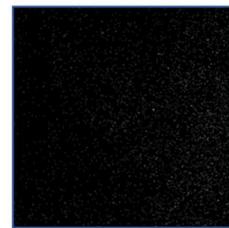
Mn



Fe



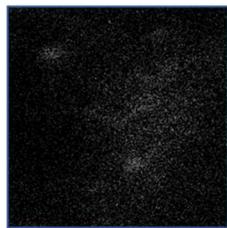
Ga



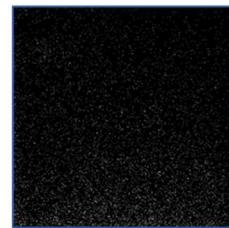
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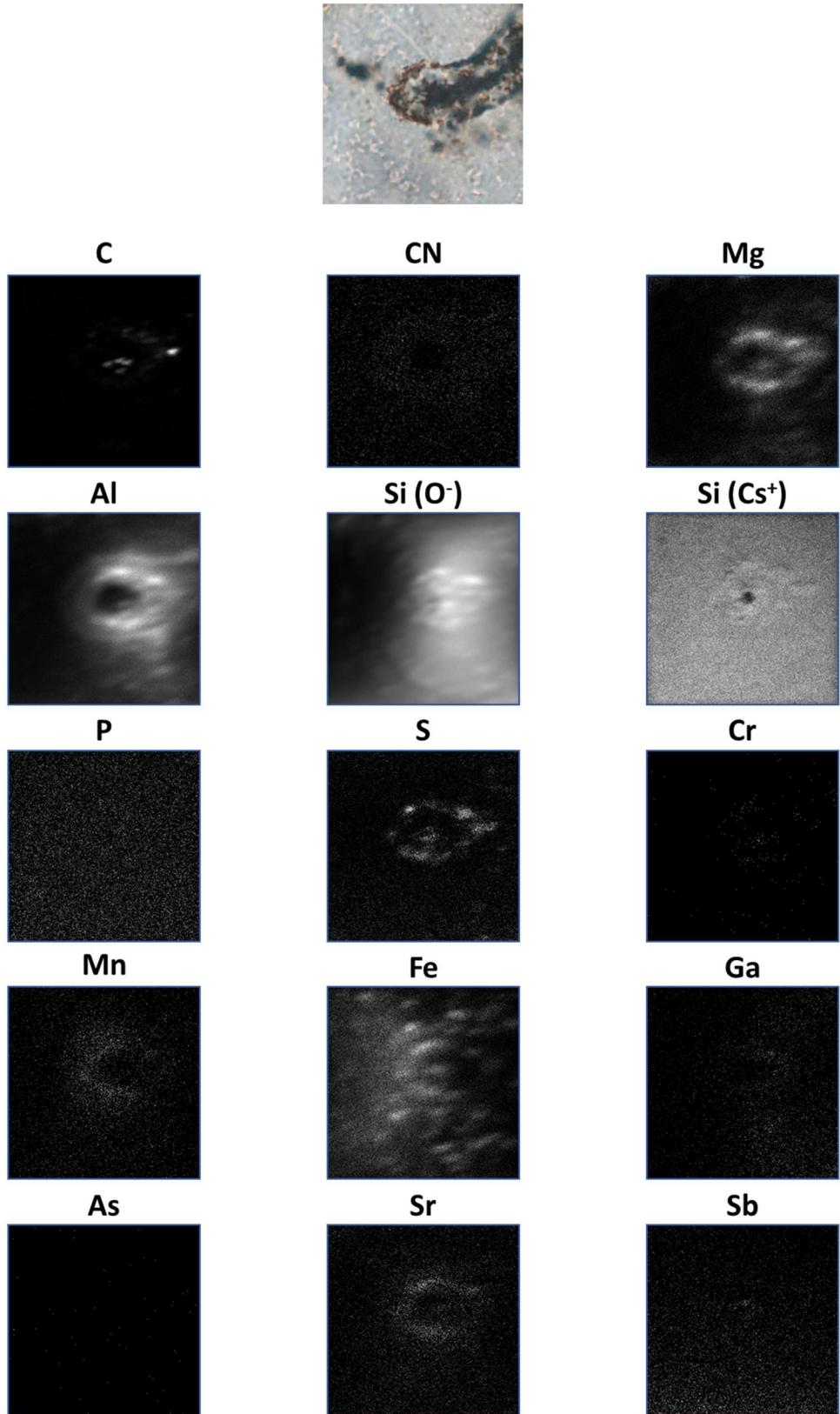
Sr



