

# 76501 and 76530

Reference Soil  
1019 and 70.3 grams

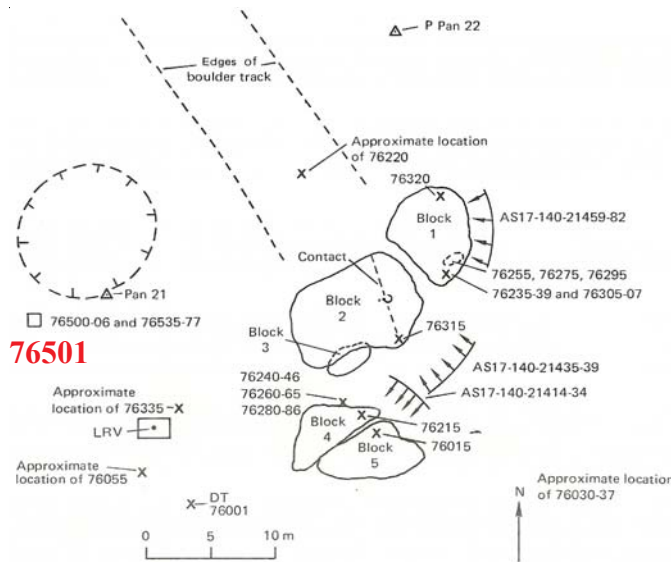


Figure 1: Map of station 6, Apollo 17 at base of North Massif showing location of 76501 and adjacent rake sample.



Figure 2: Photo of smooth surface where 76500 was collected. AS17-141-21622

## Introduction

76500 is a comprehensive soil sample collected to go along with a rake sample, while 76530 is the dirt that was collected along with the rake sample. These samples were collected about 20 meters west of the big boulder at station 6, on the flank of the North Massif, Apollo 17 (figures 1 and 2). 76500 was selected as a 'reference soil' for the highland initiative, and has received extensive study.

Troctolite 76535 was one of the rake samples collected along with 76530 which may contain more pieces this precious sample.

## Petrography

76501 is one of the reference soils of Papike et al. (1982). The maturity of 76501 is  $I_s/FeO = 58$  and the average grain size is 51 microns (Morris 1978, Graf 1993). The agglutinate content is 47 % for the fine fraction and 30 % for the coarser fraction.

Simon et al. (1981) reported on the mineral chemistry of two different grain size separates (figure 7).

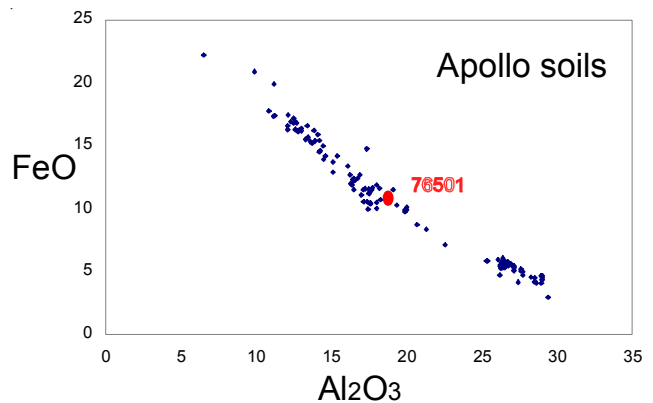


Figure 3: Chemical composition of 76501 compared with other Apollo soil samples.

The grain size distribution of 76501 was determined by McKay et al. (1974), Butler and King (1974), and Laul et al. (1981) (figure 6).

Blanchard et al. (1975) and Jolliff et al. (1996) studied the petrology and chemistry of numerous coarse-fine particles from 76501. Blanchard et al. reported 4 "mare basalts", 11 "glassy breccias", 13 "highland rocks", and 12 "miscellaneous", but gave no details. Mason et al. (1974) reported 7 basalts, 50 breccias, 11 agglutinates, 10 norite, 5 anorthosite and 17 plagioclase grains in

