

15465, 15466, 15467, 15468

Glass with Breccia clasts

376, 119.2, 1.1 and 1.3 grams



Figure 1: Photo of S1 face of 15465. Cube is 1 inch. NASA S71-44190.

Introduction

15465 and companion fragments were returned in the same bag (Butler 1972). They were collected from the rim of Spur Crater (figure 4). 15466 was a separate sample, collected from beneath a rock (Sutton et al. 1972). The other pieces may be broken during transit. Fruland (1985) included 15465 in the Regolith Breccia Catalog.

Petrography

15465 and 15466 are a collection of breccia fragments cemented together with a vesicular black glass (figure 1 and 2). Within the breccias are numerous lithic clasts. Cameron and Delano (1973) found that ~ 5 – 10 % of 15465 was made up of crystalline rock fragments (mare basalt, KREEP basalt and recrystallized norite). About half of the lithic fragments are KREEP basalt (figure 6). The KREEP basalt fragments contain relatively sodic plagioclase and distinctive pyroxene zoning (figure 9). The fragments of recrystallized norite are brecciated and thermally annealed, but also contain



Figure 2: 15466. Sample is 7 cm across. S71-44187.

low-Ca, high-Mg orthopyroxene (figure 9). However, Cameron and Delano found that they were “*not simply recrystallized equivalents*” of the KREEP basalt.

McKay et al. (1989) reported that the maturity index for 15465 was $I_s/\text{FeO} = 12$ and only 9 for 15467.

Warren and Wasson (1978) studied 2 white clasts (figure 3, table 2).

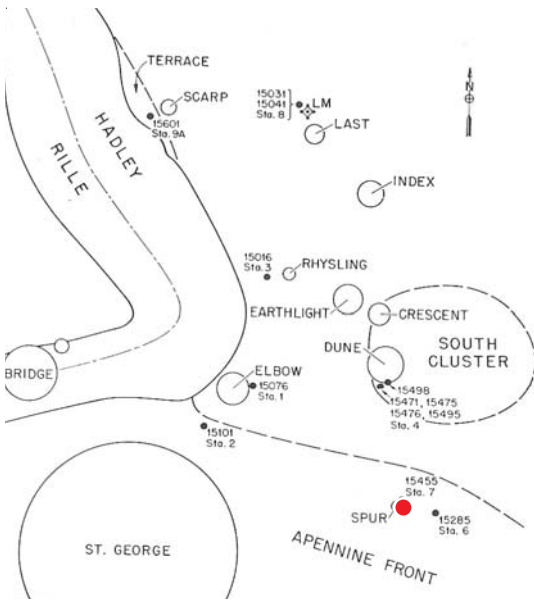


Figure 3: Map of Apollo 15 site showing location of 15465.

Significant Clasts

Mare Basalt

Plieninger and Schaeffer (1976) reported an age of 1.9 b.y. for a mare basalt clast out of 15465.

White Clast

Figure 13 shows a nice white clast.

Chemistry

Blanchard's Ph.D. thesis involved measuring the chemical composition of 15465 (among other samples). However, the sample is inhomogeneous. Simon et al. (1986), McKay et al. (1989), Ehmann et al. (1975) and Ali et al. (1976) reported major elements (table 1). The REE content is rather high (figure 11). Keith et al. (1972) reported K, U and Th for both 15465 and 15466.

Ali et al. (1976) determined the chemical composition of the black glass that binds 15465 and Winzer S.R.