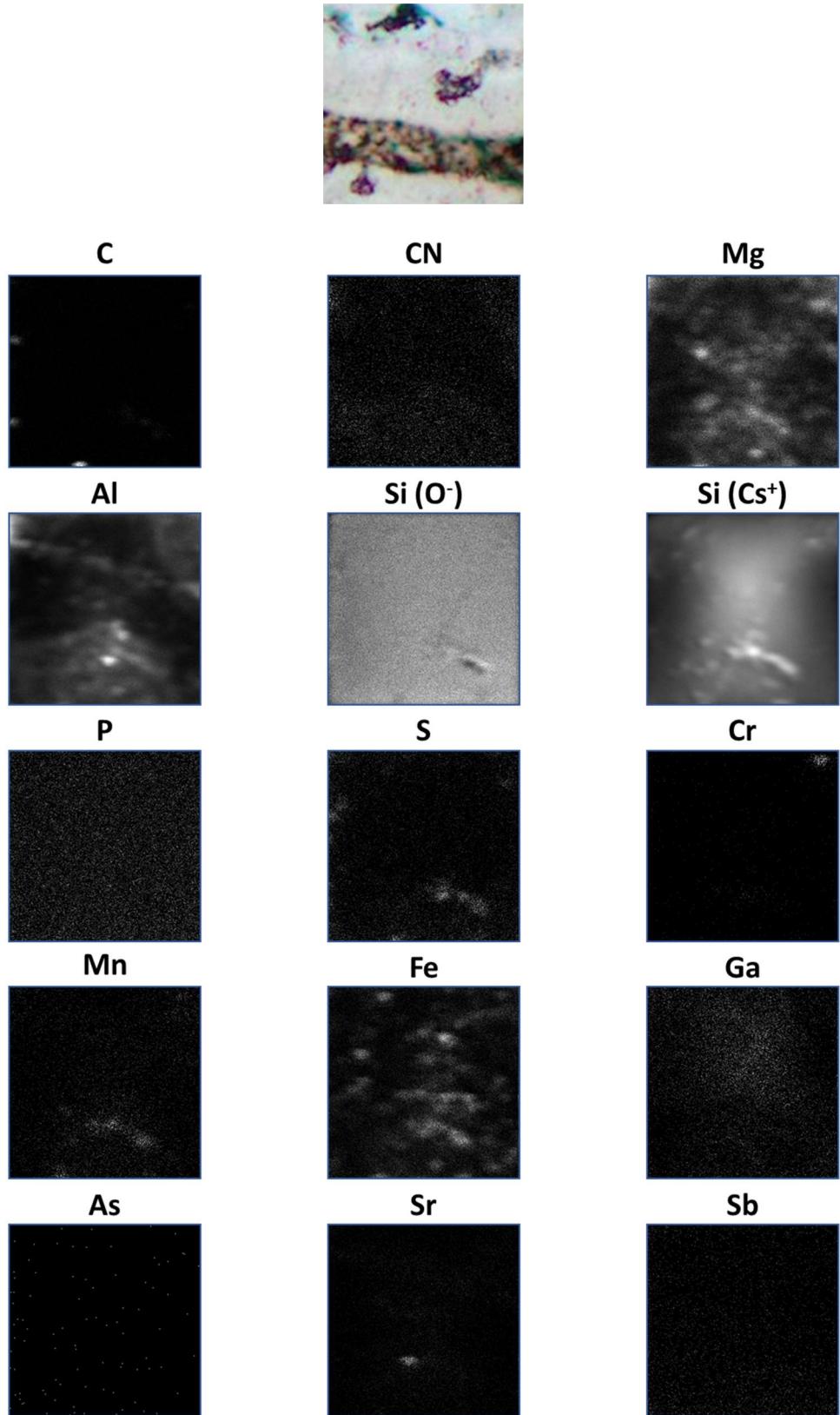
Sb



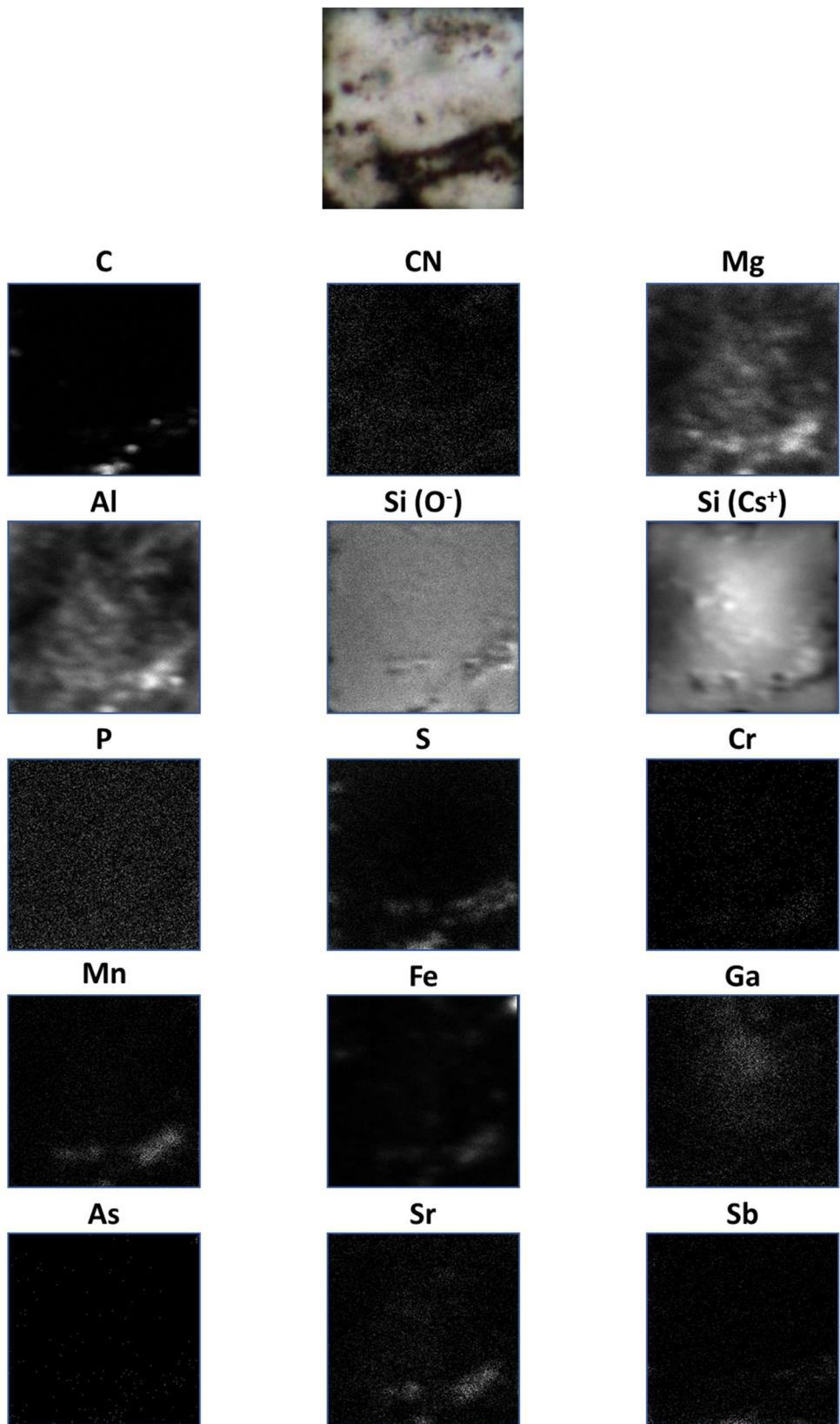
Sample 8



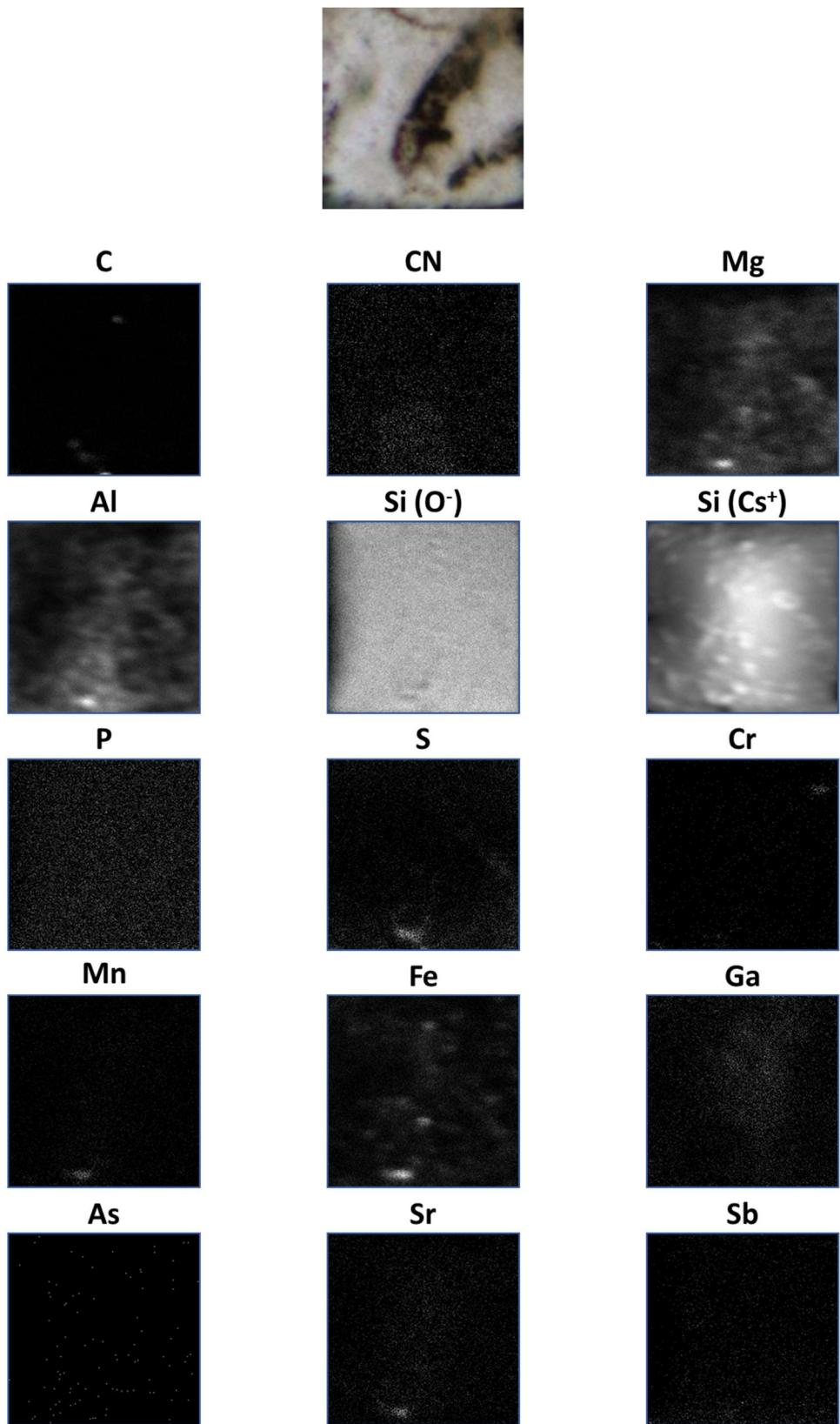
Sample 9



