

## National Diamond Mining . natural point negative crystal Nepal Diamond

Contributed by Administrator  
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National Diamond Mining Company (Sierra Leone) Ltd. See *diminco*. National Mineral Development Company (NMDC). A government agency in charge of exploration and development of mineral resources in India. *natural*. A trade term for a portion of the original surface of a rough diamond that is sometimes left by the cutter on a fashioned stone, usually on the girdle. Naturals indicate an effort to retain some extra weight from the original rough in the rounding-up and polishing operations. Some consider all naturals to be blemishes, whereas others contend that those that do not flatten the girdle outline nor extend beyond the width of a medium girdle should not be re-garded as blemishes. (See photo.) *natural grit*. A term used to refer to diamond powder made by crushing natural diamonds, as opposed to that consisting of man-made diamonds,

called *synthetic grit*. *natural point*. See *point naif*. *navet* (nav-et"). A little-used English contraction of *navette*. *navette* (nav-et"). From the French, meaning little boat. *Navette* and *boat shaped* are terms preferred in the colored-stone trade; *marquise* in the diamond trade. See *marquise*. *Navsari*. Indian diamond center. *Nawanger Diamond*. The 148-carat brilliant-cut Nawanger diamond was owned in 1970 by the Maharanee Gulabkumberba of Nawanger. It is reported to have come from Russia. *negative crystal*. An angular cavity within a crystal or fashioned gem-stone, the outline of which coincides with a possible crystal form of the mineral in which it occurs. It is a rare occurrence in diamond. *Nepal Diamond*. Little is known about the beautiful 79.41-carat Nepal Diamond, except that it is thought to have been mined in India's Golconda region and that it was in the possession of Maharajah Bir Shumsher Jung Bahadur Rana of Nepal in the late nineteenth century. In 1901, it passed to his elder son, Gehendra Shumsher, and it remained in the hands of Nepalese royalty until recent years. The stone has been described as striking and lovely in every respect — colorless, flawless and well cut and polished. Mounted in an elaborate clip-brooch and pictured in the April, 1958 issue of *National Geographic Magazine*, it was then owned by Harry Winston, New York City gem dealer, who valued it at \$500,000. It was shown at London's Ageless Diamond Exhibition in 1959 and subsequently sold in 1961 to a private collector.