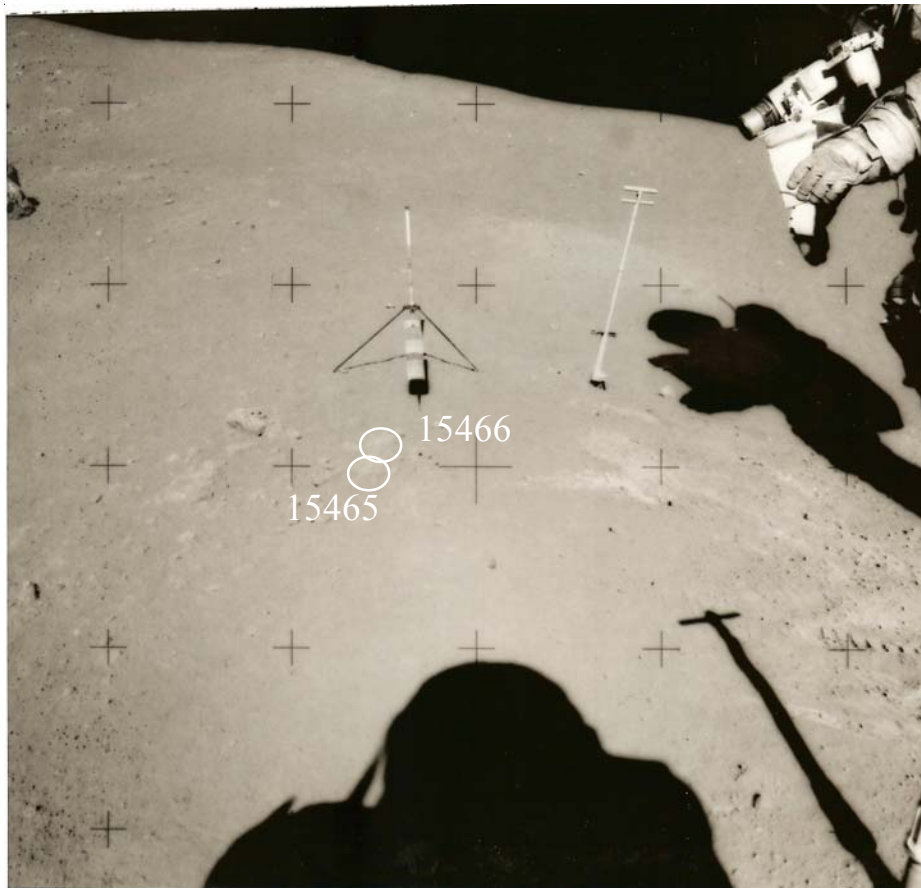


Figure 4: Surface photograph of rim of Spur Crater where 15465 and 15466 were collected. AS15-90-12230



Figure 5: Photo of N1 face of 15465 showing location of white clasts analyzed by Warren. Cube is 1 inch. NASA S71-46576.

(1978) reported the composition of glass in 15466 (table 1).

Moore et al. (1973) determined 45 ppm carbon for 15465 and 210 ppm carbon for 15466 (figure 12).

Radiogenic age dating

Husain (1972) reported an age of 1.09 ± 0.14 b.y. for the glass in 15465 while Plieninger and Schaeffer (1976) obtained an age of 3.91 b.y.

Cosmogenic isotopes and exposure ages

Keith and Clark (1972) determined the cosmic-ray-induced activity of $^{26}\text{Al} = 120$ and 79 dpm/kg, $^{22}\text{Na} = 56$ and 36 dpm/kg, $^{54}\text{Mn} = 31$ and 4 dpm/kg, $^{56}\text{Co} = 19$ and 5 dpm/kg for 15465 and 15466 respectively.

Other Studies

Rare gas concentrations and isotopic ratios of 15465 and 15467 were reported by McKay et al. (1989).

Processing

15465 was issued to Haskin for Consortium studies and was included in Blanchard's Ph.D. thesis. There are 14 thin sections of 15465 and 6 thin sections of 15466.

Mode for 15465 (Simon et al. 1986)

Matrix	<20 micron	45.9 %
	20-90 micron	90-1000 micron
Mare basalt	0.5 %	4.7
Plutonic Rx.	0.1	1.1
Feld. CMB		0.7
Feld. Basalt		0.7
KREEP basalt		2
Granulitic/Poik.		
Reg Bx.	0.8	1.1
Agglutinate		0.8
Pyroxene	11	2.7
Olivine	0.8	0.2
Plagioclase	8.5	2.3
Opaque	0.7	0.1
Glass	7.4	7.9

Mineralogical Mode for 15465

	(McKay et al. 1989)	
	20-500 micron	500-1000 micron
Mare Basalt	1.3 %	0 %
KREEP basalt	12.7	36
Plutonic	1	26.7
Breccias	1.3	12
Olivine	1.7	0
Pyroxene	28	1.3
Plagioclase	20.7	9.3
Opagues	0.3	0
Glass	11.3	4
Agglutinates	6	4