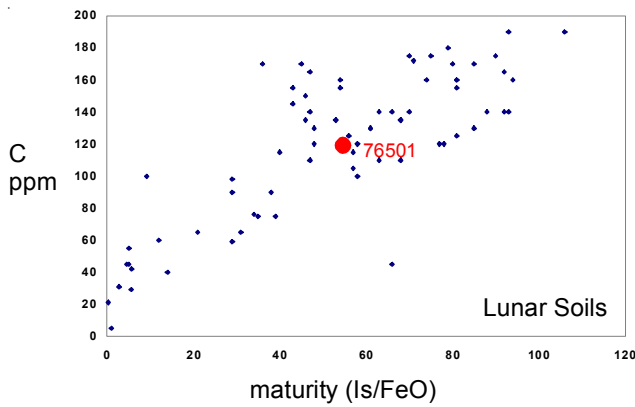


Figure 4: Carbon content and maturity index for 76501 compared with that of other Apollo soil samples.

76502. Bence et al. (1974) studied the mineral chemistry of several highland particles from 76503 (figure 5). One was a feldspathic basalt (figure 8). Meyer (1973) cataloged the 4 – 10 mm coarse fines and Meyer (1994) summarized the work done on the large samples (76535 etc.).

### Chemistry

The chemical composition of 76501 is intermediate to highland and mare composition (figure 3). Rhodes et al. (1974), Rose et al. (1974), Mason et al. (1974), Blanchard et al. (1975), Laul et al. (1981), Korotev and Kremser (1992), Jolliff et al. (1996) and others determined the composition (tables 1 and 2). Philpotts et al. (1974) precisely determined the trace element content (figure 9). Laul et al. (1981) also studied the variation of chemical composition with grain size (figure 10)

LSPET (1973) and Moore et al. (1974) reported 120 ppm carbon (figure 4). Muller (1974) determined 63 ppm nitrogen. Petrowski et al. (1974) determined 99

### Modal content of soil 76501

From	Heiken and McKay 1974	Simon et al. 1981
	90-150 microns	1000-90 microns
Agglutinates	47.2 %	29.2
Basalt	1.7	9.2
Breccia	12.1	22.6
Anorthosite	1.4	5.2
Norite		
Gabbro		
Plagioclase	17.2	15.2
Pyroxene	15.5	17.3
Olivine	0.7	
Ilmenite	1.7	2.8
Orange glass	0.7	1.6
Glass other	1.7	4.3

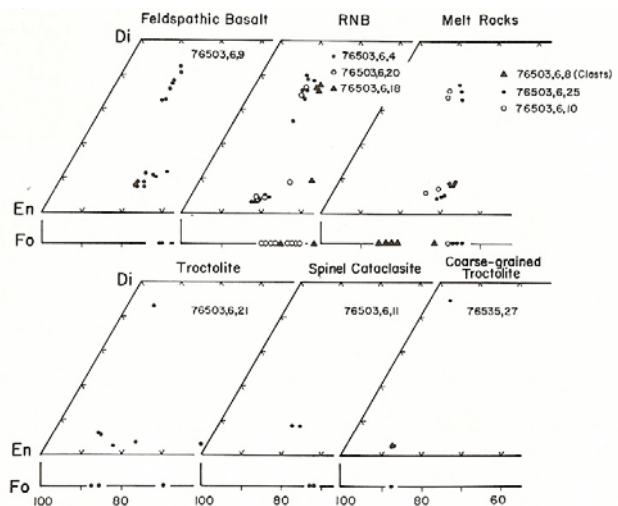
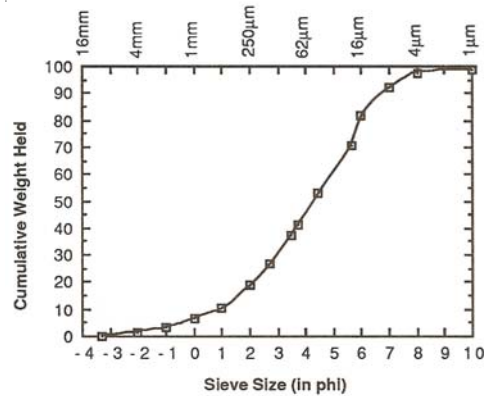


Figure 5: Olivine and pyroxene composition of highland particles from 76503 (Bence et al. 1974).

ppm carbon, 73 ppm nitrogen and 43 ppm hydrogen. Gibson and Moore (1974) reported 665 ppm sulfur.