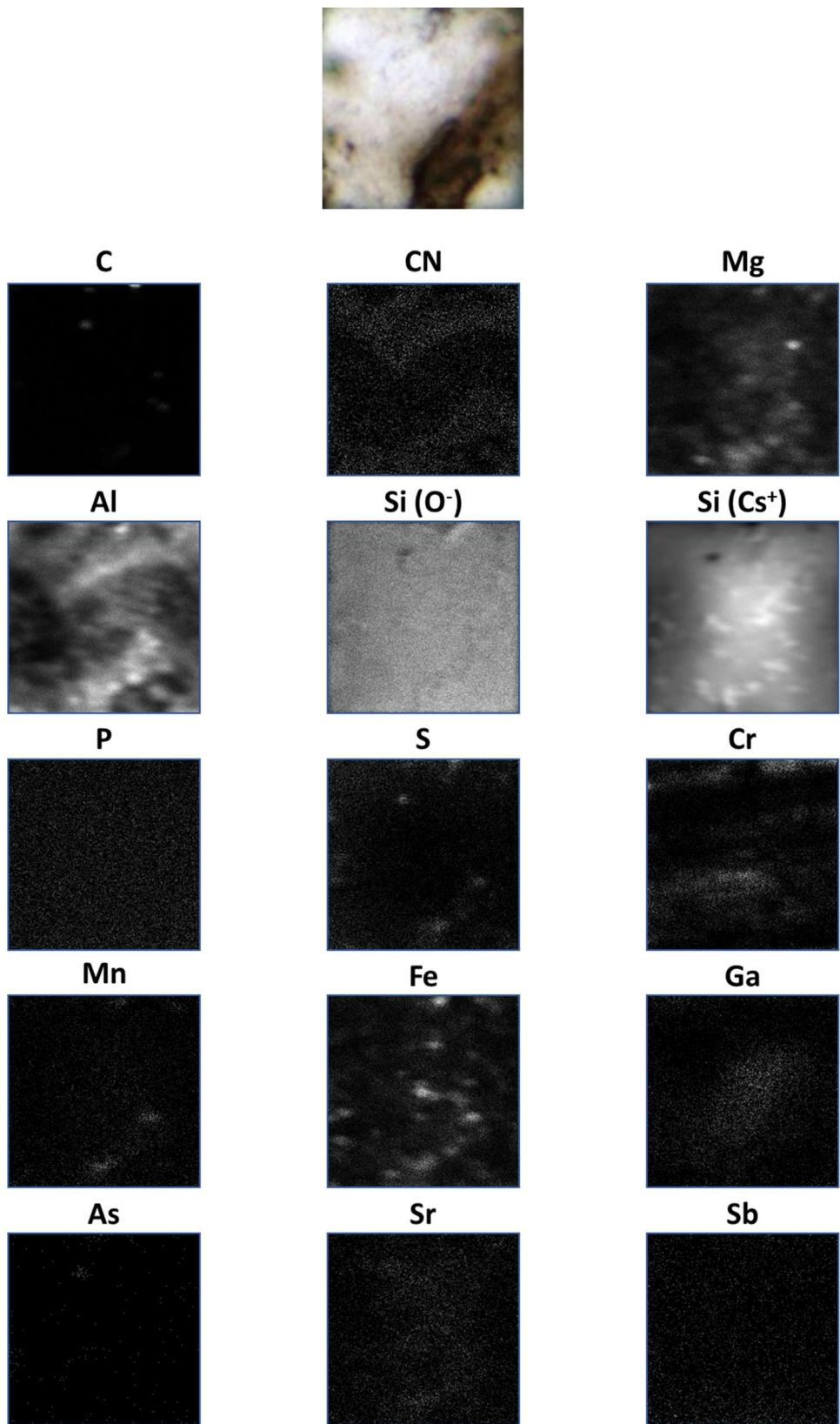
Sample 10



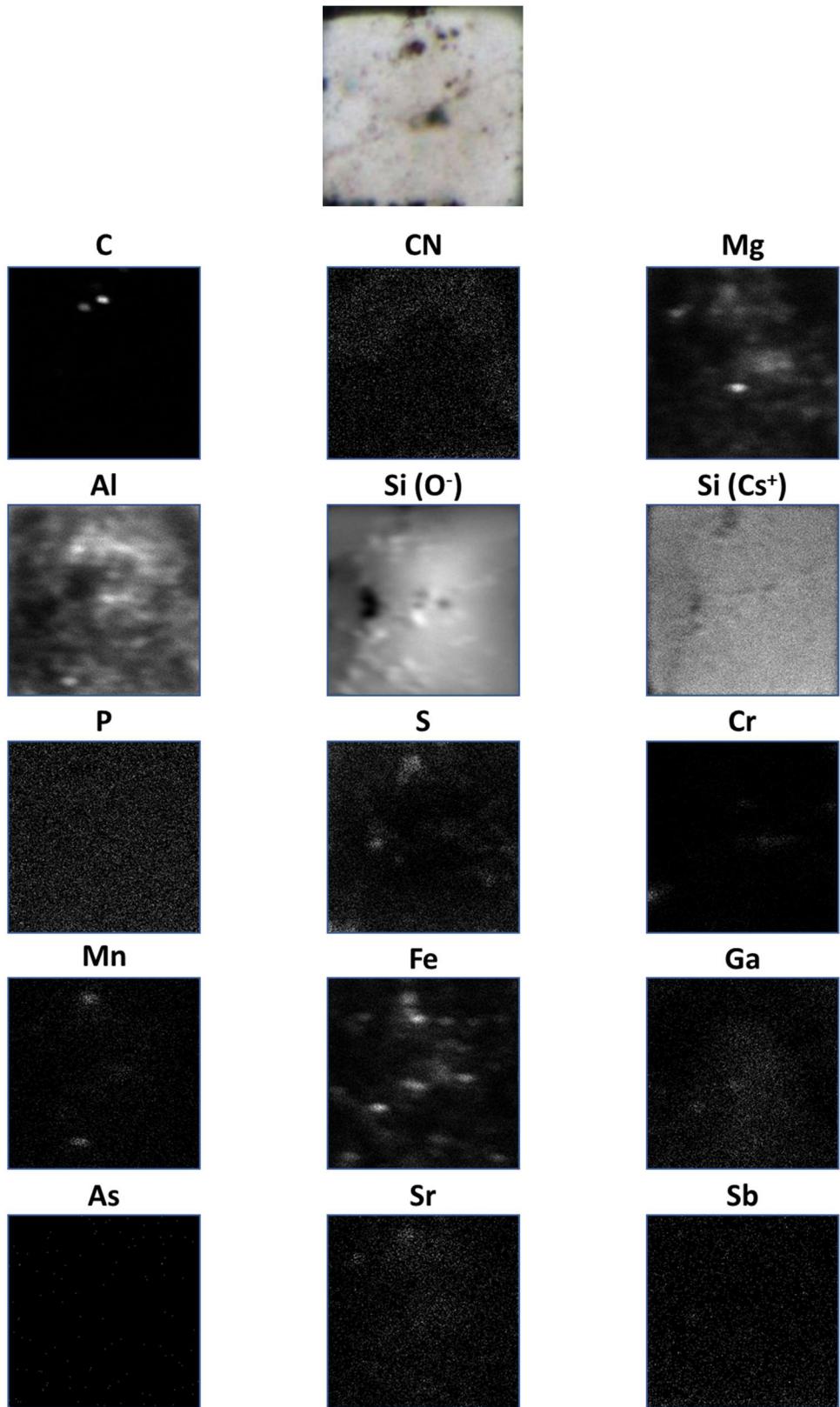
Sample 11



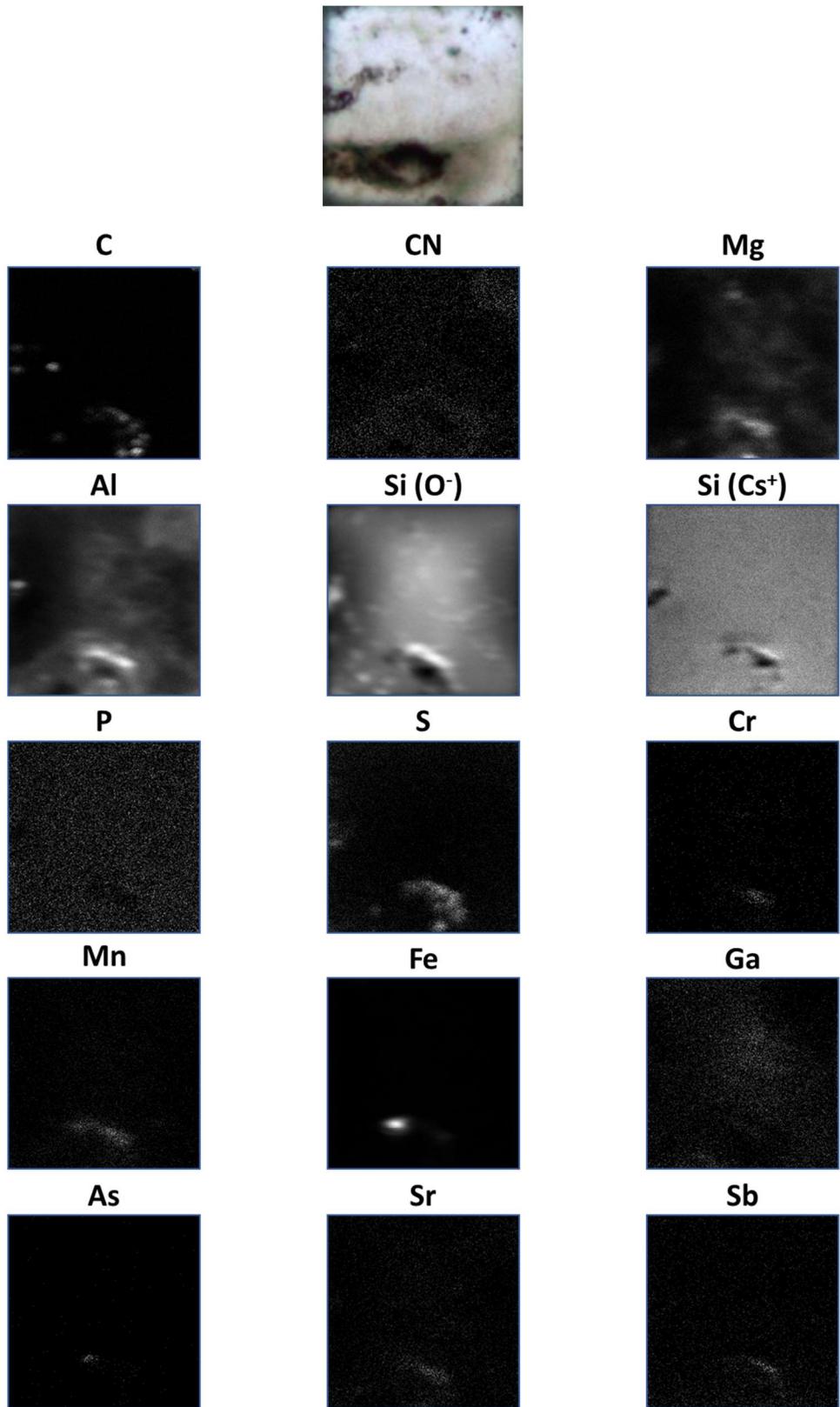
