



# Italian Society of Mineralogy and Petrology

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## GABeC SUMMER SCHOOL, LATINA, 23–26 JUNE 2009

A summer school titled Stone Materials as Georesource and Cultural Heritage was organized by GABeC (Gruppo Nazionale Georisorse, Ambiente e Beni Culturali) under the auspices of SIMP and was held at the Engineering Faculty of the University of Roma “La Sapienza” in Latina (Museum of Art and Ore Deposits) from 23 to 26 June 2009; it was organized by R. Cabella, A. Langella, and G. Saviano. The school was attended by some 30 students from all over the country; most of them were PhD students, and some were from research institutes and from the professional world. The teaching staff included P. Primavori, A. Borghi, A. Renzulli, D. Calcaterra, G. Eramo, R. Quaresima, A. Aveta, A. Buccaro, E. Galan Huertos, and B. Fitzner.

The first part of the school considered geological aspects of the stone resource, the production cycle and uses of ornamental stones, and the legislative and technical norms from a mineralogical and petrophysical point of view. The second part explored the relationship between ornamental stones and cultural heritage, with presentations on the evaluation of the decay phenomena and the diagnosis and mapping of weathering. Particularly remarkable were the case histories presented by Galan and Fitzner on the last day of the school.

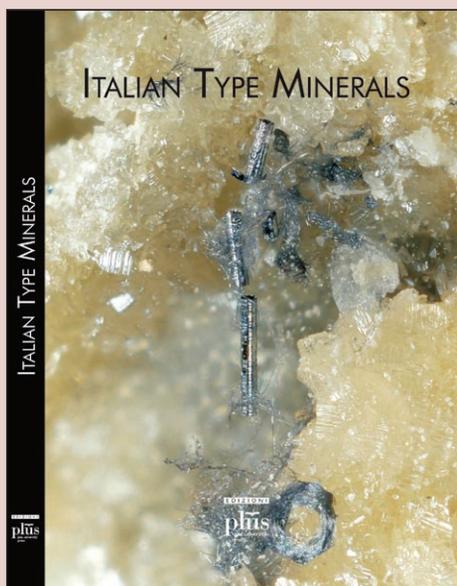
Worth mentioning was an interesting excursion to the travertine quarries in Guidonia (Roma), where the complete production cycle, from in situ exploitation to final polishing of this important historical ornamental stone, was examined. A social dinner was held in the medieval Caetani Palace in Cisterna di Latina. It followed a fascinating visit to the underground cellars, which were excavated in an ignimbrite deposited during volcanic activity in the Colli Albani district.



Participants in the GABeC summer school

Participants were invited to present their research in a poster session open throughout the entire school period. These contributions, along with the presentations by the teaching staff, will be published in a special issue of the series *Lecture di Georisorse e Ambiente*, edited by the Museum of Art and Ore Deposits.

## A BOOK ON ITALIAN TYPE MINERALS



*Italian Type Minerals*  
by Marco E. Ciriotti, Lorenza Fascio,  
and Marco Pasero  
Edizioni PLUS – Pisa University Press, 357 pp, €40  
ISBN 978-88-8492-592-3

After a first edition as a CD-ROM, which was distributed to participants at the International Geological Congress in Firenze (August 2004), we are pleased to announce the new fully updated hard-copy version of the book *Italian Type Minerals*, published by Edizioni Plus – Pisa University Press. This book describes all the 264 mineral species first discovered in Italy, from 1546 up to the end of 2008. Moreover, 28 minerals discovered outside Italy and named after Italian individuals and institutions are included in a parallel section. Both parts are alphabetically arranged. The introductory chapter includes information about how the volume is organized and subdivided, as well as more general information. For each mineral, all basic data (chemical formula, space group symmetry, type locality, general appearance of the species, main geologic occurrences, curiosities, references, etc.) are included in a full page, together with one or more high-quality color photographs from

both private and museum collections, and with small snapshots of the people or places that lent each mineral its name. The appendices provide lists of Italian minerals sorted by crystal chemical classification, by region, by mineralogical district, and by year of discovery. A list of the authors who first described each mineral, along with general references, is also given.

The book was published under the patronage of the Italian Society of Mineralogy and Petrology (SIMP) and the Italian Micro-Mineralogical Association (AMI), and with the financial support of the University of Pisa through a special grant for research monographs. A preview of the first pages of the book (the entire introduction and the first 14 minerals in alphabetical order, from adranosite to apthitalite) can be found at [www.socminpet.it/Uploads/Pubblicazioni/ITM09\\_sel.pdf](http://www.socminpet.it/Uploads/Pubblicazioni/ITM09_sel.pdf). Copies may be purchased through Plus at the cost of 40 euros plus postage (contact: Edizioni Plus, Lungarno Pacinotti 43, 56126 Pisa, Italy; e-mail: [aseymons@edizioniplus.it](mailto:aseymons@edizioniplus.it)).