### Radiometric Age

Schaeffer et al. (1976) determined the age of several highland particles from the coarse-fine fraction (figure



average grain size = 51 microns

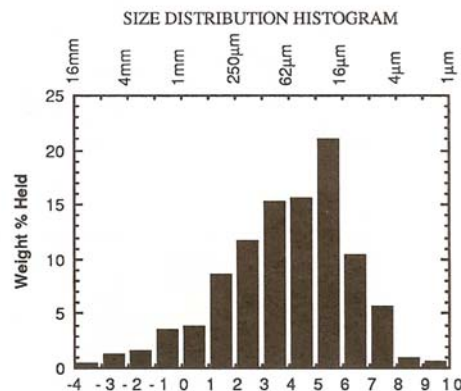


Figure 6: Grain size distribution for 76500 (Graf 1993, data from McKay).

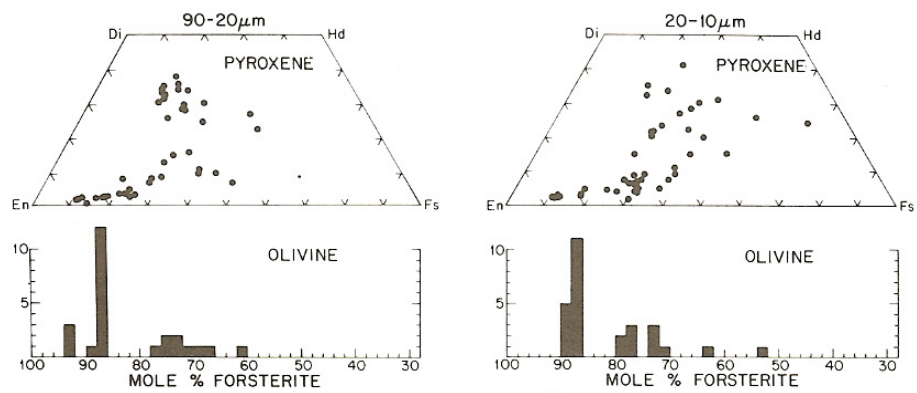


Figure 7: Composition of olivine and pyroxene grains in 76501 (Simon et al. 1981).



Figure 8: Photomicrographs of feldspathic basalt 76503,6,9. Field of view 1.4 mm. (from Bence 1974)

11). Nyquist et al. (1974) determined Rb, Sr and Sr isotopes. Church and Tilton (1974) studied the U, Th and Pb isotopic system for 76501 including several components.

### **Cosmogenic isotopes and exposure ages**

O'Kelley et al. (1974) determined the cosmic-ray-induced activity of  $^{22}\text{Na} = 90 \text{ dpm/kg}$ ,  $^{26}\text{Al} = 97.9 \text{ dpm/kg}$ ,  $^{46}\text{Sc} = 18 \text{ dpm/kg}$ ,  $^{54}\text{Mn} = 60 \text{ dpm/kg}$ ,  $^{56}\text{Co} = 120 \text{ dpm/kg}$ , and  $^{48}\text{V} = 15 \text{ dpm/kg}$ .

Curtis and Wasserburg (1977) determined the isotopic composition of Sm and Gd in order to obtain a measure of the total irradiation of this soil (and others).

### **Other Studies**

Hubner et al. (1975) and Bogard et al. (1974) reported rare gas measurements for different grain size separates of 76501.

Goswami and Lal (1974) reported on the number density of fossil nuclear tracks caused by cosmic rays.

Rees and Thode (1974) and Becker and Clayton (1975) determined the elemental and isotopic composition of sulfur and nitrogen.

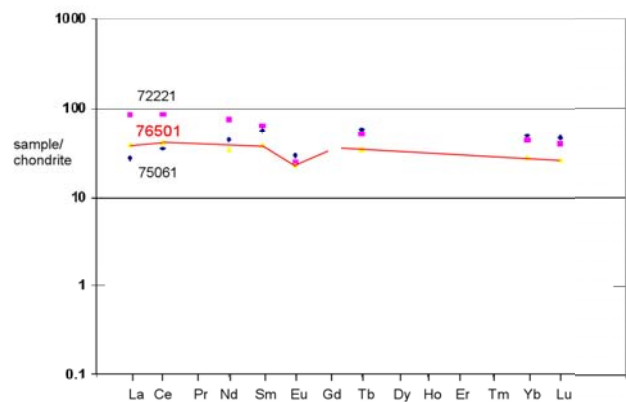


Figure 9: Normalized rare-earth-element diagram for 76501 compared with mare and highland soil.