Sample 12



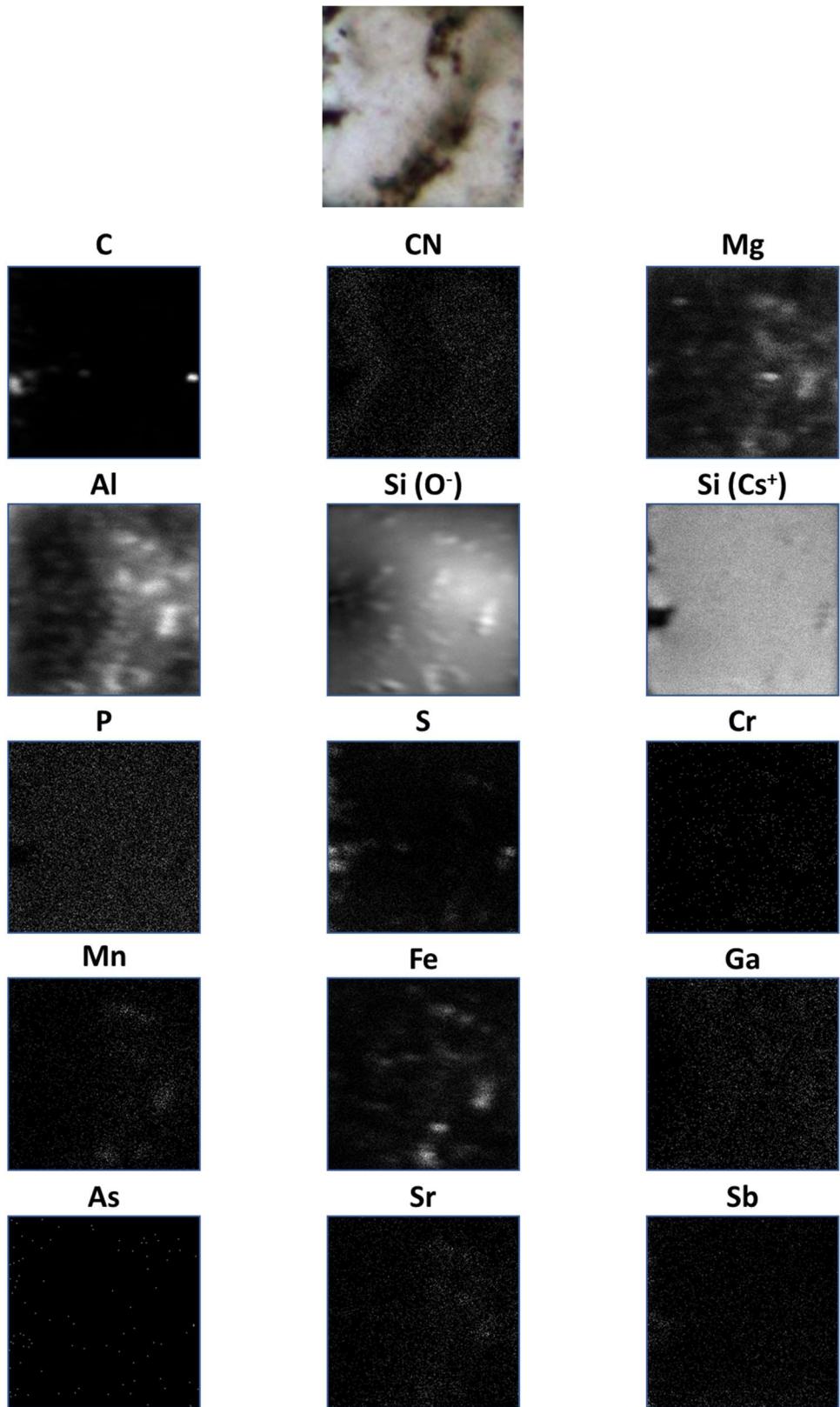
Sample 13



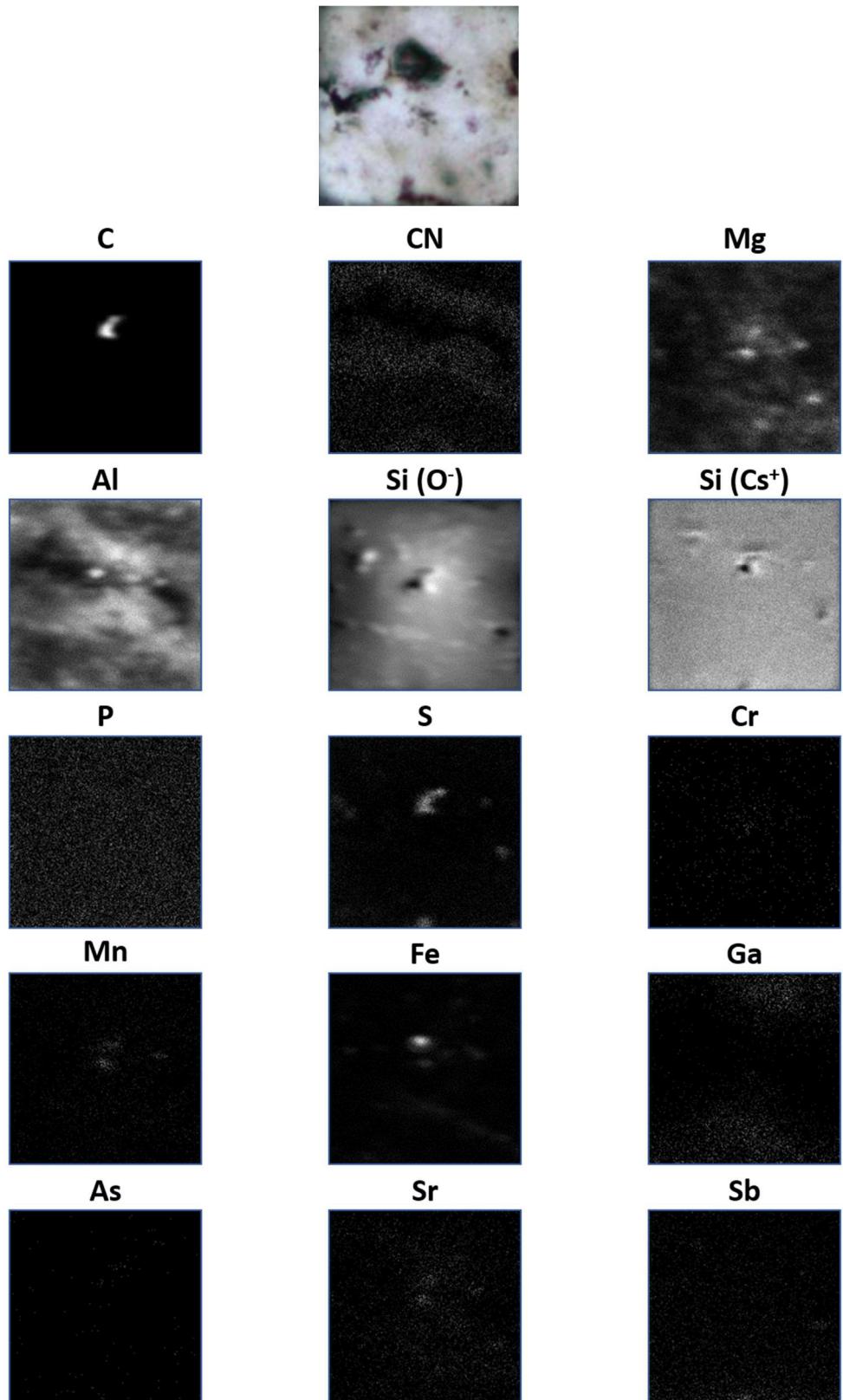
Sample 14



Sample 15



Sample 16



