

manella coquina). No inclusions were seen in this material. Except for water in its crystal lattice, it is probably pure silica.

Fibrous Calcite (averages 2.7 percent in Laminated argillaceous limestone and 6.2 percent in *Dalmanella coquina*). This is believed to be nearly pure calcite formed by brachiopod shells, mainly *Dalmanella fertilis*.

Dolomite (averages 0.28 percent of Laminated argillaceous limestone and 1.5 percent of *Dalmanella coquina*). This material is probably pure, having been exsolved from calcite oversaturated with magnesium.

Feldspar (0.1 percent of Laminated argillaceous limestone and 0.04 percent of *Dalmanella coquina*). As in quartz, the minor inclusions are of no significance. The minerals are essentially pure.

Muscovite (averages 0.09 percent in Laminated argillaceous limestone and is rarely seen in *Dalmanella coquina*). The muscovite seen was individual crystals without inclusions.

A NEW FIND AT THE SMITHVILLE METEORITE LOCALITY

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EARLIER FINDS

Farrington (1909) has summarized the known history of Smithville meteorite finds prior to 1909. No further finds have been reported since. Briefly, then, the record is as follows:

Date Found	Weight (Lbs.)	Location
1. c.1839	over 36	"a few miles west of Cany Fork, near the road from Liberty"
2. c.1863	8	Berry Cantrell farm
3. c.1863	over 1	Berry Cantrell farm
4. 1892	15	J. D. Whaley farm
5. 1892	65	James Beckwith farm
6. 1892	7	J. D. Whaley farm

Number 1 was described by Troost (1840, 1845) who purchased it between 1840 and 1845. Some "chips" had been removed for assaying; hence the original weight is uncertain. If "a few miles" in the location as given by Troost was actually 7 miles, this find came from the same area as the others.

Numbers 2 and 3 were described by Glenn (1904), who acquired them in 1903 but says they were found "about 40 years" earlier. The smaller mass (No. 3) had "had a portion removed."

Numbers 4, 5, and 6 were described by Huntington (1894). They had been purchased in 1893 by H. A. Ward of Rochester, N.Y., from Herman Meyer, a bank cashier in Carthage, Tennessee.

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Huntington quotes a letter from Meyer to Whaley stating that "the spot where (they were) found three-eighths of a mile south from the Smithville and Lebanon Pike, two miles from Smithville, and on (the) extreme southwest field of J. D. Whaley and adjoining field of James Beckwith." The boundary between the Beckwith and Whaley farms has shifted back and forth over the years, but the west line in 1892 probably followed Falls Creek as shown in Figure 1.

What may have been a seventh specimen mentioned by Glenn (1904) as having been sent to the U.S. National Museum. However, this specimen is not listed in Merrill's catalog of the museum collection as of 1916.

1962 FIND

In January, 1962, the writer visited the Smithville locality and spent several days searching favorable stretches of ground with an electromagnetic metal detector. The device used was copied from one owned by Mr. H. Q. Stockwell of Hutchinson, Kansas, custom-built for him quite a few years ago by Hedden Metal Locators, Inc., formerly of Miami, Fla. It features overlapping D-shaped transmitting and receiving coils about 4 feet in diameter and mounted on a wooden wheelbarrow-like frame.

In the absence of information concerning the location of the Cantrell property, plots close to the Beckwith-Whaley line were sampled more or less at random. It now appears that better results may have been obtained by concentrating on areas farther southwest. (See Figure 1.) A further search is planned for January, 1963.