**Table 1a. Chemical composition of 76501.**

reference weight	Laul81	Korotev92		LSPET73 Rhodes74	Wiesmann76 Rhodes74	Philpotts74	Rose74	Eldridge74	Jolliff96
SiO2 %	43.5 (a)			43.41 (b)	43.34 (b)		43.7 (d)		
TiO2	3.2 (a)			3.15 (b)	3.15 (b)		3.2 (d)		
Al2O3	18.1 (a)			18.63 (b)	18.41 (b)		18.8 (d)		
FeO	10.8 (a)	10.7	10.5 (a)	10.32 (b)	10.39 (b)		10.4 (d)		10.3 (a)
MnO	0.145 (a)			0.14 (b)	0.15 (b)		0.13 (d)		
MgO	12 (a)			11.08 (b)	11.08 (b)		10.7 (d)		
CaO	12.8 (a)			12.28 (b)	12.24 (b)		12.1 (d)		12.4 (a)
Na2O	0.38 (a)	0.379	0.375 (a)	0.35 (b)	0.4 (b)		0.38 (d)		0.38 (a)
K2O	0.1 (a)			0.1 (b)	0.105 (c)	0.1 (c)	0.11 (d)	0.108 (e)	
P2O5				0.08 (b)	0.09 (b)		0.08 (d)		
S %				0.07 (b)	0.07 (b)				
sum									
Sc ppm	28 (a)	29.2	27.5 (a)				30 (d)		27.6 (a)
V	65 (a)						50 (d)		
Cr		1980	1848 (a)	1779 (b)	1740 (c)		1779 (d)		1814 (a)
Co		31	35 (a)				38 (d)		33 (a)
Ni	190 (a)	210	260 (a)	206 (b)	200 (b)		262 (d)		206 (a)
Cu							14 (d)		
Zn				29 (b)	32 (b)		12 (d)		40 (a)
Ga							3.2 (d)		
Ge ppb									
As									
Se									
Rb				2.5 (b)	2.4 (c)	2.36 (c)	2.3 (d)		6 (a)
Sr	160 (a)	130	164 (a)	147 (b)	151 (c)	150 (c)	130 (d)		127 (a)
Y				46 (b)	43 (b)		44 (d)		
Zr		170	160 (a)	158 (b)	163 (c)	180 (c)	133 (d)		152 (a)
Nb				13 (b)	13 (b)		10 (d)		
Mo									
Ru									
Rh									
Pd ppb									
Ag ppb									
Cd ppb									
In ppb									
Sn ppb									
Sb ppb									
Te ppb									
Cs ppm									0.12 (a)
Ba	120 (a)	114	108 (a)		115 (c)	116 (c)	114 (d)		122 (a)
La	8.3 (a)	9.41	8.98 (a)		8.95 (c)				9 (a)
Ce	23 (a)	25.1	24.3 (a)		24.3 (c)	23.4 (c)			24.8 (a)
Pr									
Nd	16 (a)		20 (a)		17.4 (c)	17.3 (c)			15.7 (a)
Sm	5.3 (a)	5.6	5.67 (a)		5.55 (c)	5.6 (c)			5.63 (a)
Eu	1.2 (a)	1.29	1.28 (a)		1.25 (c)	1.26 (c)			1.26 (a)
Gd					7.51 (c)				
Tb	1.2 (a)	1.39	1.29 (a)						1.25 (a)
Dy	8.3 (a)				8.18 (c)	8.12 (c)			
Ho									
Er					4.89 (c)	4.73 (c)			
Tm	0.71 (a)								
Yb	4.6 (a)	4.66	4.61 (a)		4.53 (c)	4.55 (c)	3.4 (d)		4.54 (a)
Lu	0.66 (a)	0.67	0.659 (a)		0.68 (c)	0.717 (c)			0.64 (a)
Hf	4.2 (a)	4.75	4.64 (a)		5.2 (c)				4.6 (a)
Ta	0.7 (a)	0.79	0.69 (a)						0.69 (a)
W ppb									
Re ppb									
Os ppb									
Ir ppb		6.4	7.8 (a)						6.8 (a)
Pt ppb									
Au ppb		< 5	3.4 (a)						2.9 (a)
Th ppm	1.6 (a)	1.3	1.43 (a)				1.39 (e)		1.44 (a)
U ppm	0.4 (a)	0.36	0.37 (a)		0.44 (c)		0.38 (e)		0.39 (a)

technique: (a) INAA, (b) XRF, (c) IDMS, (d) "microchem.", (e) radiation count.