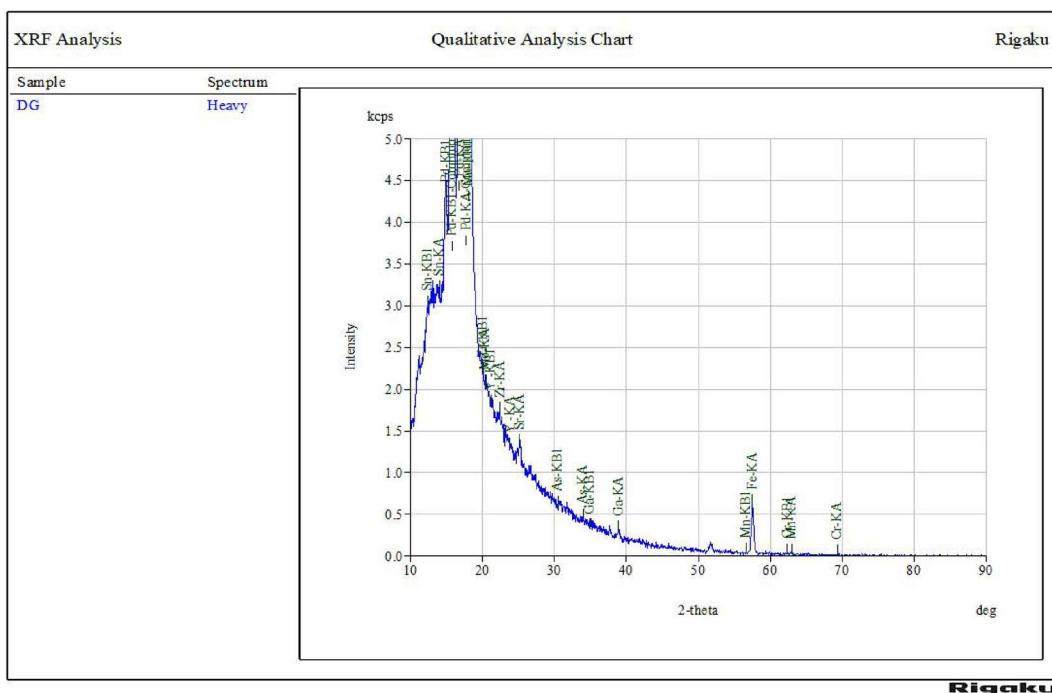


Figure S5. XRF Heavy spectrum from Drummond Basin sample corresponding with Table 1 in the main text.