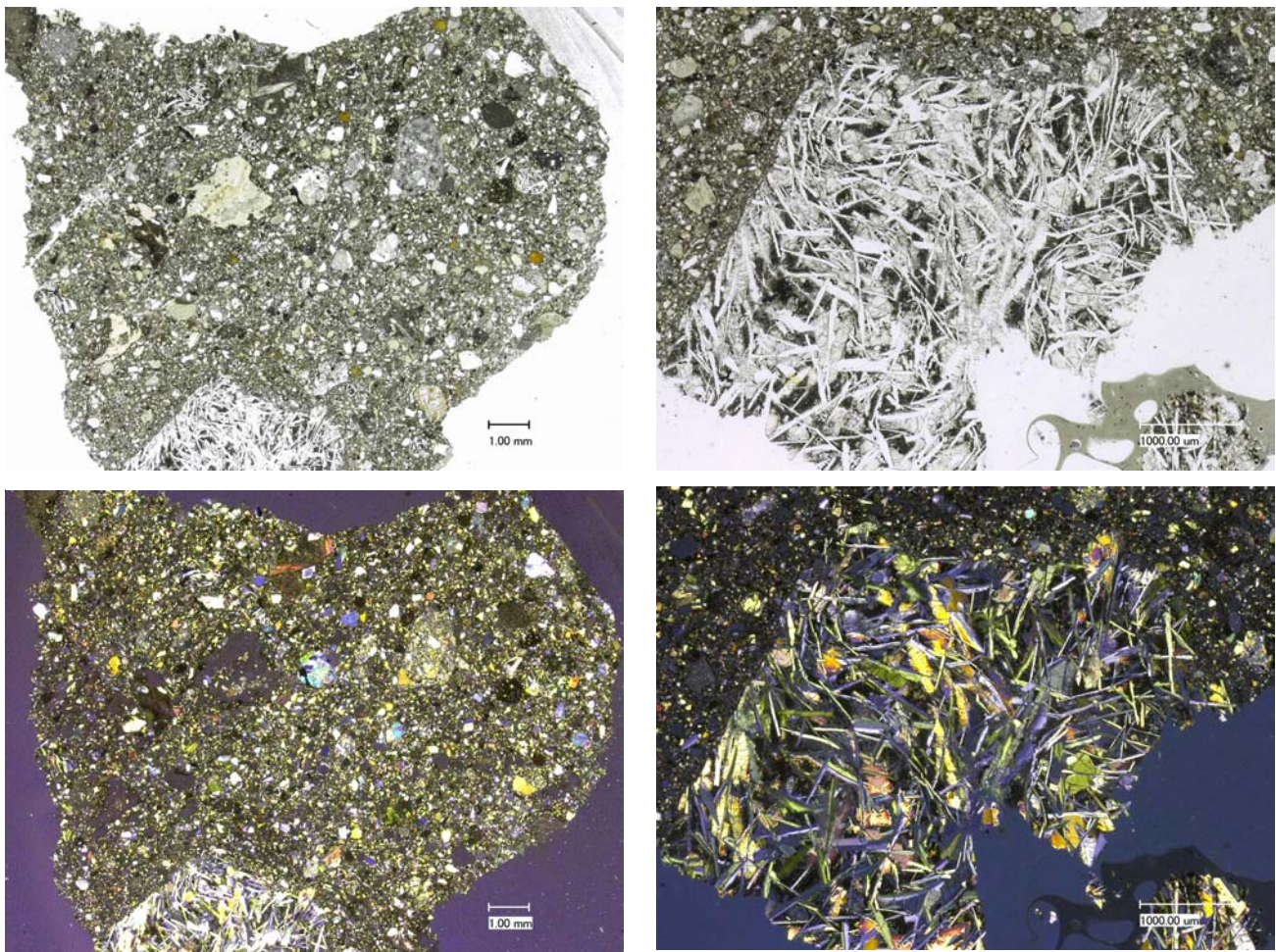


Figure 6: Photomicrographs of thin section of 15465 including clast of KREEP basalt by C Meyer. Scale bar is shown. Bottom two figures are with crossed Nicols.

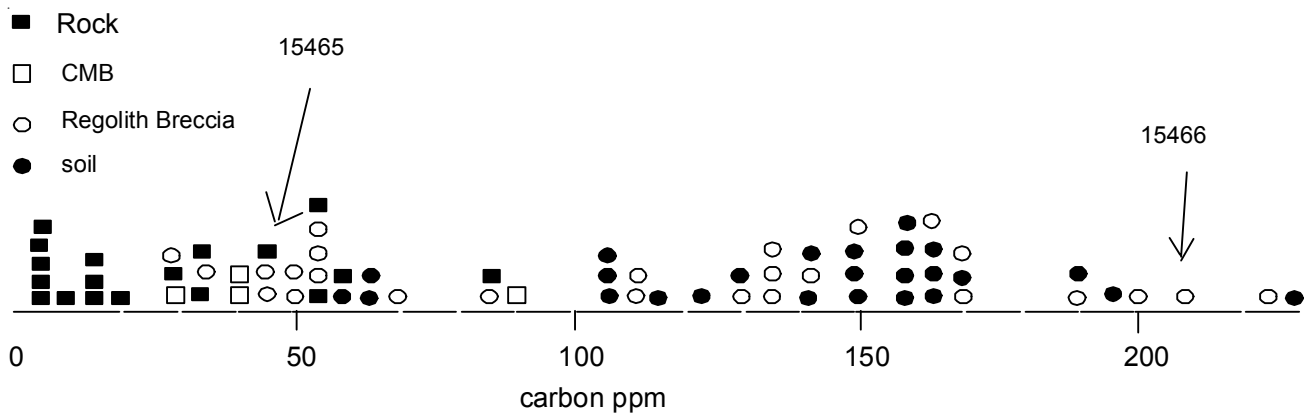


Figure 12: Carbon content of Apollo soils and breccias with 15465 and 15466 shown.