**Table 1b. Chemical composition of 76501.**

reference weight	Mason74	Blanchard75	Chou76	
SiO <sub>2</sub> %	43.41 (b)	1 - 2 mm ave.41		
TiO <sub>2</sub>	3.15 (b)			
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	18.63 (b)			
FeO	10.32 (b)	10.3	8.11 (a)	10.2 (a)
MnO	0.14 (b)	0.15	0.12 (a)	0.15 (a)
MgO	11.08 (b)			
CaO	12.28 (b)			
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.35 (b)	0.4	0.56 (a)	?
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.1 (b)			0.11 (a)
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.08 (b)			
S %	0.07 (b)			
sum				
Sc ppm		26.3	21.5 (a)	27 (a)
V				
Cr	1779 (b)	1840	1510 (a)	1690 (a)
Co		28.7	21.7 (a)	30 (a)
Ni		220	230 (a)	209 (a)
Cu				
Zn				
Ga				
Ge ppb				
As				
Se				
Rb				
Sr				
Y				
Zr				
Nb				
Mo				
Ru				
Rh				
Pd ppb				
Ag ppb				
Cd ppb				
In ppb				
Sn ppb				
Sb ppb				
Te ppb				
Cs ppm				
Ba				105 (a)
La		9	14.9 (a)	8.7 (a)
Ce		25.4	49.4 (a)	22 (a)
Pr				
Nd				16 (a)
Sm		5.78	7.28 (a)	5.5 (a)
Eu		1.26	1.47 (a)	1.28 (a)
Gd				
Tb		1.47	1.88 (a)	1.3 (a)
Dy				8.4 (a)
Ho				
Er				
Tm				
Yb		4.55	7.4 (a)	4.4 (a)
Lu		0.72	1.05 (a)	0.66 (a)
Hf		4.8	6.6 (a)	4.3 (a)
Ta		0.7	2.1 (a)	0.84 (a)
W ppb				
Re ppb				
Os ppb				
Ir ppb				8 (a)
Pt ppb				
Au ppb				3.5 (a)
Th ppm				1.3 (a)
U ppm				

technique: (a) INAA, (b) wet

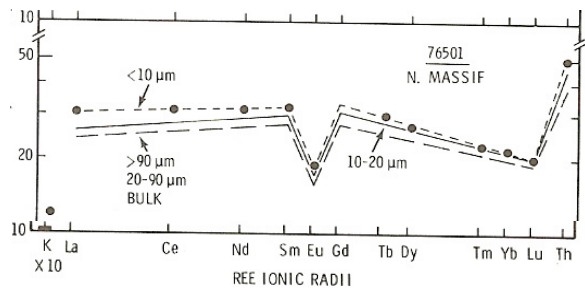


Figure 10: Normalized rare-earth-element diagram for different grain sizes of 76501 (Laul et al. 1981).

