# Virtual Museum of the History of Mineralogy

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https://www.mineralogy.eu

In this newsletter we indicate which new items have been added to our virtual museum: two interesting books and a nice mineral atlas pocket book, a third Seibert mineralogical microscope in the collection and two new handheld spectroscopes

## Books

- The first edition of Wallerius' "Mineralogia Eller MineralRiket" published in 1747. "A book that established a firm foundation on which the science of mineralogy could grow" (Schuh). The work begins with a description of the history of mineralogy, followed by a description of a large number of minerals for that time. For the first time, Wallerius understands and emphasizes the essential role of chemical properties as opposed to the external characteristics of a mineral. In this way he lays the foundation for a new era in the development of mineralogy.

- The third edition of Linck's "Grundriss der Krystallographie" (1913) which covers all aspects of crystals (symmetry, crystallization, systems, …). The book is profusely illustrated with original and fine crystal drawings and contains 3 remarkable lithographic color plates.

- "Schreibers Kleiner Atlas der Mineralogie" in two little volumes is a nice book with great color drawings of mineral species. More than 180 colored images of minerals, gems and meteorites (on fold-out tables) with careful descriptions. In the series "Schreibers kleine Atlanten der Naturwissenschaften", the publishing house also published numerous (also undated) pocket atlases, intended for the identification of objects in the most diverse fields. The series must have been very successful.

## Microscope

A third Seibert polarizing microscope (lacquered brass) with accessories made around 1925 was added. The instrument can also be converted into a microscope with dark field equipment.

## Spectroscopes

Thanks to the participation of a loyal Belgian collector, we were able to add two more handheld spectroscopes to our virtual collection: a diffraction grating instrument from the Beck company in London and a Dutch spectroscope from the Nedoptifa company, in Utrecht with the original stand with glass table and mirror.
Our collection of handheld spectroscopes forms a rich documentary series. We are well aware that not all of these instruments have been used for mineralogical purposes, but they have proved very useful for element identification in various scientific fields.

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