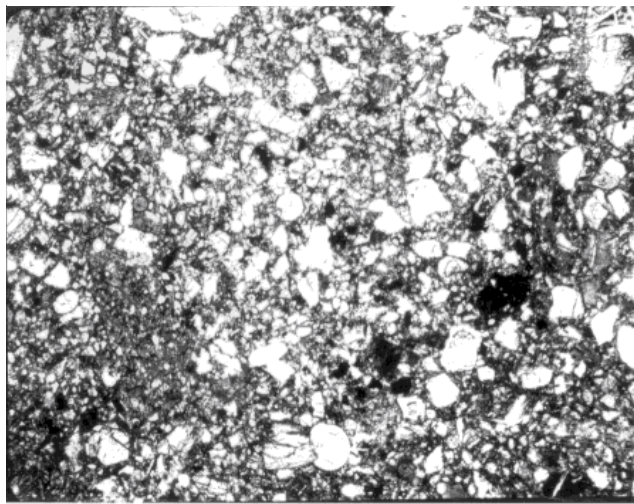


Figure 7: Thin section photo matrix of 15465 breccia showing glass beads and much coarse material in porous matrix.

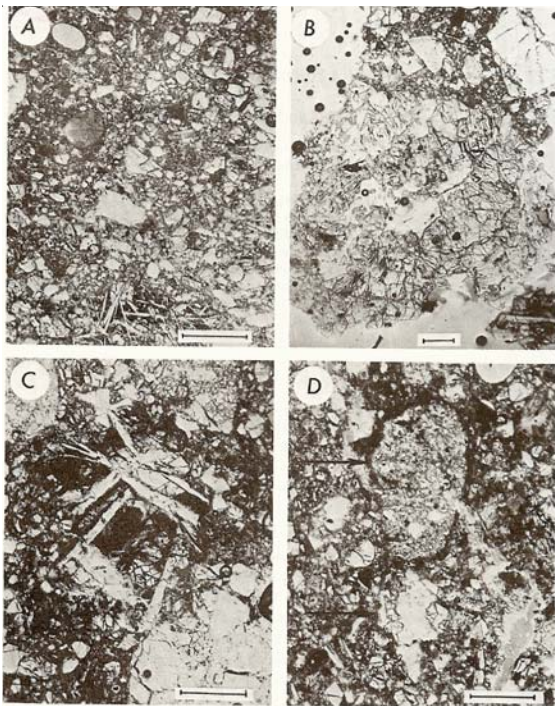


Figure 8: Lithic clasts found in 15465 (from Cameron and Delano 1975). A is matrix, B is mare basalt, C is KREEP basalt and D is recrystallized norite (scale bars are 200 microns).

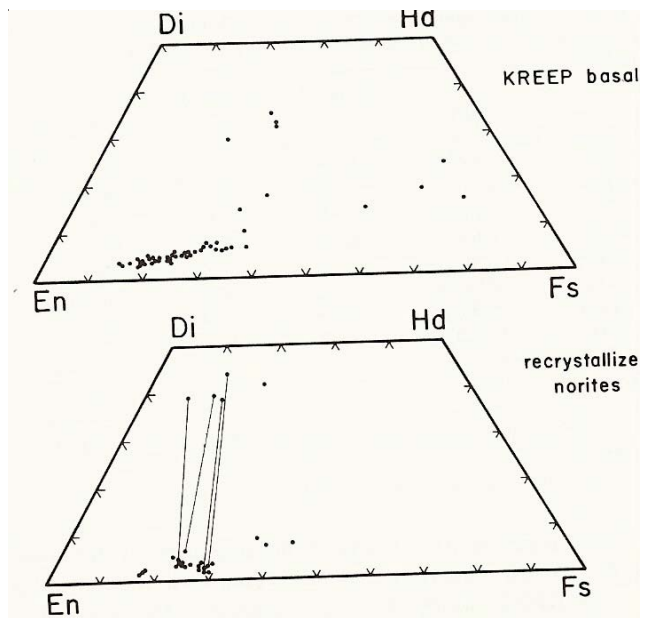


Figure 9: Composition of pyroxene in KREEP clasts in 15465 (from Cameron and Delano 1976).

