

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Berthier, Pierre

1782 - 1861

DEGREE: Ing. Ordinaire

DATE: 1805

PLACE: Ecole des Mines

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Schreiber

discovered bauxite; analyzed many minerals, esp. feldspars, nickel arsenates, and kaolin (a basic copper sulfate); prepared alloys of iron and chromium and recommended chrome steel for sword blades and cutlery; described a method for refining nickel from its ores; studied manganese and nickel oxides; described the preparation of H₂S from metal sulfides plus acid; studied beryllium, lithium, and zirconium silicates; wrote a widely-quoted textbook on assaying and chemical metallurgy.

FOOTNOTE: Berthier probably acquired his knowledge of methods of chemical analysis from Berthollet, under whom Berthier studied from 1798-1801 at the Ecole Polytechnique in Paris.

1. *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*; Charles Scribner's Sons: 1970-1990; vol. 2, p72.
2. Lajeunesse, R. S. *Grands Mineurs Française*; Dunod: 1948; p82-89.
3. *Dictionnaire de Biographie Francaise*; Libraire Letouzey et Ane: 1933-1989; vol. 6, col 218.
4. Partington, J. R. *A History of Chemistry*; Macmillan: 1964; vol. 4, p97-98.
5. Ferchl-Mittenwald, F. *Chemisch-Pharmazeutisches Bio- und Bibliographikon*; Arthur Nemayer: 1937; p40.