

72355
Impact melt Breccia
367.4 grams



Figure 1: Photo of boulder "2" on the landslide from the South Massiff, Apollo 17, showing location of 72355. AS17-137-20912.



Figure 2: Photo of 72355 with numerous zap pits. Cube is 1 cm. S73-15355.

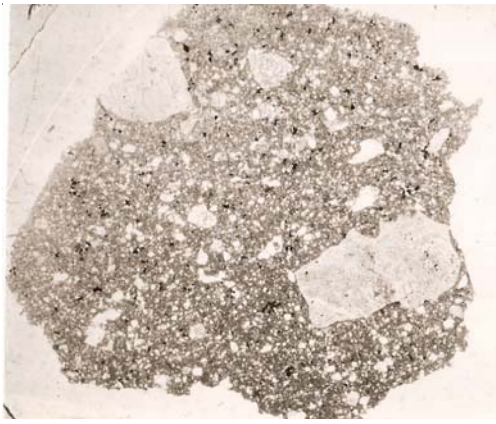


Figure 3: Thin section 72355,4 showing clasts. About 2 cm across.

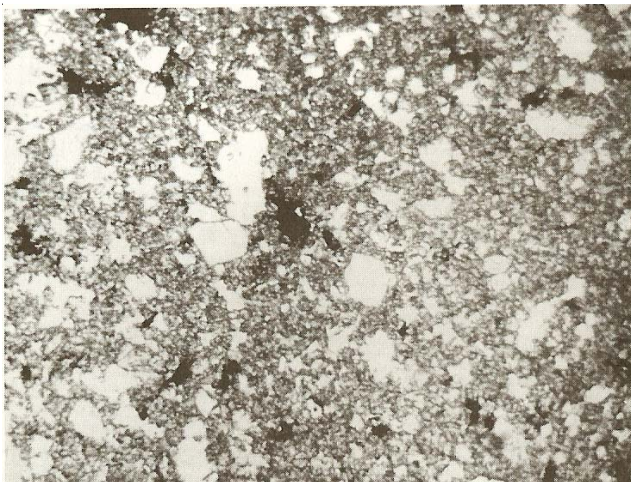


Figure 4: Thin section photomicrograph of 72355 matrix. Field of view is 1.5 mm.

Introduction

72355 was collected from the side of boulder #2 at station 2 on the landslide off of the South massif (figure 1). It proved to be the same material as 72395 and the other samples of this boulder (i.e. impact melt breccia). (see transcript for this boulder under 72335)

Petrography

Dymek et al. (1976) and Ryder (1993) found that the texture and mineralogy of this sample was the same as for 72315 and 72395. The exterior surface has a thick patina, with prominent zap pits (figure 2). The interior (figure 7) reveals about 5% vugs and void space. There are no prominent lithic clasts.

Mineralogy

Olivine: The composition of olivine grains is tightly grouped at Fo_{70±2}.

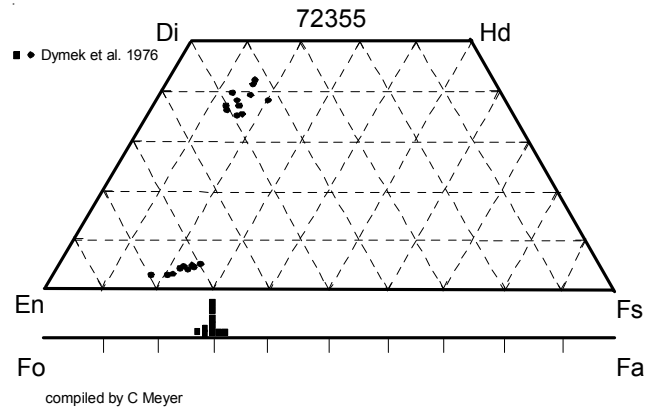


Figure 5: Pyroxene and olivine composition of 72355 (from Dymek et al. 1976).

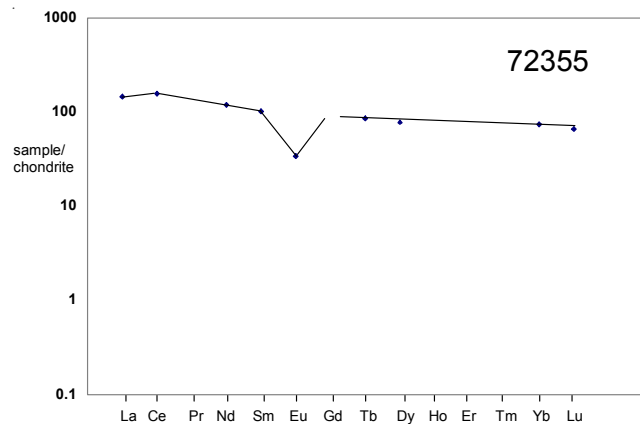


Figure 6: Normalized rare-earth-element diagram for 72355.

Pink Spinel: Pink spinel grains are Mg- and Al-rich in the center and zone to more Cr-rich at the edge.