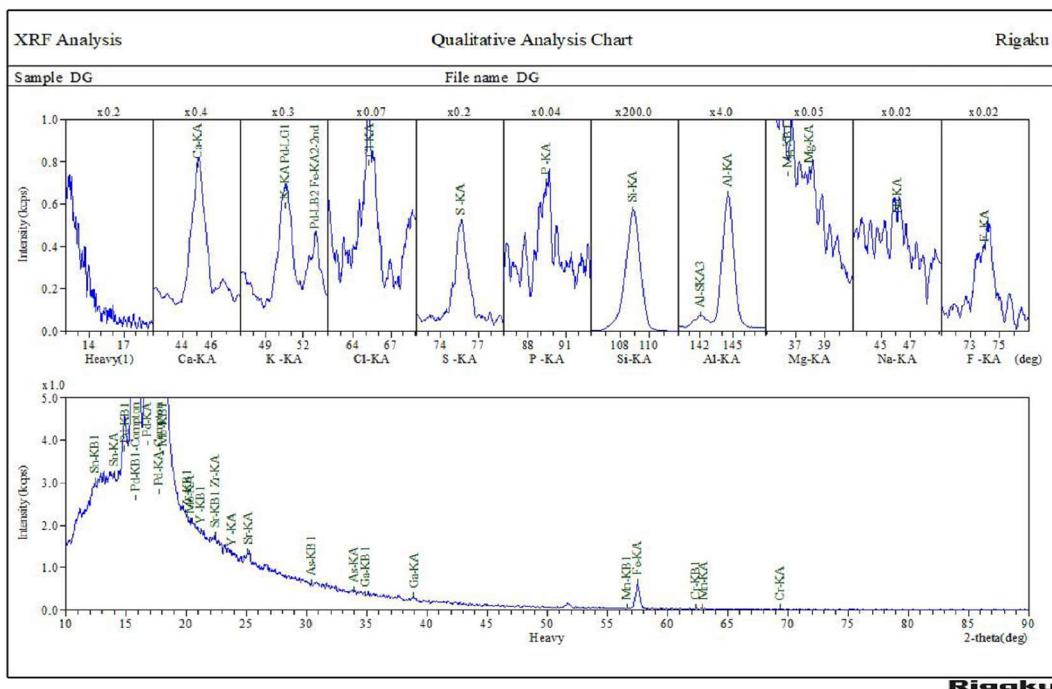


Figure S6. XRF Total spectra from Drummond Basin sample corresponding with Table 1 in the main text.