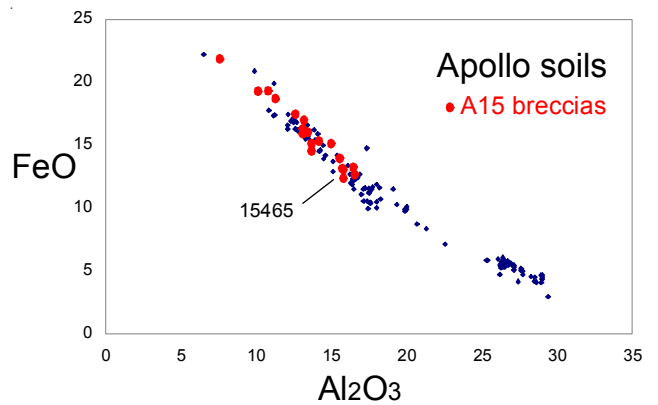


Figure 10: Composition of Apollo soils, Apollo 15 breccias and 15465 matrix.

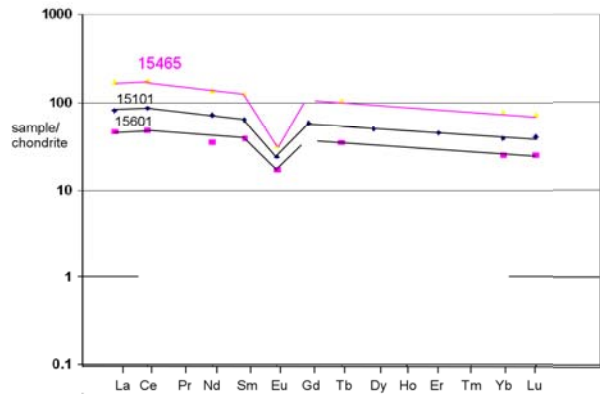


Figure 11: Normalized rare-earth-element diagram for 15465 compared with soils from Apollo 15.

Table 1. Chemical composition of 15465.

reference weight	Kieth 72	Simon86 (Laul)	McKay89 Blanchard	15467 McKay89	15466 LSPET72	15466 Kieth 72	Ehmann75	Glass Ali 76	Glass Winzer78
SiO2 %							48.6 (a)		46 (c)
TiO2		1.5 (a)	1.38 (a)	1.9 (a)			1.27 (a)	1.12	1.42 (c)
Al2O3		15.2 (a)	16.3 (a)	15.7 (a)			16.2 (a)	17.8	17.1 (c)
FeO		11.9 (a)	11.7 (a)	11 (a)			11.6 (a)	12.9	11.4 (c)
MnO		0.16 (a)					0.16 (a)	0.15	
MgO		10.2 (a)	10.1 (a)	9.6 (a)			19 (a)		11.5 (c)
CaO		10.5 (a)	10.5 (a)	10.5 (a)			5.6 (a)	6.9	11.1 (c)
Na2O		0.57 (a)	0.61 (a)	0.64 (a)			0.57 (a)		0.76 (c)
K2O	0.28 (b)	0.31 (a)			0.15 (b)	0.19 (b)			0.16 (c)
P2O5									
S %									
sum									
Sc ppm		23.6 (a)	22.9 (a)	22.6 (a)					
V		83 (a)		61 (a)			66	54	
Cr		2374 (a)	2280 (a)	2090 (a)					2470 (c)
Co		32.5 (a)	30 (a)	27.1 (a)			34	45	
Ni		120 (a)	106 (a)	63 (a)					
Cu									
Zn									
Ga									
Ge ppb									
As									
Se									
Rb									
Sr		120 (a)	140 (a)	155 (a)					
Y									
Zr		500 (a)	530 (a)	700 (a)					
Nb									
Mo									
Ru									
Rh									
Pd ppb									
Ag ppb									
Cd ppb									
In ppb									
Sn ppb									
Sb ppb									
Te ppb									
Cs ppm			0.38 (a)	0.44 (a)					
Ba		400 (a)	417 (a)	476 (a)					
La		37 (a)	40.4 (a)	50.4 (a)					
Ce		95 (a)	106 (a)	132 (a)					
Pr									
Nd		60 (a)	61 (a)	78 (a)					
Sm		16 (a)	18.5 (a)	22.8 (a)					
Eu		1.7 (a)	1.8 (a)	1.98 (a)					
Gd									
Tb		3.45 (a)	3.7 (a)	4.39 (a)					
Dy		22.2 (a)							
Ho		5 (a)							
Er									
Tm		1.8 (a)							
Yb		11.9 (a)	12.6 (a)	15.6 (a)			11.4	9.8	
Lu		1.68 (a)	1.76 (a)	2.14 (a)					
Hf		11.8 (a)	14.8 (a)	18.3 (a)					
Ta		1.45 (a)	1.68 (a)	2.11 (a)					
W ppb									
Re ppb									
Os ppb									
Ir ppb			2.7 (a)	2 (a)					
Pt ppb									
Au			1.2 (a)	5 (a)					
Th ppm	5.9 (b)	6.05 (a)	6.3 (a)	7.8 (a)	3.5 (b)	3.5 (b)			
U ppm	1.46 (b)	1.7 (a)	1.76 (a)	2.3 (a)	0.93 (b)	0.86 (b)			

technique: (a) INAA, (b) radiation counting, (c) e probe

Table 2. Chemical composition of clasts in 15465.