Pyroxene: The composition of pyroxene is depicted in figure 5.

Plagioclase: Plagioclase in 72315 often has undulatory extinction, and is sometimes feathery (maskelynite devitrification). Large grains have overgrowth rims with olivine “necklaces”. Plagioclase ranges in composition from Or_{0.2}Ab₂An₉₈ to about Or₃Ab₂₂An₇₅ (Dymek et al. 1976).

Ilmenite: Ilmenite in 72355 is evenly dispersed in the matrix, has a seive-like texture and is Mg-rich.

Metallic Iron: Metallic iron is meteoritic in origin (see figure 7 in section on 72395).

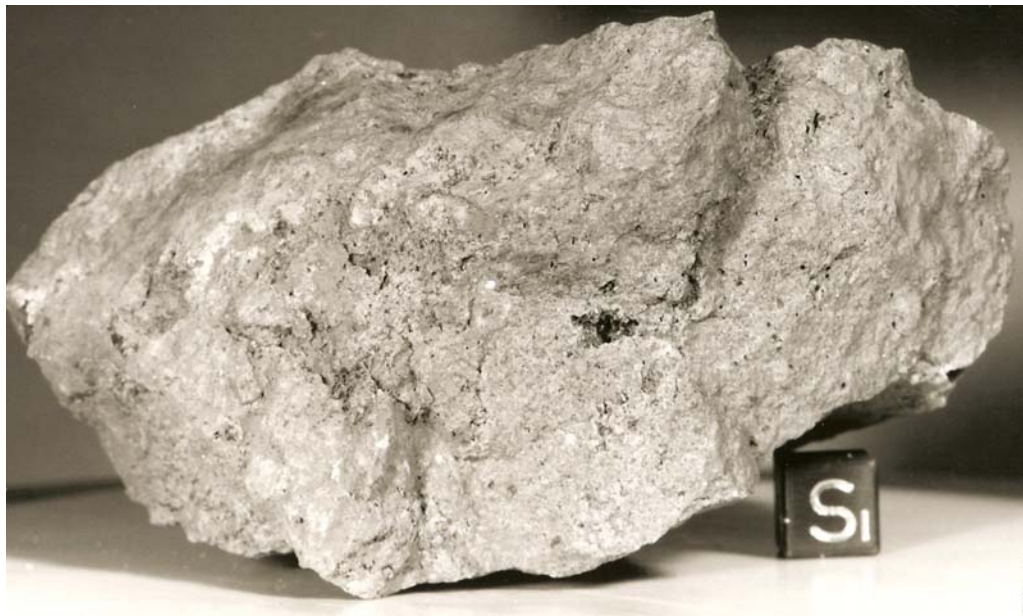


Figure 7: Photo of freshly broken surface of 72355. Cube is 1 cm. S73-17273.

Chemistry

The chemical composition of 72355 is found to be identical to that of other samples of this boulder (see 73215).

Radiogenic age dating

The age of 72355 is ~ 3.9 b.y. as measured for 72395. Tera et al. (1974) determined a Rb-Sr model age of 4.38 b.y.

Cosmogenic isotopes and exposure ages

Keith et al. (1974) determined the cosmic-ray-induced activity of ^{26}Al = 84 dpm/kg., ^{22}Na = 87 dpm/kg, ^{54}Mn = 66 dpm/kg, ^{56}Co = 58 dpm/kg and ^{48}V = 12 dpm/kg.

Processing

Boulder 2 was a “Wasserburg consortium”. Ryder (1993) included this sample in his catalog. In 2004 it was broken in half to get a fresh sample (figure 8).

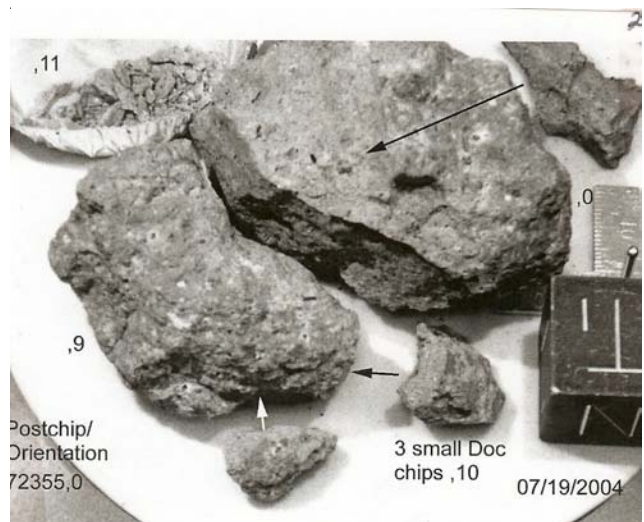


Figure 8: Processing photo of 72355.