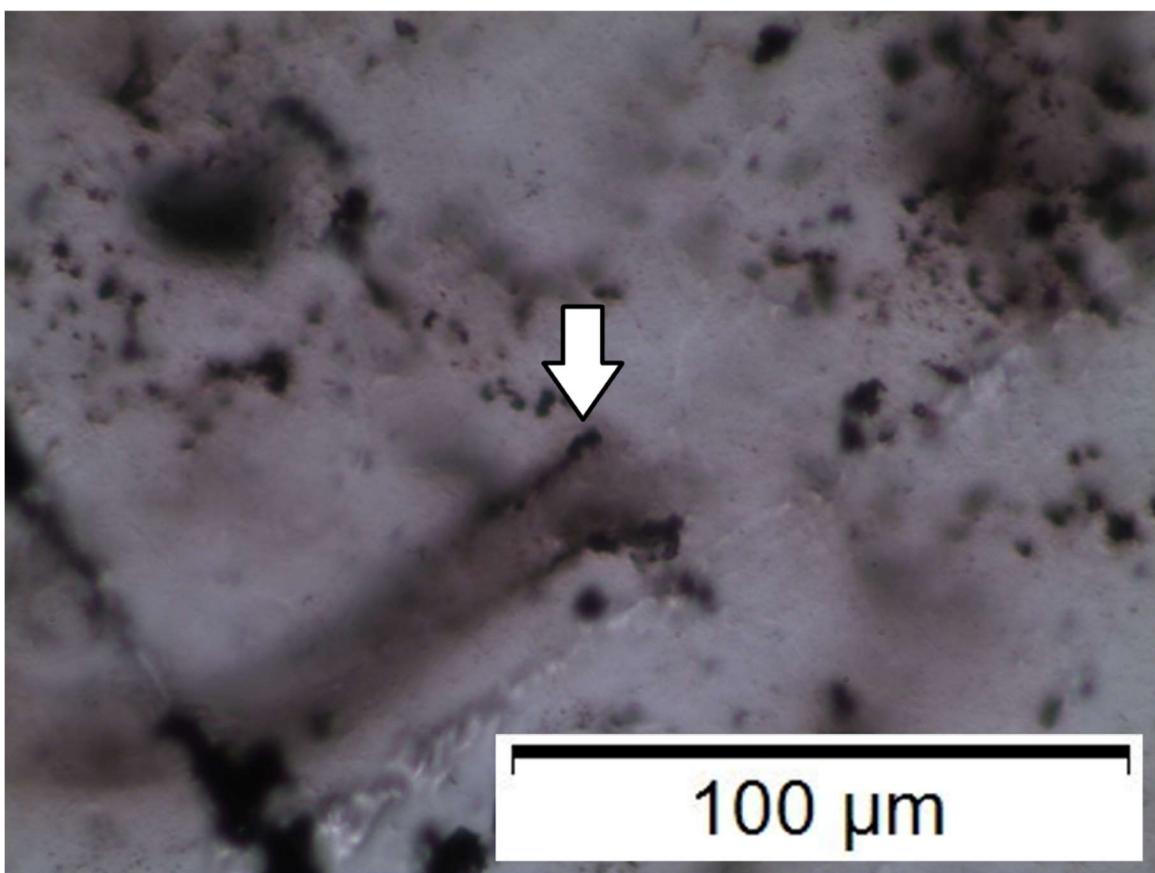


Figure S7. Drummond microfossil targeted by Raman analyses.

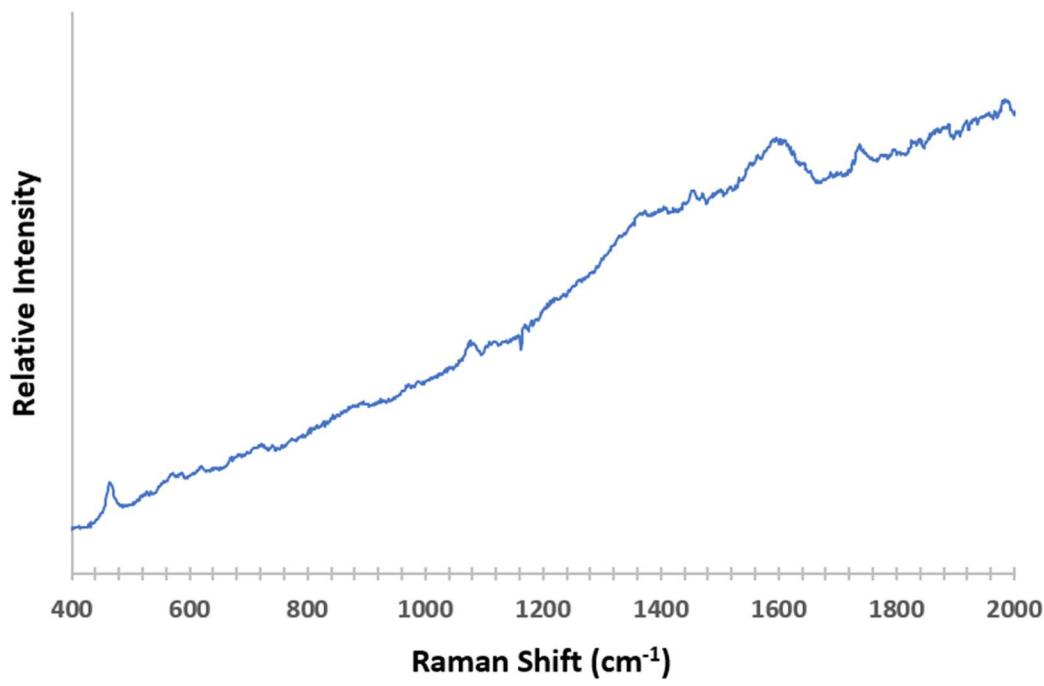


Figure S8. Non-baseline subtracted Raman spectrum from Drummond microfossil body (pictured in Figure S7), showing strong fluorescence.

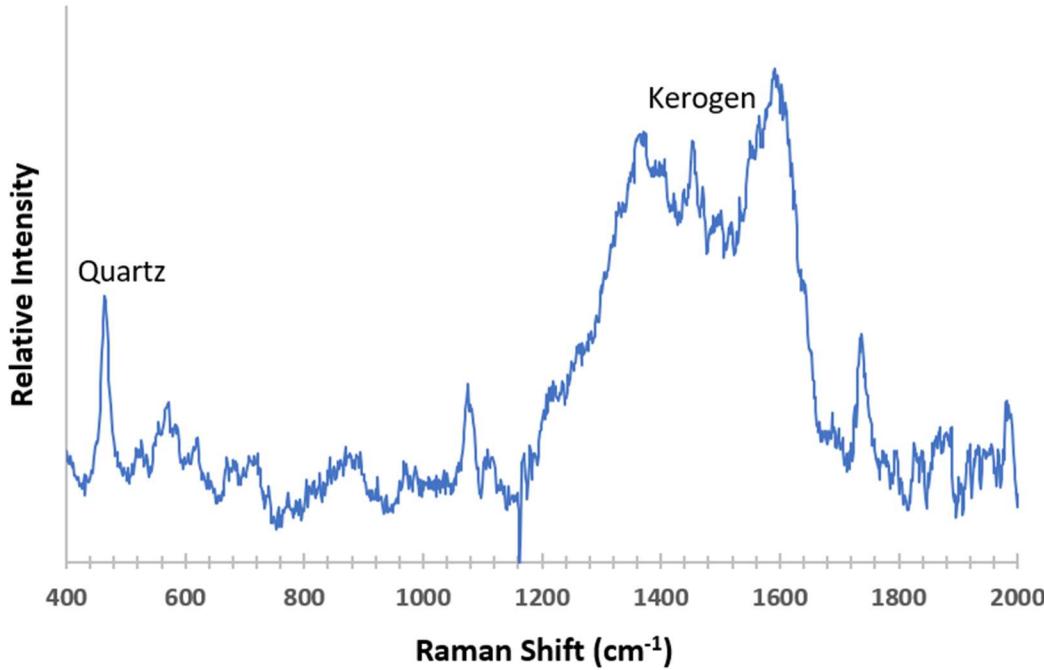


Figure S9. Baseline subtracted Raman spectrum from Figure S8, showing quartz and kerogen. Smaller peaks are due to fluorescence.

