

A SEARCHABLE DATABASE OF MINERAL LOCALITY NAMES OF THE CARPATHIAN REGION

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After twenty years of collection practice and science history research one can conclude that the locality names of the Carpathian Region may cause much trouble even to an experienced "aboriginal". For a better orientation in this jungle of names the manuscript *Gazetteer of the mineral locality names of the Carpathian Basin* (PAPP, 1996) was developed into a searchable database. At present the database contains some 11,800 variants of 4300 locality names of the area. These variants were collected from topographical and descriptive mineralogies published since the XVIIIth century. The resulting records (one screen per record) of a given query contain the present name corresponding to the input, the type of the named feature (populated place, stream, mining area etc.), the country and the administrative unit where it belongs to and other data (geographical co-ordinates or relative position) helping the localisation of the name. Name of the relevant historical region (if any) and the last official Hungarian name and administrative subdivision is also given

(from the 1913 Official Gazetteer of Hungary). An auxiliary record on the same screen lists all spelling variants to be found in the database corresponding to the given entry.

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Development plans include geographical broadening (to the external areas of the Carpathians) and facilitating of the access (a web searchable version).

Reference

PAPP, G. (1996). Acta Mineral.-Petrogr. (Szeged), 37 (Suppl.): 89.