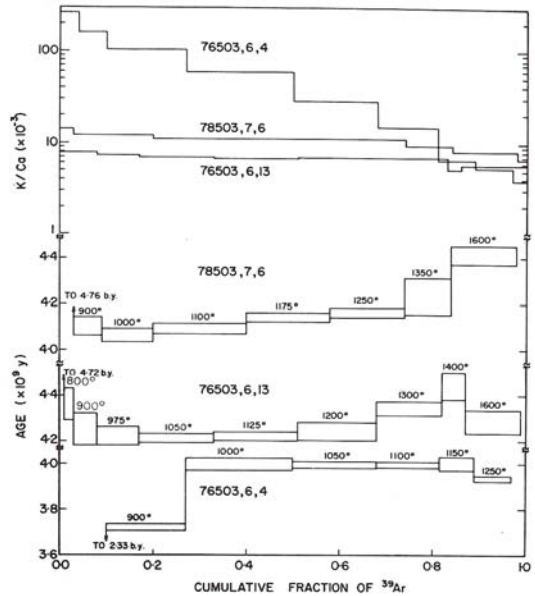
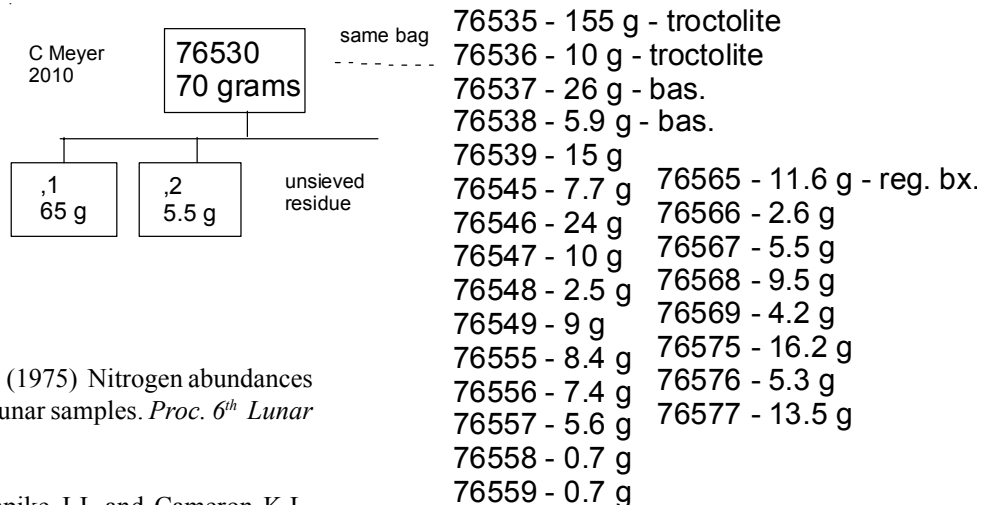
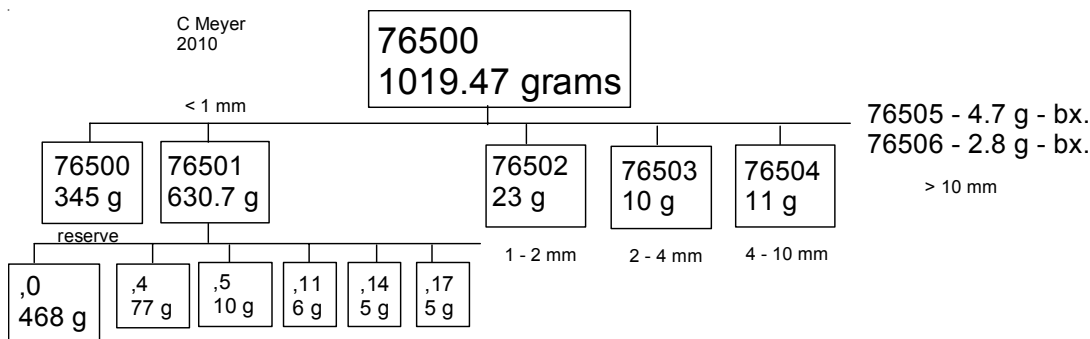


Figure 11: Ar/Ar plateau diagram for some coarse-fine particles from 76503 (Schaeffer et al. 1976).



### References for 76501

Becker R.H. and Clayton R.N. (1975) Nitrogen abundances and isotopic compositions in lunar samples. *Proc. 6<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2131-2149.

Bence A.E., Delano J.W., Papike J.J. and Cameron K.L. (1974) Petrology of the highlands massifs at Taurus-Littrow: An analysis of the 2-4 mm soil fraction. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 785-827.

Blanchard D.P., Korotev R.L., Brannon J.C., Jacobs J.W., Haskin L.A. Reid A.M., Donaldson C. and Brown R.W. (1975) A geochemical and petrographic study of 1-2 mm fines from Apollo 17. *Proc. 6<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2321-2342.

Bogard D.D., Hirsch W.C. and Nyquist L.E. (1974) Noble gases in Apollo 17 fines: Mass fractionation effects in trapped Xe and Kr. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1975-2003.

