

EMERALDS OF PAKISTAN: GEOLOGY, GEMOLOGY AND GENESIS

*Edited by Ali H. Kazmi and
Lawrence W. Snee, 269 pp., illus.,
publ. by the Geological Survey of
Pakistan and Van Nostrand Reinhold
Co., New York, 1989. US\$39.95**

This is a major and important addition to the scientific literature on beryl, more specifically, the emerald variety. While the content is largely devoted to the geologic/geochemical aspects of emerald-bearing deposits, with the greatest emphasis and detail placed on those in Pakistan and neighboring Afghanistan, there is much that will prove interesting and useful to the practicing gemologist. The text consists of nine topical chapters followed by a very large bibliography (about 450 entries!), author as well as subject indexes, and short biographies of the 14 authors who were involved in the compilation of the text. I heartily concur in the decision of the publishers to tell us a bit about the writers—all too often biographical notes are placed on dustjacket flaps and sooner or later discarded or lost.

The opening chapter, by A. H. Kazmi, is a useful overview of the broad geology and metallogenic provinces of Pakistan. It serves as the foundation for the next chapter—by R. D. Lawrence, Kazmi, and L. W. Snee—on the geologic setting of the Pakistani emerald deposits. While this second chapter offers the reader a more specific geologic discussion of the deposits, it is the third chapter, on the deposits themselves—by Kazmi, J. Anwar, S. Hussain, T. Khan, and H. Dawood—that will prove the most interesting and useful to the reader who wants to know just where the deposits are, and the kinds of stones that can be expected from them. Like the previous chapters, this one is well illustrated with maps, diagrams, and photographs, some in color, and concludes with a long reference list. In chapter four, E. J. Gübelin describes the gemological characteristics of

BOOK REVIEWS

*Elise B. Misiowski and
Loretta B. Loeb, Editors*

the Pakistani emeralds, and it is here that the practicing gemologist will find those specifics that will serve him well in distinguishing these stones from those found elsewhere in the world. As we have come to expect from Gübelin, there are excellent descriptions of inclusions and many fine supporting color photographs.

Less useful to the lay reader but invaluable to the student of gemstone deposits and causative geology/geochemistry are chapters five and six, which discuss the chemical differences among emeralds and host rocks in Pakistan and Afghanistan with implications for the origin of emerald. The authors are Snee, E. E. Foord, B. Hill, S. J. Carter, and J. M. Hammarstrom. The geochemistry of fluid inclusions in the emeralds is deemed sufficiently distinctive and valuable to merit its own chapter seven by R. R. Seal II, while chapter eight is an excellent précis of the geology of world emerald deposits by Kazmi and Snee. The last text chapter, by the same authors, discusses the origin and classification of both Pakistani and other world-source emerald deposits.

As the author of *Emerald and Other Beryls*, I fully appreciate the enormous amount of work that went into the present treatise. Make no mistake in this regard: *Emeralds of Pakistan* is full of information that will serve the geologist, mineralogist, geochemist, and gemologist for many years to come. I recommend it heartily and I am sure you will also be charmed by its superior touches, including a blue marker ribbon—

something one does not often see these days.

JOHN SINKANKAS
*Peri Lithon Books
San Diego, CA*

THE JEWELRY DESIGN SOURCE BOOK

*By P. Bayer, V. Becker, H. Craven, P. Hinks, R. Lightbrown, J. Ogden, and
D. Scarisbrick, 192 pp., illus., publ.
by Van Nostrand Reinhold, New
York, 1989. US\$39.95**

Prominent English jewelry historian Diana Scarisbrick, together with a team of specialists, has produced a well-illustrated, evenly written survey of jewelry design sources from ancient times to the present day.

Mrs. Scarisbrick is responsible for the lively and engaging introduction as well as for the chapters on Renaissance and Baroque jewels and on Romanticism of the 18th century. Each of the other authors covers a particular period of jewelry history, with emphasis on the eminent designers and craftsmen of the time and on events that shaped and influenced jewelry design. Together, they examine the full spectrum of interaction between cultural and aesthetic values and stylistic evolution, capturing, with charm and erudition, the era under consideration. Jack Ogden presents jewelry of the ancient world, Ronald Lightbrown discusses Medieval jewelry arts, Peter Hinks is the authority on Victoriana and the Belle Epoque, and Patricia Bayer describes jewelry of the late 19th century through Art Deco in the first half of the 20th century. Post-World War II is Vivienne Becker's area of interest, and Helen Craven looks at contemporary craftsmen.

