

A Guide to the Mineralogical Record Website

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The Mineralogical Record website has many functions and databases filling over 4,100 different pages of potential interest to the mineral collector. Herewith a brief guide to navigating some of the most useful features and databases.

The Mineralogical Record is not just a source of magazines and books, but also a free source of information on historical mineralogical literature, on biographies of people in the mineral world, on market news for mineral collectors, and on mineral art – all in fulfillment of our mission to distribute information on the culture, history and science of mineralogy. Our website is there for you to use, so it pays to make yourself familiar with what it has to offer:

FIND ARTICLES

One of the biggest questions that we get at shows is: “Have you ever had an article on ...” This question is easily answered using our “Author/Title Article Search” function; just click on the “Author/Keyword Search” on our Contents page and you can then type in (on the right) any word that might appear in the title of an article you are looking for and click “search.” Or you can check the alphabetized drop-down menu on the left for any author you want, and click “search.” Either way you will get a list of articles in chronological order; AND it also tells you if the issue containing that article is still available. If it is, you can order it by clicking on the “Add to cart” button.

Incidentally, if you are searching for a particular mineral or locality, that search function will also tell you which issues have featured that mineral or locality on the cover.

The Author/Title search database is updated with the publication of each issue.

BIOGRAPHICAL ARCHIVE

The Biographical Archive has proven to be one of the most popular and often-used features of our website. You can look up over 1,700 mineral dealers, collectors and museums from the 18th century to the present day, read their biographies and see over 4,400 illustrations of their specimen labels that can help you to date your specimens. Many entries have portraits and old ads as well. Learning about the history of your specimens adds depth and enjoyment to your collecting.

GENERAL INDEX

If you are trying to find something mentioned in an article but not in the title you can access our General Index. The General Index is far more detailed than the Author/Title index, but it only covers the years 1970 through 2004.

BACK ISSUES LISTING

If you click on “Issues Available” you will arrive at the page devoted to the issues and supplements of the current year. But there you can also choose any *other* year and go to the page showing the covers of those six issues. Click on any one of the covers and you will see its table of contents; in this way you can learn what was in any issue ever published in our 47-year history, whether it is still available or not.

INTERNET MINERAL NEWS

If you would like to read about minerals that have shown up on the Internet mineral market recently, click on “What’s New in the Mineral World.” This column by Tom Moore is the companion to his magazine columns covering market news at mineral shows.

SCHUH’S BIO-BIBLIOGRAPHY

If you need bibliographic information on rare mineralogical books published between 1469 and 1919, check out the late Curtis Schuh’s monumental bio-bibliography. Not only does it cover multiple editions of some titles, but it also gives biographical information on 1,549 authors. It can be invaluable when you are looking for complete titles, dates, pagination, etc., and includes well over 1,000 title pages.

AXIS, AN ECLECTIC JOURNAL OF MINERALOGY

Here you will find all manner of articles and databases that would not fit into the published magazine. Some are described below:

The Glossary of Obsolete Mineral Names

Peter Bayliss’s monumental compilation of over 35,000 obsolete mineral names and their current equivalents was available in hardcover edition for many years, but an expanded and updated version is now freely available in the *Axis* section of our website.

The Mineralogical Record Label Collection

An inventory of names and dealerships represented in the Mineralogical Record’s extensive and varied archive of old mineral labels, perhaps the largest in the world, is available in the *Axis* section of our website.

Mineral Photography Technique

A thorough guide to the secrets of professional mineral photography lighting by Wendell Wilson is available in the *Axis* section of the website. All serious, aspiring mineral photographers should read this article.

Legal Nuggets Column

The late Fran Allegra, a judge for the United States Court of Federal Claims and an adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center, wrote a series of columns for the *Mineralogical Record* between 2008 and 2012, dealing with legal issues of interest to collectors. These columns have all been gathered together into one which is now posted in the *Axis* section.

Early Mineral Collection Catalogs

Bibliophiles in minerals will enjoy reading the three-part article about “Fifty-four early mineral collection catalogs” in the Mineralogical Record Library. It is posted in the *Axis* section.

The Minerals of Star Trek

Two comprehensive articles by Jeffrey de Fourestier (Chairman of the Subcommittee on Unnamed Minerals, International Mineralogical Association) on the mineralogy of Star Trek are posted in the *Axis* section. The first, posted in 2005, discusses mineral species, real and fictitious, that were mentioned in the original Star Trek television series (28 species), Star Trek—The Next Generation (26 species), Star Trek—Deep Space Nine (38 species), Star Trek—Voyager (42 species), Star Trek—Enterprise (15 species), and the various Star Trek theatrical motion pictures (6 species). Special attention is given, of course, to “dilithium” (actually dilithium telluride, Li_2Te – who knew?). Since being posted it has been cited throughout Wikipedia and the Trekkie world, as you might expect, but it has also been cited by the American Association of Mining Engineers and most recently in *Forbes* Magazine (“The Geology of Star Trek: From Extraterrestrial Minerals To Alien Life-Forms” by David Bressan). In 2016 Dr. de Fourestier has provided an update (“The Mineralogy of Star Trek: The New Series”) containing even more information on the minerals of the Star Trek universe.

THE ART MUSEUM

One my personal favorites on the Mineralogical Record website is the “Art Museum,” where you can read about mineral and mining artists and see examples of their artworks. There is no other site like it on the Internet.

ANTIQUARIAN BOOKBINDING

If you enjoy looking at antiquarian book bindings, click on the “The Mineralogical Record Library,” and see the 100 oldest and rarest antiquarian books (dating back to 1565!) in our company library. Many of them have been rebound in styles appropriate to their age and country of origin, designed by Wendell Wilson and executed by Slip Carpenter of the Green Dragon Bookbindery in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts.

ADVERTISING ADVICE

Are you an aspiring first-time advertiser of minerals for sale? A little unsure about the best way to create an effective ad? You can find lots of sage advice on how to design your ad by consulting the “Suggestions for New Advertisers” section.

THE BOOKSTORE

Here you can buy any of 76 different mineral books and mineral-related DVDs.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION ONLINE

You can also renew your subscription online, or buy a gift subscription for someone.

OTHER STUFF

What else? You can check out our advertising rates, examine our guidelines for authors, read some sample articles, and find links to every advertiser in the Mineralogical Record.

SEARCH THE WEBSITE

Such a big website can be challenging to search if you are not sure where something is. In that case, just use the “Search our website” function and type in a key word. It works!

A SECRET?

There is one secret of our website: If you don't like using drop-down menus (or if your platform doesn't support them easily), you can visit our five-page *site map* by clicking on the crossed hammers symbol on our home page.