

# THE KAMENUSHINSKOE DEPOSIT: Geology and Notes on the Oxidation Zone

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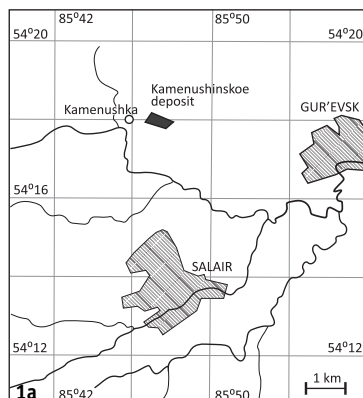
## Editorial Note

*Remarkable specimens of azurite and especially malachite found at the Kamenushinskoe deposit in the eastern part of West Siberia are the most dramatic event for everybody connected to minerals (collectors, mineralogists, Natural Science museum curators) in Russia for the last three years. Some information on these specimens has been already published in Mineralogical Almanac so the editors have asked Vladimir Lednev, who found these specimens, and is a geologist and mineral dealer from Barnaul, to tell briefly about this interesting deposit that has not been known to most mineral amateurs, but also to specialists.*

The Kamenushinskoe deposit, situated in the Guryevsk district, Kemerovo Oblast in Russia, is located in the Bolshaya Talmovaya Riverhead (the left bank tributary of the Maly Bachat River) 6 km north of town Salair and 10 km northwest of the town of Guryevsk. The uninhabited Kamenushka village is adjacent to the deposit.

The first geological information about the deposit's district appeared in 1788, when two small silver-bearing quartz veins were mined. In 1920–1930, prospector teams explored the district for primary and placer gold.

In 1950, deep holes drilled by the Kamenushinskoe deposit exploration crew of the Ministry of Non-Ferrous Industry of the USSR encountered copper



1. Geography of the Kamenushinskoe deposit district.

1b. Open pit of the Kamenushinskoe deposit.  
Photo: V.S. Lednev.



23. **Malachite**. 7.5 x 5.5 cm.  
Specimen: O.S. Bartenev.  
Photo: M.B. Leybov.



the Kamenushinskoe deposit district permits novel interesting findings and discoveries during its further development.

In conclusion, we thank the administration and geologists of the Salair mine for their deep important insights in mineral sampling, assistance, and geological information kindly placed at our disposal. We thank Anatoly V. Kasatkin for his information about studied rare minerals, Nikita V. Chukanov for IR spectroscopy of cyanotrichite, and Igor V. Pekov for editorial revision of the manuscript.

## References

*Alyamkin, A.V. (2012)* The June gold deposit in the weathering profile, East Salair. Tomsk Univ. Bull., 355(2), 144-147 (in Russian).

Malachite and azurite from the Kamenushinskoe deposit (2015) Mineral Observer, Mineralogical Almanac, vol. 20, iss. 1, pp. 60-62.

*Tyryshkin, E.M. and Kochetova, D.F. (1963)* Report of exploration of the Salair crew at the Kamenushinskoe deposit in 1960. Salair, 38 p (in Russian).



24. At work (*from left to right*):  
Ekaterina Ledneva, Vladimir Lednev,  
Kseniya Berdysheva and Ruslan Lebedev.  
June 2014.