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

Butler J.C. and King E.A. (1974) Analysis of the grain size-frequency distributions of lunar fines. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 829-842.

Chou C.-L. and Pearce G.W. (1976) Relationship between nickel and metallic iron contents of Apollo 16 and 17 soils. *Proc. 7<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 779-789.

Church S.E. and Tilton G.R. (1974) Lead isotope systematics of some Apollo 17 soils and some separated components from 76501. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1389-1400.

Curtis D.B. and Wasserburg G.J. (1977) Transport and erosional processes in the Taurus-Littrow Valley – Inferences from neutron fluences in lunar soils. *Proc. 8<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 3045-3057.

Eldridge J.S., O'Kelley G.D. and Northcutt K.J. (1974a) Primordial radioelement concentrations in rocks and soils from Taurus-Littrow. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1025-1033.

Gibson E.K. and Moore G.W. (1974) Sulfur abundances and distributions in the valley of Taurus-Littrow. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1823-1838.

Gibson E.K. and Andreas F.F. (1978) Nature of the gases released from lunar rocks and soils upon crushing. *Proc. 9<sup>th</sup> Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 2433-2450.

Goswami J.N. and Lal D. (1974) Cosmic ray irradiation at the Apollo 17 site: Implications to Lunar regolith dynamics. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2643-2662.

Graf J.C. (1993) Lunar Soils Grain Size Catalog. NASA Reference Pub. 1265, March 1993

- Green G.M., King D.T., Banholzer G.S. and King E.A. (1975) Size and model analyses of fines and ultrafines from some Apollo 17 samples. *Proc. 6<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 517-528.
- Heiken G.H. and McKay D.S. (1974) Petrography of Apollo 17 soils. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 843-860.
- Hintenberger H., Schultz L., and Weber H.W. (1975) A comparison of noble gases in lunar fines and soil breccias: Implications for the origin of soil breccias. *Proc. 6<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2261-2270.
- Housley R.M., Cirlin E.H., Paton N.E. and Goldberg I.B. (1974) Solar wind and micrometeorite alteration of the lunar regolith. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2623-2642.
- Hua C.T., Dollfus A. and Mandeville J-C. (1976) Ultraviolet diffuse reflectance spectroscopy for lunar, meteoritic and terrestrial samples. *Proc. 7<sup>th</sup> Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 2605-2622.
- Hubner W., Kirsten T and Kiko J. (1975) Rare gases in Apollo 17 soils with emphasis on analysis of size and mineral fractions of soil 74241. *Proc. 6<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2009-2026.
- Jolliff B.L., Rockow K.M., Korotev R.L. and Haskin L.A. (1996) Lithologic distributions and geologic history of the Apollo 17 site: The record in soils and small rock particles from the highlands massifs. *Meteor. & Planet. Sci.* **31**, 116-145.
- Jovanovic S. and Reed G.W. (1974) Labile and non-labile element relationships among Apollo 17 samples. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 1685-1702.
- Jovanovic S. and Reed G.W. (1979) Regolith layering processes based on studies of low-temperature volatile elements in Apollo core samples. *Proc. 10<sup>th</sup> Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 1425-1435.
- Korotev R.L. and Kremser D. (1992) Compositional variations in Apollo 17 soils and their relationships to the geology of the Taurus-Littrow site. *Proc. 22<sup>nd</sup> Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 275-301.
- Laul J.C., Papike J.J. and Simon S.B. (1981) The lunar regolith: Comparative studies of the Apollo and Luna sites: Chemistry of soils from Apollo 17, Luna 16, 20 and 24. *Proc. 12<sup>th</sup> Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 389-407.
- LSPET (1973) Preliminary examination of lunar samples. Apollo 17 Preliminary Sci. Report NASA SP-330. 7-1.
- Mason B., Jacobson S., Nelen J.A., Melson W.G., Simkin T. and Thompson G. (1974) Regolith composition from the Apollo 17 mission. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 879-885.
- McKay D.S., Fruland R.M. and Heiken G.H. (1974) Grain size and the evolution of lunar soils. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 887-906.
- Meyer C. (1973) Apollo 17 Coarse Fines (4-10 mm) Sample Location, Classification and Photo Index. Curator Report. pp. 182.
- Meyer C. (1994) **Catalog of Apollo 17 rocks**: Volume 4. Curator's Office JSC 26088 pp. 644
- Moore C.B., Lewis C.F. and Cripe J.D. (1974) Total carbon and sulfur contents of Apollo 17 lunar samples. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1897-1906.
- Morris R.V. (1976) Surface exposure indices of lunar soils: A comparative FMR study. *Proc. 7<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 315-335.
- Morris R.V. (1977) Origin and evolution on the grain-size dependence of the concentration of fine-grained metal in lunar soil: The maturation of lunar soils to a steady-state stage. *Proc. 8<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 3719-3747.
- Morris R.V. (1978) The surface exposure (maturity) of lunar soils: Some concepts and Is/FeO compilation. *Proc. 9<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2287-2298.
- Morris R.V., Score R., Dardano C. and Heiken G. (1983) Handbook of Lunar Soils. Two Parts. JSC 19069. Curator's Office, Houston
- Moynier F., Albarede F. and Herzog G.F. (2006) Isotopic composition of zinc, copper, and iron in lunar samples. *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* **70**, 6103-6117.
- Müller O. (1975) Lithophile trace and major elements in Apollo 16 and 17 lunar samples. *Proc. 6<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1303-1312.
- Nyquist L.E., Bansal B.M., Wiesmann H. and Jahn B.M. (1974) Taurus-Littrow chronology: Some constraints on the Early Lunar crustal development. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1515-1540.
- O'Kelley G.D., Eldridge J.S. and Northcutt K.J. (1974a) Cosmogenic radionuclides in samples from Taurus-Littrow: Effects of the solar flare of August 1972. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2139-2147.
- Papike J.J., Simon S.B. and Laul J.C. (1982) The Lunar Regolith: Chemistry, mineralogy and petrology. *Rev. Geophys. Space Phys.* **20**, 761-826.
- Pearce G.W. and Chou C.-L. (1976) Relationships between siderophile elements and metallic iron contents of Apollo

