

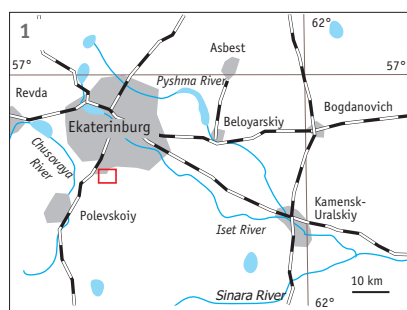
INDICOLITE PIT: A REMARKABLE NEW DRAVITE OCCURRENCE NEAR EKATERINBURG, CENTRAL URALS

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1. Location of Grigor'evskiy quarry, Shabrovskoe talc-magnesite deposit, Central Urals, Russia.

Specimens: Indicolite pit, Shabrovskoe talc-magnesite deposit, Central Urals, Russia.

In Fall 2021, mineral collectors were excited by the discovery of a new tourmaline-indicolite occurrence in the vicinity of the Shabrovsky village at the southern border of Ekaterinburg. It was found at the top of the southeastern Grigor'evskiy inactive quarry (Figs. 1, 2, 4). We do not know who first discovered this occurrence. The same fall, a pit was opened and was named Indicolite. It was actively operated by local and visiting mineral amateurs. According to them, an oval cavity of 0.5 m long along striking filled by clay and tourmaline crystals up to 15 cm long was opened in the upper part of the substantially tourmaline body. According to unconfirmed reports, about 10 kg of various quality crystals were produced here.

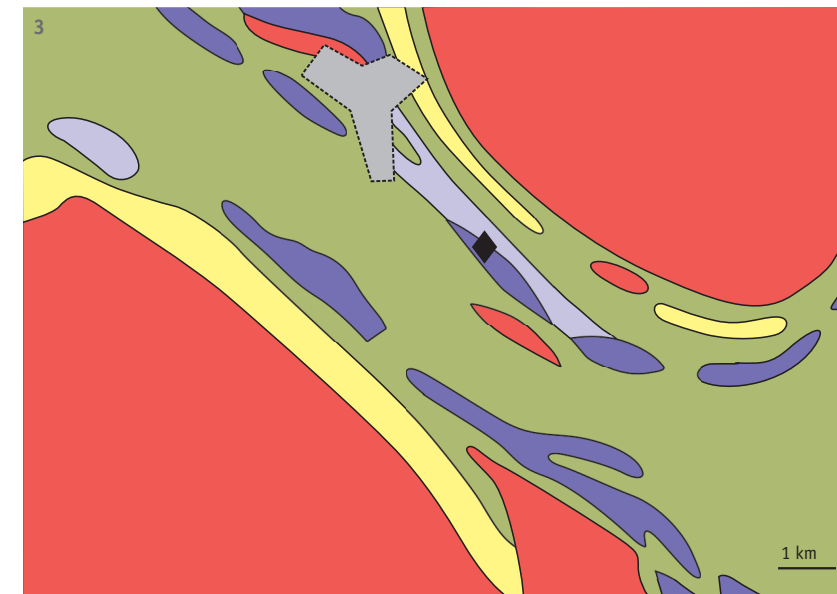
Work in the Indicolite pit continued in 2022 but to no great effect. It stopped by the end of the year and now the pit is inactive. At present, specimens with tourmaline, diaspore and corundum may be collect adjacent the pit and in itself. Unfortunately, the pit walls are a little spoiled by numerous saws and cuts: it is with saw tourmaline crystal crusts were cut.



