

NWA 1793 Meteorite Main Mass

This meteorite was purchased by Adam and Greg Hupe in Northwest Africa in October of 2002. One stone with a total weight of 585 grams. When this meteorite was first cut it was believed to be an Impact Melt Breccia because of the deformed metal and vesicles throughout the stone. The lab report found it to be a black chondrite L3, S3-5, W1. The Hupes were puzzled. Chondrules are very hard to see in this stone, how could it possibly be an L3? They were so suprized they questioned the lab again just to make sure that there was not some kind of mix up. The lab then explained that shock and metamorphism are two different things. Even though the chondrules were deformed and shock blackened, this had nothing to do with the stones petrologic grade other then it would make it very hard to subclass. Black chondrites make up only 12% of all know chondrites. Add the fact that this one is an L3 and so highly shocked and you might only come up with one or two other like meteorites in the world. This piece weighs 97.6 grams, it is an endcut of the original stone and is the largest piece left of the original stone.

Thanks out!
Jerry