<i>reference weight</i>	Lindstrom89		Warren 78	
		c1	c2	
SiO2 %	48.8	(a) 44.3	48.8	(a)
TiO2	0.32	(a) 0.27	0.32	(a)
Al2O3	21.9	(a) 34	21.9	(a)
FeO	5.2	(a) 1.54	5.15	(a)
MnO		0.014	0.01	(a)
MgO	10.5	(a) 0.83	10.5	(a)
CaO	13.3	(a) 19.3	13.3	(a)
Na2O	0.35	(a) 0.34	0.35	(a)
K2O	0.097	(a) 0.02	0.11	(a)
P2O5		.		
S %				
<i>sum</i>				
Sc ppm	9.9	(a) 1.9	9.9	(a)
V				
Cr	1740	(a)	1740	(a)
Co	15.5	(a) 7.5	15.5	(a)
Ni		4	110	(a)
Cu				
Zn		0.98	10.2	(a)
Ga		4	5.7	(a)
Ge ppb		53	80	(a)
As				
Se				
Rb				
Sr				
Y				
Zr				
Nb				
Mo				
Ru				
Rh				
Pd ppb				
Ag ppb				
Cd ppb		3.8	62	(a)
In ppb		0.34	40	(a)
Sn ppb				
Sb ppb				
Te ppb				
Cs ppm				
Ba	110	(a)	110	(a)
La	7.3	(a) 0.6	7.3	(a)
Ce	21	(a)	21	(a)
Pr				
Nd				
Sm	3.04	(a) 0.26	3.04	(a)
Eu	0.99	(a) 0.8	0.99	(a)
Gd				
Tb	0.71	(a)	0.71	(a)
Dy				
Ho				
Er				
Tm				
Yb	2.4	(a)	2.4	(a)
Lu	0.36	(a)	0.36	(a)
Hf	2.4	(a)	2.4	(a)
Ta			0.22	(a)
W ppb				
Re ppb			1.2	(a)
Os ppb				
Ir ppb		0.09	5.9	(a)
Pt ppb				
Au ppb		0.056	0.76	(a)
Th ppm	1.23	(a)	1.23	(a)
U ppm	0.35	(a)	0.35	(a)