Table S1

Target Mass	Interference	MRP* needed	Comment
C ¹⁵ N	¹³ C ¹⁴ N	4272	does not matter as it is still CN
As	⁴⁶ Ca ²⁹ Si	8722	2 minor isotopes
As	⁴⁸ Ca ²⁷ Al	6004	⁴⁸ Ca minor isotope
As	⁴⁴ Ca ³⁰ SiH	4838	trimers rare, ³⁰ Si, ⁴⁴ Ca minor
As	⁴⁶ Ca ²⁸ SiH	4447	trimers rare, ⁴⁶ Ca minor
¹²⁰ Sn	⁴⁸ Ca ⁴⁴ Ca ²⁸ Si	6949	trimers rare, ⁴⁸ , ⁴⁵ Ca minor
¹²⁰ Sn	⁴⁰ Ca ³	8311	trimers rare
¹²⁰ Sn	⁴⁸ Ca ⁴⁴ Ca ²⁹ Si	6261	trimers rare, all minor isotopes
⁶⁹ Ga	⁴⁰ Ca ²⁹ Si	5103	²⁹ Si minor
⁶⁹ Ga	⁴² Ca ²⁷ Al	4727	⁴² Ca minor
⁶⁹ Ga	⁴⁶ Ca ²³ Na	3855	⁴⁶ Ca minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴⁴ Ca ²	16447	⁴⁴ Ca minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴⁸ Ca ⁴⁰ Ca	9255	⁴⁸ Ca minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴⁴ Ca ⁴³ CaH	5342	trimers rare, ⁴⁴ Ca ⁴³ Ca minor
⁸⁸ Sr	³⁰ Si ²²⁸ Si	4664	trimers rare, ³⁰ Si minor
⁸⁸ Sr	³⁰ Si ²⁹ Si ²	4158	trimers rare, ³⁰ Si 29Si minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴² Ca ³⁰ Si ¹⁶ O	4054	trimers rare, ⁴² Ca 30Si minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴⁴ Ca ²⁸ Si ¹⁶ O	4050	trimers rare, ⁴⁴ Ca minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴⁶ Ca ³⁰ Si ¹² C	4026	trimers rare, ⁴⁶ Ca ³⁰ Si minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴⁸ Ca ²⁸ Si ¹² C	3688	trimers rare, ⁴⁸ Ca minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴³ Ca ²⁹ Si ¹⁶ O	3580	trimers rare, ⁴³ Ca ²⁹ Si minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴⁴ Ca ²⁹ Si ¹⁵ N	3322	trimers rare, all minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴⁴ Ca ²⁰ Si ¹⁴ N	3292	trimers rare, ⁴⁴ Ca ³⁰ Si minor
⁸⁸ Sr	⁴⁶ Ca ²⁸ Si ¹⁴ N	3132	trimers rare, ⁴⁶ Ca minor

Table S1. SIMS interferences and comments for various masses.

Table S2. Elemental data for 16 fossil samples and the surrounding mineral matrix (background) plotted in Figure 3 of the main text.

Sample	Mg				Al				Mn				Fe				Sr			
	Fossil ^a	Conc. ^c	Err. ^d	Background ^b	Fossil	Conc.	Err.	Background	Fossil	Conc.	Err.	Background	Fossil	Conc.	Err.	Background	Fossil	Conc.	Err.	Background
1	73.2	0.6	39.3	0.7	3555.6	41.4	1117.4	9.1	13.7	0.2	2.6	0.2	260.5	4.7	74.7	1.6	17.6	0.2	5.3	0.3
2	67.0	1.4	20.6	0.9	2409.6	31.1	940.6	18.4	8.5	0.1	2.7	0.2	211.7	4.4	135.7	3.5	13.9	0.2	5.8	0.3
3	64.3	1.1	30.9	1.0	3055.1	29.5	1767.4	26.7	12.2	0.2	6.3	0.4	299.4	4.6	283.4	7.7	18.1	0.2	11.0	0.5
4	52.1	0.3	14.7	0.6	2936.1	25.0	1364.2	22.8	21.8	0.3	16.7	1.7	736.0	12.9	510.2	11.5	32.3	0.3	23.6	1.2
5	57.0	1.1	13.6	0.6	2570.3	27.1	684.2	9.1	19.2	0.3	6.7	0.5	1225.8	23.6	967.5	20.1	24.8	0.3	13.2	0.7
6	59.5	0.6	15.1	0.6	2991.6	27.4	1682.6	27.8	7.1	0.3	5.1	0.5	289.6	2.2	161.7	5.5	9.9	0.3	8.8	1.3
7	33.9	0.7	14.2	0.5	2265.6	60.8	1058.6	15.0	15.7	0.3	9.2	0.7	426.0	7.6	349.2	11.3	19.9	0.2	14.2	0.9
8	56.2	0.9	36.0	2.3	2140.7	18.6	1197.5	10.3	10.2	0.2	2.6	0.2	325.6	2.4	89.9	1.8	19.0	0.3	3.1	0.3
9	142.7	3.5	56.4	1.6	2989.4	27.4	1966.8	19.8	23.4	0.7	6.1	0.4	282.6	5.6	107.3	2.2	25.6	0.7	7.5	0.4
10	322.3	6.9	90.5	3.7	5492.5	112.3	2622.5	113.9	43.1	1.0	6.2	0.3	844.1	16.8	354.7	15.1	26.0	0.5	4.6	0.3
11	233.8	5.8	54.8	1.8	4127.3	65.8	1645.4	50.5	37.1	1.2	7.4	0.4	595.6	11.3	203.5	2.4	24.5	1.1	5.6	0.3
12	184.9	4.8	56.1	1.9	3439.4	70.5	2213.5	57.7	16.3	0.4	4.7	0.4	260.7	5.3	150.5	3.5	11.3	0.2	5.7	0.3
13	160.5	4.4	71.4	2.0	2636.6	57.9	2471.5	49.8	9.4	0.2	5.5	0.4	307.7	3.2	149.1	3.4	8.7	0.2	6.0	0.4
14	228.3	4.6	23.3	0.7	4881.6	92.7	1361.5	46.2	38.5	0.7	5.5	0.4	1605.6	14.4	143.8	3.9	16.8	0.4	3.5	0.2
15	160.7	3.4	106.8	2.0	3740.4	57.9	2395.0	52.0	14.5	0.4	5.0	0.5	305.0	5.5	165.3	3.8	10.3	0.3	6.6	0.5
16	151.1	3.3	66.2	2.0	2636.4	63.3	1639.4	57.7	10.4	0.3	3.2	0.4	403.2	4.5	107.9	3.0	9.8	0.3	3.5	0.4

^a Fossil = measurements of elemental signals corresponding with the body of the microfossil

^b Background = the silica matrix of each sample, not associated with the body of the fossil

^c Conc. = concentration in parts-per-million

^d Err. = Error, which is the Poisson-per-pixel of the same area the concentration was measured from

End of Supplementary Material