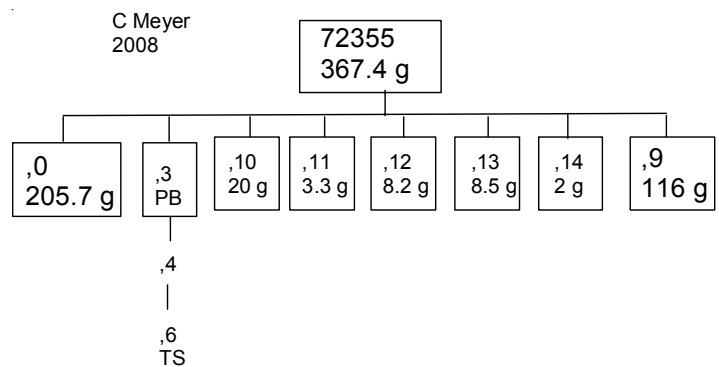


Table 1. Chemical composition of 72355.

reference weight	Laul74	Keith74	Tera 74
SiO ₂ %			
TiO ₂	1.6	(a)	
Al ₂ O ₃	18.8	(a)	
FeO	8.7	(a)	
MnO	0.114	(a)	
MgO	12	(a)	
CaO	11.1	(a)	
Na ₂ O	0.7	(a)	
K ₂ O	0.33	(a)	0.305 (b) 0.38 (c)
P ₂ O ₅			
S %			
sum			
Sc ppm	16	(a)	
V	50	(a)	
Cr	1320	(a)	
Co	34	(a)	
Ni	310	(a)	
Cu			
Zn	2.4	(a)	
Ga			
Ge ppb			
As			
Se	75	(a)	
Rb	8	(a)	8.65 (c)
Sr	157	(a)	165 (c)
Y			
Zr	500	(a)	
Nb			
Mo			
Ru			
Rh			
Pd ppb			
Ag ppb	0.87	(a)	
Cd ppb	5.1	(a)	
In ppb	0.2	(a)	
Sn ppb			
Sb ppb	2.2	(a)	
Te ppb			
Cs ppm	0.28	(a)	
Ba	280	(a)	
La	34	(a)	
Ce	95	(a)	
Pr			
Nd	54	(a)	
Sm	15	(a)	
Eu	1.92	(a)	
Gd			
Tb	3.1	(a)	
Dy	19	(a)	
Ho			
Er			
Tm			
Yb	12	(a)	
Lu	1.6	(a)	
Hf	12	(a)	
Ta	1.6	(a)	
W ppb			
Re ppb	0.73	(a)	
Os ppb			
Ir ppb	7.3	(a)	
Pt ppb			
Au ppb	4.9	(a)	
Th ppm	6.1	(a)	5.3 (b)
U ppm	2	(a)	1.39 (b)

technique: (a) INAA, RNAA, (b) radiaion counting, (c) IDMS

References for 72355

Albee A.L., Chodos A.A., Dymek R.F., Gancarz A.J. and Goldman D.S. (1974b) Preliminary investigation of Boulders 2 and 3, Apollo 17, Station 2: Petrology and Rb-Sr model ages.(abs). Lunar Sci. V, 6-8. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.

Butler P. (1973) **Lunar Sample Information Catalog Apollo 17.** Lunar Receiving Laboratory. MSC 03211 Curator's Catalog. pp. 447.

Dymek R.F., Albee A.L. and Chodos A.A. (1976a) Petrology and origin of Boulders #2 and #3, Apollo 17 Station 2. Proc. 7th Lunar Sci. Conf. 2335-2378.

Keith J.E., Clark R.S. and Bennett L.J. (1974a) Determination of natural and cosmic ray induced radionuclides in Apollo 17 lunar samples. Proc. 5th Lunar Sci. Conf. 2121-2138.

Laul J.C. and Schmitt R.A. (1974a) Chemical composition of boulder-2 rocks and soils, Apollo 17, Station 2. Earth Planet. Sci. Lett. 23, 206-219.

Laul J.C., Hill D.W. and Schmitt R.A. (1974) Chemical studies of Apollo 16 and 17 samples. Proc. 5th Lunar Sci. Conf. 1047-1066.

LSPET (1973) Apollo 17 lunar samples: Chemical and petrographic description. Science 182, 659-672.

LSPET (1973) Preliminary Examination of lunar samples. Apollo 17 Preliminary Science Rpt. NASA SP-330. 7-1 – 7-46.

Muehlberger et al. (1973) Documentation and environment of the Apollo 17 samples: A preliminary report. Astrogeology 71 322 pp superceded by Astrogeolgy 73 (1975) and by Wolfe et al. (1981)

Muehlberger W.R. and many others (1973) Preliminary Geological Investigation of the Apollo 17 Landing Site. *In* **Apollo 17 Preliminary Science Report.** NASA SP-330.

Ryder G. (1993) Catalog of Apollo 17 rocks. Vol. 1 South Massif

Wolfe E.W., Bailey N.G., Lucchitta B.K., Muehlberger W.R., Scott D.H., Sutton R.L and Wilshire H.G. (1981) The geologic investigation of the Taurus-Littrow Valley: Apollo 17 Landing Site. US Geol. Survey Prof. Paper, 1080, pp. 280.