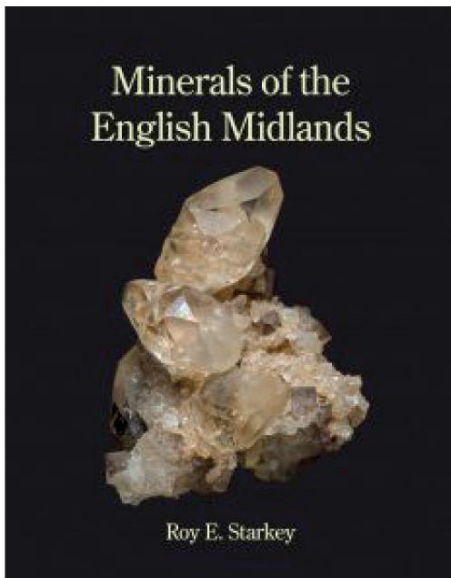




## BOOK REVIEW

### MINERALS OF THE ENGLISH MIDLANDS

by Roy E Starkey, 2018



*British Mineralogy Publications Bromsgrove, 432 pages, 943 illustrations, ISBN. 978 0 9930182 3 7, page size 276 x 218 mm, £35.00 paperback, £50 hardback limited edition.*

The latest in the British Mineralogy series is a beautifully produced large format volume expertly written by Roy Starkey, which represents years of detailed research in the field, from archives, museum and private collections. It is comprehensively illustrated with the author's exquisite colour photographs of mineral specimens. It admirably fulfils its objective of showcasing specimens from the English Midlands many of which grace mineralogical museums throughout the world. An extensive list of over 900 references complements the text and a comprehensive index is provided.

The book is divided into 21 sections most of which cover descriptions of the midland counties whose limits are chosen as the Yorkshire Derbyshire boundary in the north and extend southwards to approximately the line of the M4 motorway. The first 4 sections introduce the reader to the geological setting of the mineral deposits which is chronologically organised by geological periods and accompanied by clear maps and diagrams. The formation of minerals is explained and provides an accessible account of the geological processes involved and will appeal to a wide range of interests. Also included is a section on the economic significance of the mineral resources whose exploitation underpinned the industrial revolution in the midlands.

The minerals of the 13 midland counties described each feature a geological description and map showing the location of mines and deposits augmented by historical black and white images. This also includes the story of the mining activity with identification of the main deposits and a gallery of images lavishly illustrating the variety of types and mineral associations, the latter often representing the only remaining evidence of past activity. Mineralogy and collecting mineral specimens are out of fashion but this wonderful work highlights how much can be learned from a field where enthusiastic amateurs still flourish.

Noel Worley



## NEXT YORKSHIRE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY INDOOR MEETING:

SATURDAY 26TH JANUARY 2019

1.30PM TO 4.30PM, UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

PROVISIONAL TITLE: REAL GEOLOGY IN VIRTUAL REALITY