technique: (a) INAA

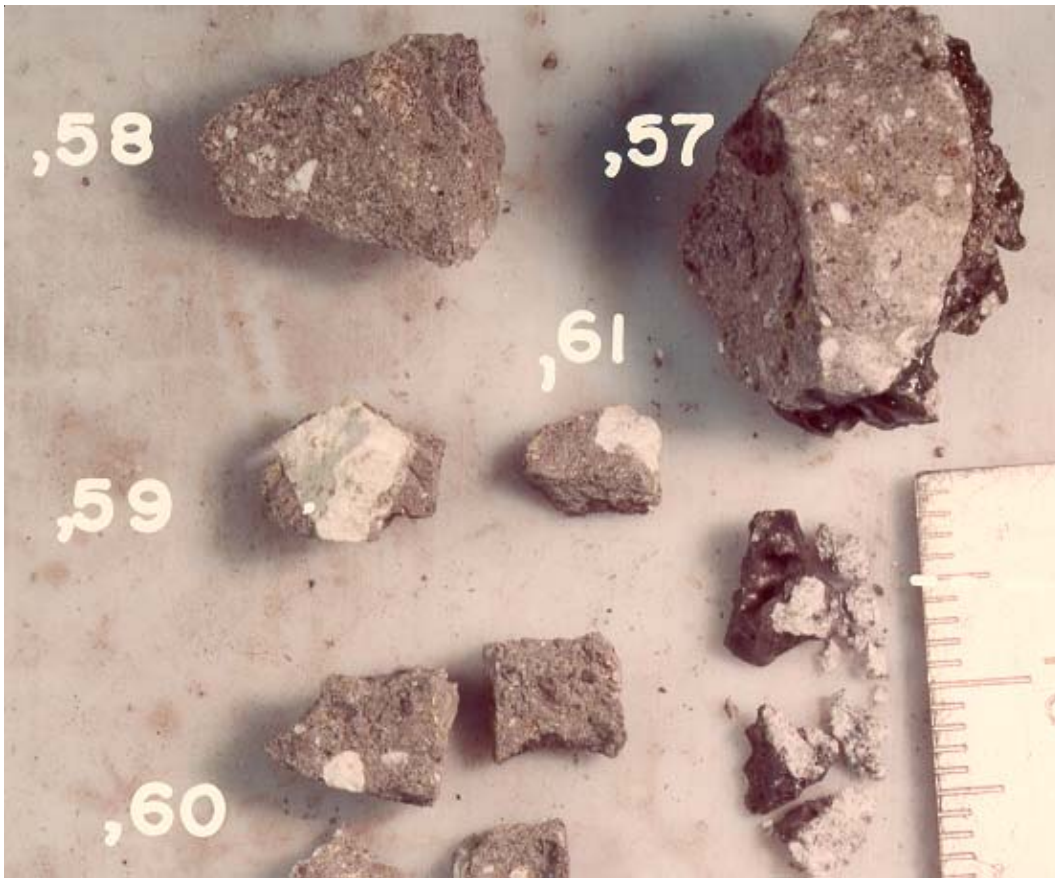
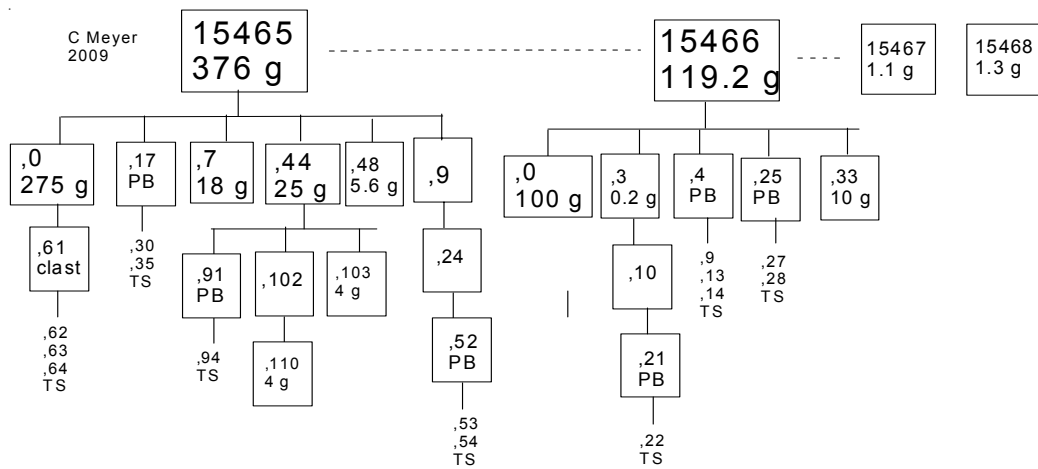


Figure 13: Processing photo of 15465 showing breccia clasts including one large white lithic clast in .59 and .61. Scale is cm and mm. NASA S77-23097.



