

COLORADO METEORITES UPDATED. J. A. Murphy, Curator of Geology, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO 80205-5798.

Introduction: Research at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (DMNS, formerly Denver Museum of Natural History) is producing a database of the location, classification, and history of all Colorado meteorites. According to our records, 75 meteorites are established from Colorado: 13 irons, one mesosiderite, two pallasites and 59 stones. There are three witnessed and described falls: Johnstown, Denver, and Cañon City. Several corrections are noted here and five new stony meteorites, including one new fall, are currently under investigation and being described.

Colorado Meteorites Past: The DMNS research team is examining museum and private collections, catalogs and published records to determine the number and types of meteorites from Colorado. Of 75 established state meteorites, 79% are stones and 21 % are irons. These now include the reinstated Rifle iron [1] and the Clifford, an 11.36-kg. L6 from Lincoln County not included in *Catalogue of Meteorites* [1] but reported by Grossman [2]. Note that the Haxtun (H/L4) is from Phillips County, Colorado, and not from Oklahoma as listed in the latest catalogue [1].

Colorado Meteorites Present: Five new Colorado meteorites may be added to the numbers above. Four are ordinary chondrites that were collected years ago: one from Weld County, one from Kit Carson County, and two from Sedgwick County. An individual fall, a 0.68-kg. LL6 [3], recently was discovered on private property in Elbert County. The search for the fall is described in Murphy and Sanders [4]. And recently a 4.5 kg. whole individual from Sedgwick County, collected years ago when Harvey Nininger was curator of meteorites at the museum (then the Colorado Museum of Natural History), and considered at the time to be associated with the Ovid meteorite in our collection, has been recognized as a unique stone [5].

A map of Colorado meteorite localities shows the general relationship of agricultural communities to the discovery of meteorites; 62 meteorites are from locations on the plains east of the mountains while 5 are from the central mountainous area and 8 are from western Colorado.

References: [1] Grady M. M. (2000) *Catalogue of Meteorites, Fifth Edition*, Cambridge University Press, London. [2] Grossman J. N. (2000) *Meteorit. Planet. Sci.*, 32, A199. [3] Rubin A., personal communication. [4] Murphy J. A. and Sanders F. H. (2000) *Meteorit. Planet. Sci.* 35, A115. [5] Huss G., personal communication.