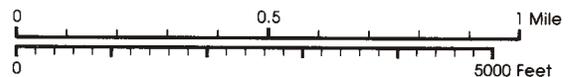


Songo Pond Quarry

Town: Albany, Oxford County

Base Map: East Stoneham 7.5' quadrangle

Contour interval: 20 feet



Type of deposit: Granite pegmatite.

Collecting status: Open for collecting on fee basis. For information, contact Jan Brownstein, P.O. Box 864, Bethel, Maine 04217 (207-824-3898).

Minerals observed: albite, almandine (garnet), bertrandite, beryl (aquamarine), biotite, columbite, fluorapatite, hydroxyl-hercynite, microcline, muscovite, opal (var. hyalite), pyrite, quartz (milky, smoky), rutile, schorl (tourmaline), siderite, uraninite.

Comments: The Songo Pond Quarry is well known for producing aquamarine beryl crystals of very fine deep-blue color.

Also known as Kimballs Ledge, this quarry has been worked by several people over the years. Ongoing excavations have exposed fresh material and give visitors a chance to see how gems and crystal specimens are mined.

Directions: Driving: From jct. of U. S. Rte. 2 and Rte. 5 (west of Bethel village), drive south on Rte. 5 for about 4.6 miles. Just past Songo Pond, turn left onto South Songo Road and drive 0.20 mile to parking area on right. (High-clearance 4-wheel drive vehicles may continue driving up the steep hill).

Walking: Walk uphill to east for about 1,000 feet to the quarry site.