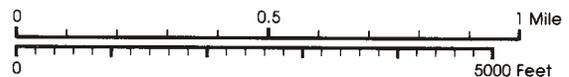


Lord Hill Quarry

Town: Stoneham, Oxford County

Base map: Center Lovell 7.5' quadrangle

Contour interval: 20 feet



Type of deposit: Granite pegmatite.

Collecting status: Located in the White Mountain National Forest. No permission is needed to collect minerals here. However, collecting must be noncommercial, done with hand tools, and not greatly disturb the mine area.

Minerals observed: albite, almandine (garnet), autunite/meta-autunite, beraunite, bermanite, beryllonite, bertrandite, beryl, biotite, bismuth, bismuthinite, bismutite, cassiterite, columbite, cryptomelane, damourite, elbaite (tourmaline), eosphorite, fluorapatite, fluorite, gahnite, goethite (pseudomorphic after pyrite), goyazite, heterosite, hureaulite, hydroxylapatite, hydroxyl-herderite, microcline, microlite, mitridatite, montbrasite, montmorillonite, muscovite, olenite-elbaite, phenakite, phosphosiderite, pyrite, pyrrothite, quartz (milky, smoky), schorl (tourmaline), siderite, sphalerite,

strunzite, topaz, torbernite/metatorbernite, triphylite(?), triplite, uraninite, uranophane, vivianite, zircon (var. cyrtolite).

Comments: Lord Hill is one of the favorite collecting sites in Maine, offering a variety of minerals and White Mountain scenery. The best-known finds from this locality include large crystals of white topaz, and smoky quartz crystals encrusted by many small phenakite crystals. Most collecting activity appears to have occurred in the larger of the two quarry pits, although a major pocket containing smoky quartz and fluorapatite crystals was opened in the floor of the smaller pit in 1991. The pieces of topaz commonly found here are distinguished by their bluish-white color (especially when wet), single cleavage direction, and higher density than similar-looking pegmatite minerals. From the open ledge behind the upper quarry, a blazed trail goes northeast a short distance to a scenic overlook of Horseshoe Pond and surrounding mountains (good lunch spot).

Directions: *Driving:* From jct. of Rtes. 5 and 93 in Lovell village, drive north 2.40 miles on Rte. 5. Turn left onto West Lovell Road and proceed 2.75 miles to fork in road. Keep left at fork (on Foxboro Road) and continue northwest for 1.50 miles. Turn right onto gravel road (go straight where main road curves to

left) and drive north 1.00 mile to jct. with woods road on left. Park here.

Walking: Continue north on foot along the quarry road for a little over one mile, keeping to right. Road makes sharp bend to right (southeast) shortly before reaching quarry.