16 and 17 lunar soils (abs). *Lunar Sci.* **VII**, 673-675.

Petrowski C., Kerridge J.F. and Kaplan I.R. (1974) Light element geochemistry of the Apollo 17 site. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1939-1948.

Philpotts J.A., Schumann S., Kouns C.W., Lum-Staab R.K.L. and Winzer S.R. (1974) Origin of Apollo 17 rocks and soils. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1255-1268.

Philpotts J.A., Schumann S., Schnetzler C.C., Kouns C.W., Doan A.S., Wood F.M, Bickel A.L. and Lum-Staab R.K.L. (1973) Apollo 17 – geochemical aspects of some soils, basalts, and breccias. *Trans. Amer. Geophys. Union* **54**, 603.

Pillinger C.T. and seven others (1974) The association between carbide and finely divided metallic iron in lunar fines. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1949-1961.

Rees C.E. and Thode H.G. (1974a) Sulfur concentrations and isotope ratios in Apollo 16 and 17 samples. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1963-1973.

Rhodes J.M., Rodgers K.V., Shih C.-Y., Bansal B.M., Nyquist L.E., Wiesmann H. and Hubbard N.J. (1974) The relationships between geology and soil chemistry at the Apollo 17 landing site. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1097-1118.

Rose H.J., Cuttitta F., Berman S., Brown F.W., Carron M.K., Christian R.P., Dwornik E.J. and Greenland L.P. (1974) Chemical composition of rocks and soils at Taurus-Littrow. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1119-1134.

Schaeffer O.A., Husain L. and Schaeffer G.A. (1976) Ages of highland rocks: The chronology of lunar basin formation revisited. *Proc. 7<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 2067-2092.

Schonfeld E. (1974) The contamination of lunar highlands rocks by KREEP: Interpretation by mixing models. *Proc. 5<sup>th</sup> Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1269-1286.

Simon S.B., Papike J.J. and Laul J.C. (1981) The lunar regolith: Comparative studies of the Apollo and Luna sites. *Proc. 12<sup>th</sup> Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 371-388.

Wiesmann H. and Hubbard N.J. (1975) A compilation of the Lunar Sample Data Generated by the Gast, Nyquist and Hubbard Lunar Sample PI-Ships. Unpublished. JSC

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. USGS Prof. Paper 1080.