References for 15465

- Ali M.Z., Stroube W.B., James W.D. and Ehmann W.D. (1976) Compositional study of impact generated glasses and core sample 60009 (abs). *Lunar Sci.* **VII**, 10-12. Lunar Science Institute, Houston.
- Best J.B. and Minkin J.A. (1972) Apollo 15 glasses of impact origin. In **The Apollo 15 Lunar Samples**, 34-39. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.
- Blanchard D.P. (1973) The analysis of Apollo 15 rake sample walnuts and lunar breccias 15465 and 15565 for major and trace elements by atomic absorption spectrometry and neutron activation analysis. PhD thesis, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison. 97 pp
- Brunfelt A.O., Heier K.S., Nilssen B., Sundvoll B. and Steinnes E. (1973) Geochemistry Apollo 15 and 16 materials. *Proc. 4th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1209-1218.
- Butler P. (1971) Lunar Sample Catalog, Apollo 15. Curators' Office, MSC 03209
- Cameron K.L. and Delano J.W. (1973) Petrology of Apollo 15 consortium breccias 15465. *Proc. 4th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 461-466.
- Delano J.W. (1972) Petrologic examination of breccias 15465 and its implications as to the nature of The Apennine Front. In **The Apollo 15 Lunar Samples**, 374-377. Lunar Science Institute, Houston.
- Ehmann W.D., Chyi L.L., Garg A.N., Hawke B.R., Ma M.-S., Miller M.D., James W.D. and Pacer R.A. (1975a) Chemical studies of the lunar regolith with emphasis on zirconium and hafnium. *Proc. 6th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1351.
- Husain L. (1972) ⁴⁰Ar-³⁹Ar and cosmic ray exposure ages of the Apollo 15 crystalline rocks, breccias and glasses (abs). In **The Apollo 15 Lunar Samples**. 374-375. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.
- Husain L. (1974) ⁴⁰Ar-³⁹Ar chronology and cosmic ray exposure ages of the Apollo 15 samples. *J. Geophys. Res.* **79**, 2588-2606.
- Jovanovic S. and Reed G.W. (1977) Trace element geochemistry and the early lunar differentiation. *Proc. 8th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 623-632.
- Keith J.E., Clark R.S. and Richardson K.A. (1972) Gamma-ray measurements of Apollo 12, 14 and 15 lunar samples. *Proc. 3rd Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1671-1680.
- Laurenzi M.A., Turner G. and McConville P. (1988) Laser probe ⁴⁰Ar-³⁹Ar dating of impact melt glasses in lunar breccias 15466. *Proc. 18th Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 299-306.
- Lindstrom M.M., Marvin U.B. and Mittlefehldt D.W. (1989a) Apollo 15 Mg- and Fe-norites: A redefinition of the Mg-suite differentiation trend. *Proc. 19th Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 245-254. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.
- McKay D.S., Morris R.V. and Wentworth S.J. (1984) Maturity of regolith breccias as revealed by ferromagnetic and petrographic indices (abs). *Lunar Planet. Sci.* **XV**, 530-531. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.
- McKay D.S., Bogard D.D., Morris R.V., Korotev R.L., Wentworth S.J. and Johnson P. (1989) Apollo 15 regolith breccias: Window to a KREEP regolith. *Proc. 19th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 19-41. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.
- Moore C.B., Lewis C.F. and Gibson E.K. (1972) Carbon and nitrogen in Apollo 15 lunar samples. In *The Apollo 15 Lunar Samples* (Chamberlain J.W. and Watkins C., eds.), 316-318. The Lunar Science Institute, Houston.
- Moore C.B., Lewis C.F. and Gibson E.K. (1973) Total carbon contents of Apollo 15 and 16 lunar samples. *Proc. 4th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1613-1923.
- Plieningen T. and Schaeffer O.A. (1976) Laser probe Ar ages in individual mineral grains in lunar basalt 15607 and lunar breccias 15465. *Proc. 7th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2055-2066.
- Ryder G. (1985) Catalog of Apollo 15 Rocks (three volumes). Curatorial Branch Pub. # 72, JSC#20787
- Simon S.B., Papike J.J., Grosselin D.C. and Laul J.C. (1986) Petrology of the Apollo 15 regolith breccias. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* **50**, 2675-2691.
- Swann G.A., Hait M.H., Schaber G.C., Freeman V.L., Ulrich G.E., Wolfe E.W., Reed V.S. and Sutton R.L. (1971b) Preliminary description of Apollo 15 sample environments. U.S.G.S. Interagency report: 36. pp219 with maps
- Swann G.A., Bailey N.G., Batson R.M., Freeman V.L., Hait M.H., Head J.W., Holt H.E., Howard K.A., Irwin J.B., Larson K.B., Muehlberger W.R., Reed V.S., Rennilson J.J., Schaber G.G., Scott D.R., Silver L.T., Sutton R.L., Ulrich G.E., Wilshire H.G. and Wolfe E.W. (1972) 5. Preliminary Geologic Investigation of the Apollo 15 landing site. In Apollo 15 Preliminary Science Rpt. NASA SP-289. pages 5-1-112.
- Warren P.H. and Wasson J.T. (1977) Pristine nonmare rocks and the nature of the lunar crust. *Proc. 8th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2215-2235.

Warren P.H. and Wasson J.T. (1978) Compositional-petrographic investigation of pristine nonmare rocks. *Proc. 9th Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 185-217.

Warren P.H. and Kallemeyn G.W. (1984) Pristine rocks (8th foray): Plagiophile element ratios, crustal genesis, and the bulk composition of the Moon. *Proc. 15th Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* in *J. Geophys. Res.* **89**, C16-C24.

Warren P.H. (1993) A concise compilation of petrologic information on possibly pristine nonmare Moon rocks. *Am. Mineral.* **78**, 360-376.

Wentworth S.J. and McKay D.S. (1984) Density and porosity calculations for Apollo 15 and 16 regolith breccias (abs). *Lunar Planet Sci.* **XV**, 906-907. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.

Winzer S.R., Breen K., Ritter A., Meyerhoff M. and Schuhmann P.J. (1978) A study of glass coatings from some Apollo 15 breccias (abs). *Lunar Sci.* **IX**, 1259-1261. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.