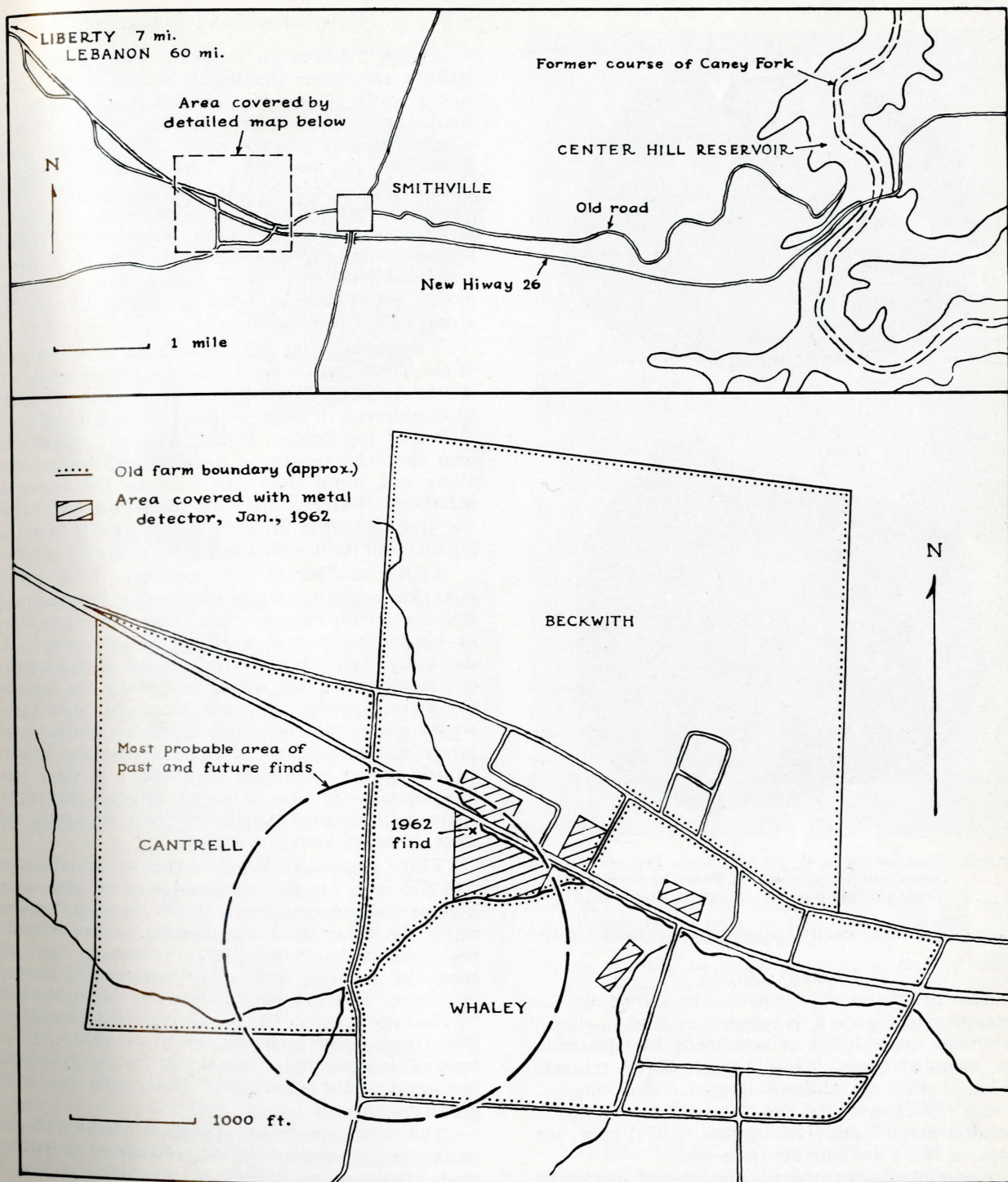


Fig. 1. Location Map

However, one specimen weighing approximately 7 pounds (2.924 kg.) was found at the point indicated on Figure 1. The top of this specimen was about level with the ground surface; it could be seen without digging after the detector revealed its presence. Undoubtedly, the meteorite had been

turned over many times by the plow, so that surface scale due to oxidation was missing.

The latitude and longitude of this new find are: N 35° 57.8', W 85° 50.3'. Prior (1953) gives the coordinates of the Smithville fall as N 35° 59', W 85° 51'. This is gently rolling farm country, now

COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE

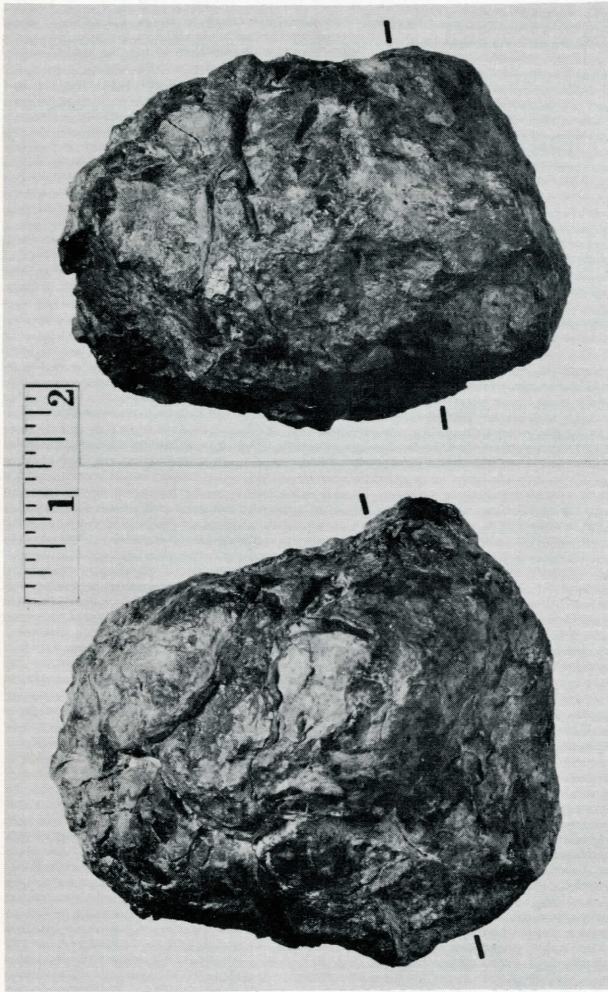


Figure 2. Exterior views of the 1962 find. Top view is the lower side of specimen as shown at bottom. Short lines indicate position of section shown in Fig. 3.

being rapidly encroached upon by suburbs of Smithville.

EXTERNAL FORM

The newly found specimen, as shown in the photographs, Figure 2, is roughly ovoidal in shape. Published descriptions of specimens 1-6 also indicate rounded forms. Thus Troost (1845) remarks of No. 1 that "it had an irregular oval shape;" Glenn (1904) says that No. 2 was "of a compact, rounded shape;" and Huntington (1894) gives the shape of No. 5 as "roughly spherical."

Undoubtedly, weathering has played some part in shaping these specimens. However, in view of the fact that other irons exposed to long weathering are not particularly rounded, it is reasonable to conclude those found at Smithville were more or less rounded when they arrived at the earth's surface. If they are fragments from a single body broken up in the atmosphere, there must have been plenty of time for ablational rounding after the break-up.

Figure 3 shows an etched section through the writer's specimen. Octahedral structure is distinct but irregular. Kamacite bands belonging to a particular set show marked variation in width. Individual bands pinch and swell. The average width is perhaps $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 mm. Thus, this is a "coarse octahedrite, as pointed out by Brezina (1885, 1895). Locally (as toward the lower left margin, Figure 3) octahedral structure blurs out in a jumble of irregular kamacite grains. These grains have a width comparable to that of the bands. The plates and grains are broken up into secondary granules by a network of fine fractures.

Taenite lamellae are conspicuous between some of the bands but are entirely lacking between others. Their absence may be due in some places to oxidation; however, in the two distinctly unoxidized areas (left and top center, Figure 3), it can readily be seen that the taenite is discontinuous, appearing along not more than one-third of the kamacite interfaces. There is little or no visible taenite in the granular areas. In some places taenite lamellae broaden out to include small areas of grained plessite.

Earlier studies of this meteorite have called attention to the abundant schreibersite. For instance Brezina (1895) remarks that "kamacite plates have in almost every case a rib of schreibersite." As shown by Figure 4, the "ribs" consist of discontinuous elongate patches strung out along the axes of the plates. Locally, they may touch the plate borders, or even cross over into adjoining plates. Inasmuch as arrangement of the schreibersite is controlled by the octahedral structure, it is clear that the schreibersite has replaced original kamacite. Many schreibersite patches enclose, or partly enclose, rounded kamacite inclusions.

Three unusually large patches of schreibersite may be seen on the sectioned surface shown in Figures 3 and 4 (top center, lower right, and upper right). In these, there is a distinct core of schreibersite which has a rougher appearance, resulting from the breaking out of tiny fragments during polishing. The breakage appears to be controlled by cleavage (perfect basal and imperfect prismatic). The rough "core" schreibersite is probably in the form of single crystals, whereas the smooth-polishing borders, and the schreibersite of the ribs, is a fine grained aggregate.