**This book is available for purchase at
the GIA Bookstore, 1660 Stewart Street,
Santa Monica, CA 90404. Telephone:
(800) 421-7250, ext. 282.*

This useful book also provides handsomely reproduced photographs, a brief glossary, and, mercifully, a general index. If a minor complaint must be mentioned, it is that the book is somewhat over-designed: The pages of reverse type (white on black) are difficult to read, and the dimensions make the book somewhat awkward to handle. While this may disconcert overly critical reviewers, it does not detract from an otherwise first-rate book or the wealth of well-researched documentation in an attractive and much-needed reference.

Neil Letson
New York City, NY

ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO JEWELRY APPRAISING: ANTIQUE, PERIOD, AND MODERN

By Anna M. Miller, 180 pp., illus., publ. by Van Nostrand Reinhold, New York, 1990. US\$34.95*

Jewelry appraising has become increasingly complex, especially in the last decade, and it is essential that the professional be aware of the many aspects involved in writing a responsible appraisal. Anna Miller, author of *Gems and Jewelry Appraising*, has provided a second book on this topic that is an indispensable tool for both novice and veteran. While both books emphasize the importance of education and research, and give detailed information on the nuts and bolts of the profession, there is surprisingly little overlap. Where her first volume focuses on conducting an appraisal, the *Illustrated Guide to Jewelry Appraising* provides more detail on estimating values for specific types of jewelry.

Chapter 1 of the *Illustrated Guide* defines the function and objective of the professional jewelry appraiser today, as well as the purpose of the appraisal itself. These are two seemingly obvious points that, in truth, have far-reaching consequences.

The next chapter outlines the mechanics of performing an ap-

praisal, including the use of price guides, judging the quality of stones and workmanship, and noting the present condition of the piece.

The third chapter underscores the importance of understanding historic elements as they relate to antique and period jewelry. The influences of dress, motifs, and cultures on jewelry design is concisely presented.

Chapter 4 focuses on the evaluation of specific types of jewelry, such as rings, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, brooches, pearls, watches, and charms. For each type of jewelry, the author provides a brief chronology of its use throughout history, along with hints on how to date a piece and judge its quality. Additional insight is offered in a discussion of frequently asked questions with their answers. A sidebar giving a "model appraisal narrative" shows how a well-formulated appraisal for that type of jewelry might be presented.

Chapter 5 examines the appraisal document itself. Information that should be included in every appraisal, a critique of appraisal documents, and samples of different types of appraisals are outlined.

The many useful appendices at the end of the book will serve as ready references on such topics as gem cuts, weight estimation formulas, ring-size equivalents, gemstone handling, and auction houses. The author also provides glossaries together with an extensive bibliography and an index. Many black-and-white photographs and sketches illustrate the text, and most of the jewelry is photographed from both the front and the back, which is very helpful for the appraiser.

The *Illustrated Guide to Jewelry Appraising* adds tremendously to the literature available on this subject. By selecting, organizing, and compiling salient information that pertains to this evolving profession, Miller makes the appraiser aware of the many things that need to be considered before writing an appraisal. The importance of keeping abreast of developments in legislation and the world economy is also highlighted, reminding the reader of the ever-

changing nature of this exacting profession.

Elise B. Misorowski, G.G.
GIA Research Librarian
Santa Monica, CA

OTHER BOOKS RECEIVED

The 4 C's Value of Diamonds, by Anna Cheng, 199 pp., illus., publ. by China Television Publishing Co., Taipei, Taiwan, 1987, US\$39.50.* Those who read Mandarin Chinese will find this book about the 4C's of evaluating diamonds most useful. In 28 concise chapters, long-time gemologist Anna Cheng discusses the history, mining, and cutting of diamonds, diamond grading, and marketing. Additional interesting topics in this book are other grading systems, how to analyze a diamond certificate, and how to interpret a price list. The author also examines the buying and selling of diamonds, touching on quality versus commercial goods, auctions, and cautionary tips. Ms. Cheng captures the mystery and intrigue of diamonds by providing histories of several famous diamonds. Beautifully illustrated with full-color photographs and diagrams, this is a nice educational coffee-table book for those who seek more information on diamonds. LBL

Diamond Cutting: A Complete Guide to Diamond Processing, 3rd Edition, by Basil Watermeyer, 406 pp., illus., publ. by Cape Town Purnell, Cape Town, Republic of South Africa, 1988, US\$59.00.* Like the first edition of this detailed manual (reviewed in the Spring 1983 issue of *Gems & Gemology*), this third edition gives step-by-step instructions for every phase of cutting. The 56 chapters cover almost every aspect of processing diamonds, ranging from the identification of rough, to the operation of automatic faceting machines and the fashioning of several fancy cuts. New to this edition is a chapter on the Princess cut and 70 additional diagrams. This unique book is highly recommended for students and diamond cutters alike.

LBL