

## VOROBIEVSKY QUARRY IN THE TVER REGION

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1. Location of the Vorobievsky quarry in the Staritsa district, Tver region, Russia.

2. Southern part of the Vorobievsky quarry, June 2023. Photo: Mariya D. Mil'shina.



**M**oscow region cannot boast with its picturesque mineral specimens and is thus not very often able to please mineral collectors by beautiful minerals. The geography of interesting mineral occurrences accessible to mineral amateurs in Moscow and the Moscow region is also cannot quite sparse. Abandoned quarries and long-known mineral occurrences are gradually overgrown with vegetation, and new finds at them are merely occasional at best. Because of this, the Moscovites (and not only them) try to explore neighboring areas, and are sometimes successful in this. Several occurrences that continuously grant mineral amateurs with beautiful specimens are located not so far from Moscow.

One of them is the currently widely known small crushed stones quarry in the Staritsa district in the Tver region (Fig. 1). This quarry is usually referred to as the *Staritsky quarry*, or simply *Staritsa*, by mineral amateurs and collectors, but its legal name is in fact the *Vorobievsky quarry*. According to the cadastral report at the website of the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Tver Region

3. Vorobievsky quarry as seen from an altitude of 460 m, November 2022. Photo: Mariya D. Mil'shina.



**All specimens are from the Vorobievsky quarry, the Staritsa district, Tver region, Russia.**

**Specimens: Mariya D. Mil'shina and Aleksey Yu. Mil'shin if other is not specified.**

4. Eastern part of the Vorobievsky quarry, November 2022. Photo: Mariya D. Mil'shina.



(minpriroda.tverreg.ru), this territory is listed as the *Vorobievsky quarry* natural landmark among regionally important natural areas under special protection (NASP). The quarry was commissioned and started operating in 1994 to produce crushed stones for construction purposes. This quarry is currently operated, and a stone crushing plant nowadays works near its northern wall. The quarry is about 370 m long (from west to east), approximately 140 m wide, and is locally as deep as 25 m. The walls of the quarry are made up of two benches, and large stone blocks (oversize boulders) are stored in the lowermost part of the newest face. The eastern part of the quarry is partly flooded. Geologically, this limestone deposit is typical of the region and consists of Carboniferous limestone and dolomite with