

Virtual Museum of the History of Mineralogy

Newsletter 2013/ (May 2013)

<http://www.mineralogy.eu>

In our previous newsletter (December 2012) we announced our plan to build a reference source of information on crystal models, a field where documentation is generally hard to find.

Lots of catalogs have been photographed, edited and converted to pdf and we currently supply scans of 34 [Krantz crystallography catalogs](#) from the archive of Dr. F. Krantz, Rheinisches Mineralien-Kontor. They contain an impressive amount of information on crystal models (not only wooden ones, but also those made of other materials) and on related crystallographic items. From these catalogs we also extracted a list of sets of [wooden crystal models](#) produced by Krantz during the 20th century.

As pointed out earlier, we are indebted to Mrs. Ursula Müller-Krantz (director of Dr. F. Krantz, Rheinisches Mineralien-Kontor GmbH & Co. KG); she confidently loaned us lots of precious original old catalogs for scanning.

Our set of scanned documents is still growing thanks to some members of "Oryctics" who provided us with scans of catalogs from Krantz and from other origins. As a consequence we are also trying to get information on [non-Krantz crystallography catalogs](#). We hope that this virtual collection may be enlarged through the participation of our visitors.

In the field of books we like to mention two recently added works:

- the comprehensive catalogue of Von Born's mineral and fossil collection [Index Fossilium](#) (1772-1775) sometimes called by its half title "Lithophylacium Bornianum"
- the illustrated Scopoli's [Crystallographia Hungarica](#) (1776) devoted to the description of all the minerals of Hungary, of which only the first part was published

Both works are rare and therefore constitute very interesting additions to the book collection.

Among the new additions to the instrument collection, we like to draw the attention to:

- a [Fuess Model IIa reflecting goniometer](#)
- an [Abbe total refractometer](#)
- a [Kohlrausch total reflectometer](#)
- a [Mohr-Westphal balance](#)

All these instruments belong to the collection of the Museum of Mineralogy,
Babes-Bolyai University, Romania.

We hope you will enjoy finding useful information in the Virtual Museum and
please continue contributing through your active participation in the diffusion of
information.

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