2. Location of the Indicolite pit in the Grigor'evskiy quarry. The pit is shown by red circle. Photo: Yandex.Maps.

3. Geology in the vicinity of the Shabrovsky village (modified fragment of geological map of I.D. Sobolev, 1967).

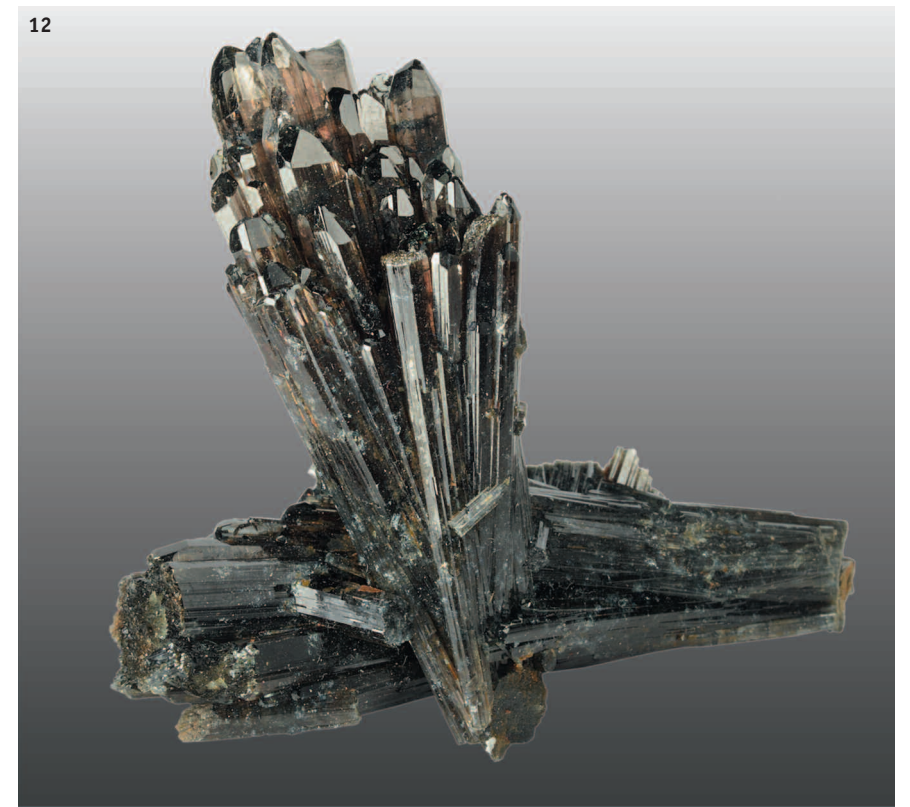
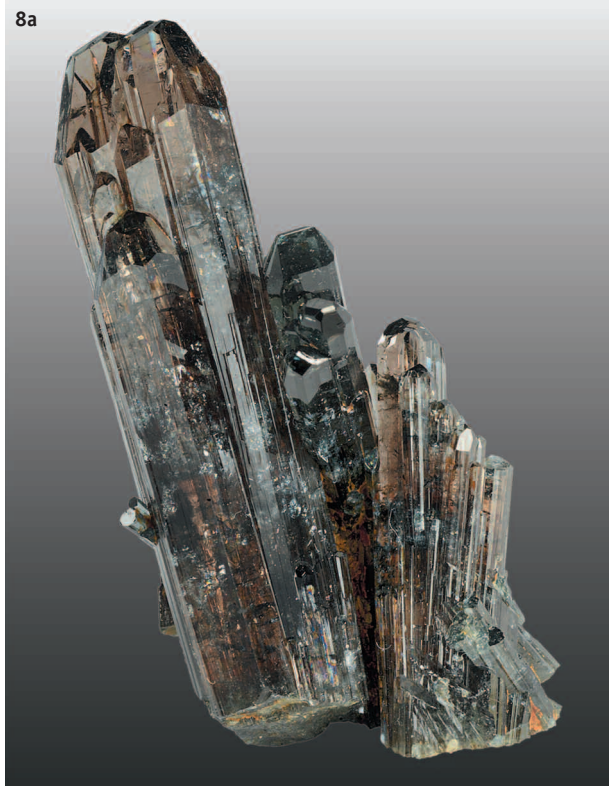
- Early Paleozoic granitoids,
- Lower Silurian marble and mar-morized limestone,
- serpentinite,
- talc-carbonate alteration,
- Lower Silurian metamorphic formation (green schist, quartz-sericite and quartz-chlorite-sericite rocks),
- contour of the Shabrovsky village,
- Indicolite pit.



Geology and mineralogy of the Shabrovskoe talc-magnesite deposit, which includes the Indicolite pit, and the Shabrovskoe ore district in general are described in detail by many researchers (Korenbaum, 1967; Ogorodnikov *et al.*, 2000; Baksheev *et al.*, 2006). In the district, relatively small bodies of serpentinitized ultramafic rocks are conformable to the rocks of the Sysert metamorphic complex (Fig. 3) and are penetrated by numerous gabbroic and granitoid dikes, which are strongly boudinated in places. Boudins are widely variable in size, from a few tens of centimeters to a few dozen meters. Ultramafic, gabbroic, and granitic rocks are hydrothermally altered to talc-carbonate, quartz-chlorite-dolomite-epidote-albite-actinolite, and quartz-muscovite-albite associations, respectively. Erokhin *et al.* (2003) reported the Early Permian age for granitic altered rocks. Talc-carbonate rocks of the Shabrovskoe ore district were formed at 285–350°C and 1.2–3 kbar (Baksheev *et al.*, 2006).



4. Area in the Grigor'evskiy quarry, where Indicolite pit is located (arrowed). Photo: V.V. Grigor'ev.



10. **Dravite**: cluster of crystals. 5 x 4 cm.
Specimen: Dmitriy V. Davydov.
Photo: Michael B. Leybov.

11. **Dravite**: cluster of crystals.
2.4 x 1.5 cm.
Specimen: Igor V. Pekov, #14612.
Photo: Michael B. Leybov.

12. **Dravite**: cluster of divergent crystals.
5.0 x 6.2 cm.
Specimen: Igor V. Pekov, #14612.
Photo: Michael B. Leybov.

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8ab. **Dravite**: cluster of crystals.
4 x 2 cm. View from two sides.
Specimen: Igor V. Pekov, #15044.
Photo: Michael B. Leybov.

9. **Diaspore**: an aggregate with
an ingrown **dravite** crystal. 5 x 3 cm.
Specimen: Dmitriy V. Davydov.
Photo: Michael B. Leybov.