

RESULTS OF THE 1979-80 U.S. ANTARCTIC METEORITE EXPEDITION;  
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Ice ablation rates in areas of meteorite accumulation at Allan Hills were found to average 5 cm/yr. At the Allan Hills site we recovered 1 achondrite and 52 chondrite specimens; substantially fewer than in two earlier years. A new site was visited some 80 km north of the Allan Hills concentration; meteorites were recovered from this site in numbers that suggest it will be an important new source of specimens. The new site is a linear patch of ice about 1-2 km wide and 100 km long extending westward from Reckling Peak (76°16'S; 159°15'E). We crossed it at two points 50 km apart and, in one day of searching at each point, recovered one iron, 4-6 achondrite specimens, and 22-20 chondrite specimens. Hyphenated numbers reflect uncertainties in our field identifications of two specimens. The presence of relatively rare types (an iron and the achondrites) is consistent with the belief that meteorites will prove to be abundant in these areas. Appearance of the Reckling Peak ice patch is remarkably similar to the Allan Hills site: the ice surface forms a monocline running parallel to the long axis of the exposed ice and in both cases the upper limb of the monocline is on the upstream side relative to the direction of ice flow. This surface configuration was interpreted at Allan Hills as being caused by an underlying rocky ridge which acted as a partial barrier to ice flow.