

THE A.V. RAZDERISHIN COLLECTION IN THE FERSMAN MINERALOGICAL MUSEUM

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Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Russian Academy of Sciences

Photo: Michael B. Leybov

Specimens: Fersman Mineralogical
Museum, RAS (FMM)

In the nearly 300 year history of the collections of the Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Russian Academy of Sciences, are permanent extended. One of the earliest donations is collection of Aleksandr V. Razderishin, a famous mining personality, received by the Museum in 1787 and 1795.

Aleksandr Vasil'evich Razderishin was born August 26, 1754, of an aristocratic family, which had sunk into decay.

His further, Vasily Fedorovich Razderishin, served in the Urals at the Polevskoi plant and the Kamenka factory bureau; later he was a manager of the Zlatoust plants by Luginin¹. Long before Ilmeny became a mineralogical Mecca, V.F. Razderishin found large crystals of muscovite there and started to produce muscovite commercially. Today, weathered and forested over huge dumps remind us of his works carried out more than 200 years ago in the district of Ilmeny Mts. Five pits of white mica and more than sixteen pits of feldspar in the Ilmeny Mts. named after Vasily F. Razderishin.

Like his father, Aleksandr Razderishin was specialized in mining and was faithful to this all his life; he worked his way up from assay apprenticeship in Ekaterinburg (1768) to mining brigade chief (1785)². In 1788, he was granted the St. Vladimir

Fig. 1. "Drop-shaped malachite"

Malachite, 10 x 11.5 cm. Perm province, Verkhotur'ye district, Urals, Russia. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, No 4556.



A SPECIMEN FROM THE EARLY COLLECTIONS OF THE FERSMAN MINERALOGICAL MUSEUM

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Fig. 1. Mikhail Vasil'evich Lomonosov (1711–1765).

Photo: Michael B. Leybov

Specimen: Fersman Mineralogical Museum, RAS

The 300th anniversary of Mikhail Vasil'evich Lomonosov was celebrated in November, 2011. M.V. Lomonosov (1711–1765) was a genial Russian scientist whose research activity started with a Mineral Cabinet of the Museum of Curiosities in the 18th century, which was a serious contribution to the development of much science. He is an author of the first domestic papers about ore deposits, the chemistry of minerals, and "A Program of public mineralogy," including both "physical learning of the Earth layers..." and "ubiquitous collection of specimens of European..., Russian, ... and Siberian minerals..." (cited according to Lomonosov (1954)).

One of the specimens in the Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Russian Academy of Sciences, is silver ore from the Ore Mountains in Saxony (Germany), is attributed to Mikhail V. Lomonosov.

M.V. Lomonosov was mentioned for the first time in 1732, according to the Academy of Sciences, as follows. "Mikhailo Lomonosov, peasant's son from the Archangelograd province", a student of Moscow Slavonic-Greek-Latin Academy, was sent to Germany for learning. First he studied at Marburg University and then in Freiberg, the word-reknown mining centre that was praised by its Mining Academy, where Lomonosov took courses from Johann Friedrich Henkel (1679–1744). During his stay, Lomonosov got a great practical knowledge by "visiting mines" keeping in mind "varied properties of rocks and ores, and activity... machines, and constructions" (Komkov *et al.*, 1977).

Fig. 2. (right) Paramorph of **acanthite** after **argen-**
tite with native **arsenic** and barite.

(below) Fragment of specimen, crystals up to 0.4 cm. Freiberg, Saxony, Germany. 7 cm. Fersman Mineralogical Museum RAS, No 2097.

Photo: Michael B. Leybov.