The 1962 specimen apparently lacks the remarkable graphite-troilite nodules noted in earlier finds. Huntington (1894), in describing a 9 x 9 cm etched plate from one of the three masses found in 1892, remarked that "nodules of graphite and troilite are abundantly scattered over the surface. Usually these nodules are troilite embedded in graphite and this in its turn is surrounded by schreibersite, though there is considerable variety in the relative arrangement of these three minerals." One of the nodules was 2 inches in diameter. Huntington also found angular transparent particles in the graphite

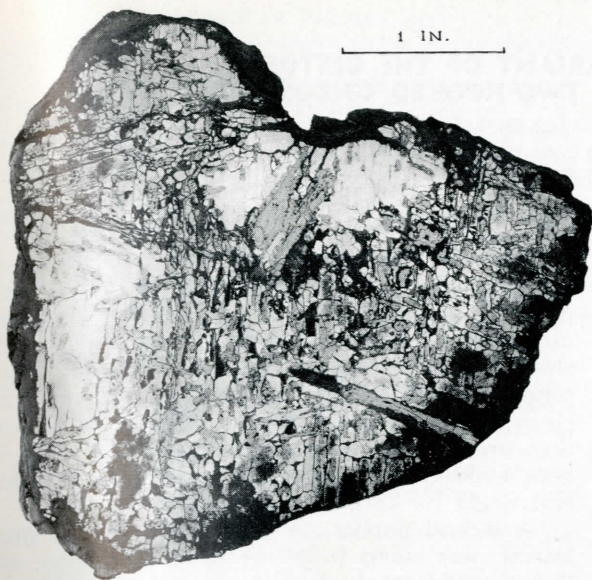


Figure 3. Etched section. Black around margins is oxidation. Angular black areas toward center are depressions due to chipping. Schreibersite patches slightly greyer than nickel-iron.

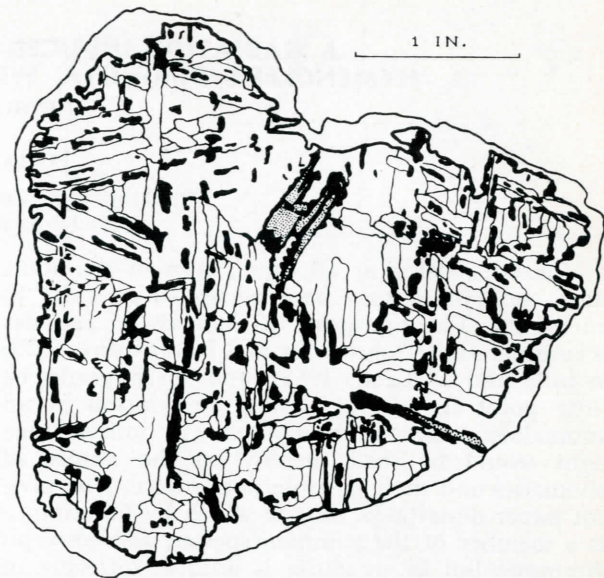


Figure 4. Tracing from Figure 3. Black: normal schreibersite. Stippled: "core" schreibersite.

which he identified as probable diamond. This has not been verified.

It is evident that this meteorite contains abundant lawrencite, the iron chloride. Rusting of the etched surface, even after prolonged soaking in alcohol and coating with shellac, has been a serious problem. Apparently the chloride is irregularly distributed. Very little rust formed on the outer half inch of the etched surface. Presumably, the chlorine originally present here "leaked out" while the specimen lay in the ground. Toward the center, rusting was much heavier in some places than in others. It tended to be almost totally lacking in the two areas of minimum oxidation (top and left center, Figure 3). When the rust is removed, underlying kamacite plates show minute black hemispherical pits about .05 mm. in diameter. Kamacite plates lacking these pits show no rust. It seems likely that the pits mark the locations of very small inclusions of lawrencite.

The effects of weathering are noteworthy. As usual, oxidation has penetrated farthest between kamacite plates and along fractures within the plates. As the plate itself begins to succumb, fine disseminated alteration appears first in the core, gradually intensifying and spreading out toward the plate borders. This strongly suggests a zonal variation in the composition of the plates. Taenite and schreibersite are much more resistant.

The principal oxidation mineral appears to be magnetite. Limonite is present in lesser amounts.

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