NWA (4662)

Class: Basaltic achondrite. Angrite.

Found: June 2005.

Total known weight: About 400 grams.

Notes: Angrites are some of the most ancient of all meteorites, forming over 4.555 billion years ago. They formed on a large differentiated parent body that was likely close to the sun. This, and some other features has led some scientists to believe that they may be from the planet Mercury or represent an early generation of planetesimals that were destroyed and incorporated into later asteroids. Interestingly, angrites have a mineral content similar to the CAIs (calcium, aluminum inclusions) found in carbonaceous meteorites. This particular angrite is texturally very different from others. Most are surface volcanic or quenched basalts. This one formed as a sub-surface intrusion (plutonic rock) on its parent body.