**GARNET** is New York State's official gem, and is used for sandpaper, for polishing glass and metal, and for water filtration. One of the largest garnet mines in the world is located in the Adirondacks.

**CALCITE** is used in paint, paper, plastics and rubber, and is one of the primary ingredients in the manufacture of Portland cement.

**GYPSUM,** once mined in western New York, is used in wallboard, plaster and other similar construction materials. Gypsum is also widely used to improve soils in agricultural and horticultural applications.

**SPHALERITE** is mined in the northwestern Adirondack region for zinc ore. Zinc is used to make tires and galvanized steel and is found in nails, door knobs, fireworks, sun screen and medicines.

**HALITE** (salt) is mined primarily in central and western New York. Common uses include table salt, as a road de-icer, and chemical and food manufacturing. New York ranks third among the states in salt production.

**TALC** is a soft mineral and is the "talcum" in baby powder. Mined in the northwest Adirondacks, it is used as a filler in paper and ceramics.

**HERKIMER DIAMONDS** are exceptionally clear and well-developed quartz crystals that make the Mohawk Valley famous among mineral and rock collectors. Quartz is used in glass, clocks, watches, insulation, televisions, radios and computers.

**WOLLASTONITE** is used in ceramic tile, paint, dental cleaning, match heads, billiard balls, electrical panels and automotive parts. New York is the world's leading supplier of premium quality wollastonite.

**NOTE:** The minerals shown above are only a sample of the numerous minerals found in New York State.

*Images photographed by Rick Stank of the New York State Museum, some specimens photographed by Jeff Hartman.*