15621 MEDIUM-GRAINED OLIVINE-NORMATIVE MARE BASALT ST. 9A 1.60 g

INTRODUCTION: 15621 is a medium-grained, olivine-bearing mare basalt which is very vesicular (Fig. 1). The yellow-green , olivines are visible macroscopically and some form phenocrysts. 15621 is tough and was collected as part of the rake sample at Station 9A.

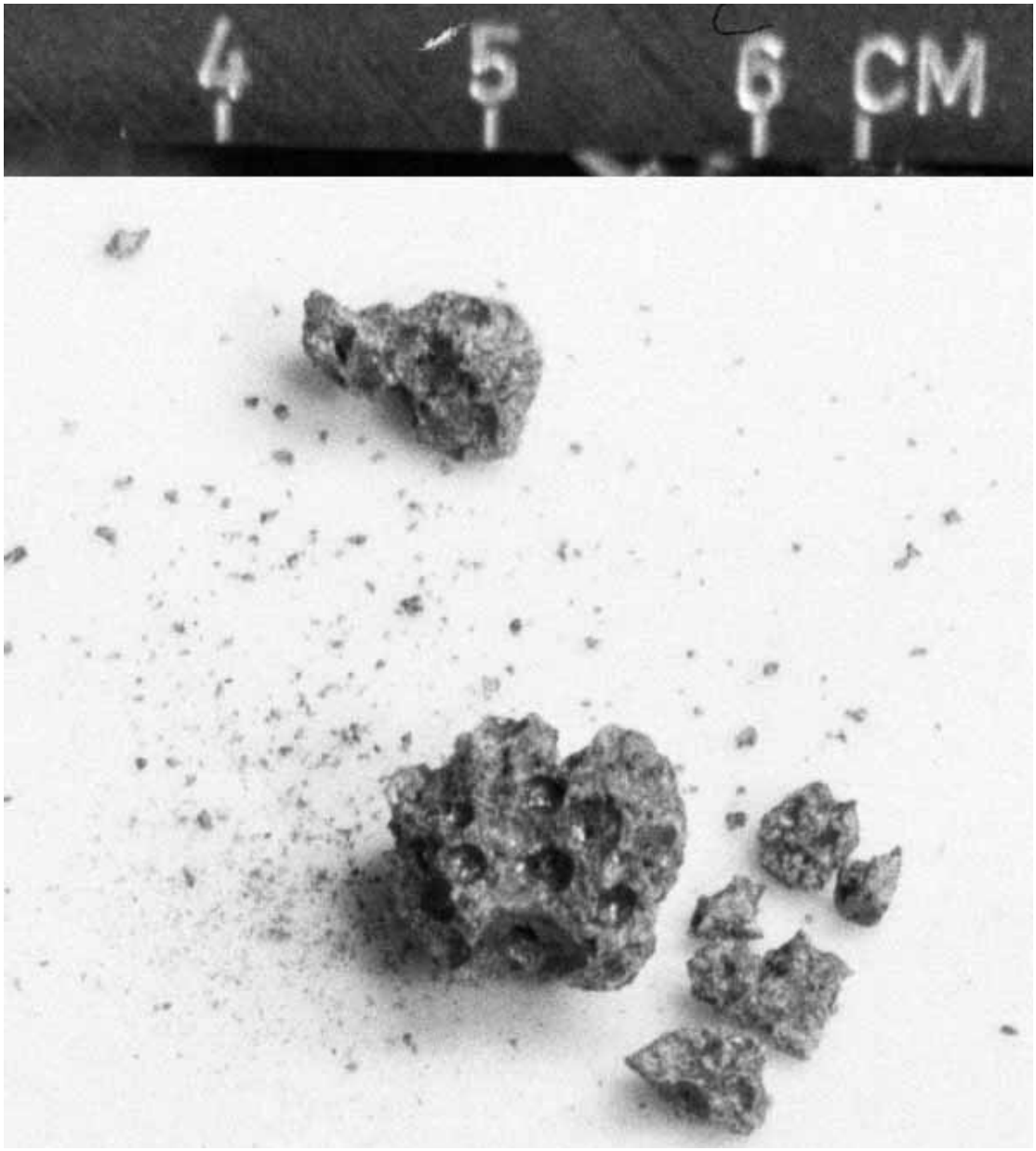

Figure 1. Post-chip view of 15621. S-71-56293

PETROLOGY: 15621 is a medium-grained, very vesicular, olivine-bearing mare basalt (Fig. 2). Some of the olivines form phenocrysts, generally less than 1 mm across and anhedral. The plagioclases are irregular laths up to 1 mm long, and hollow. Steele et al. (1980) reported ion-microprobe analyses of plagioclase for Li (21 ppm), Mg (2970 ppm), K (490 ppm), Ti (635 ppm), Sr (350 ppm), and Ba (30 ppm), for plagioclase of 14.3 mol% Ab. The Mg in plagioclase is high as in other mare basalt types.

PROCESSING AND SUBDIVISIONS: Several chips were taken from ,0, and only the largest, ,1 was numbered separately (Fig. 1). It was partly used to make thin sections ,1 and ,6. ,0 consists of one larger chip and several small chips totaling 1.30 g.

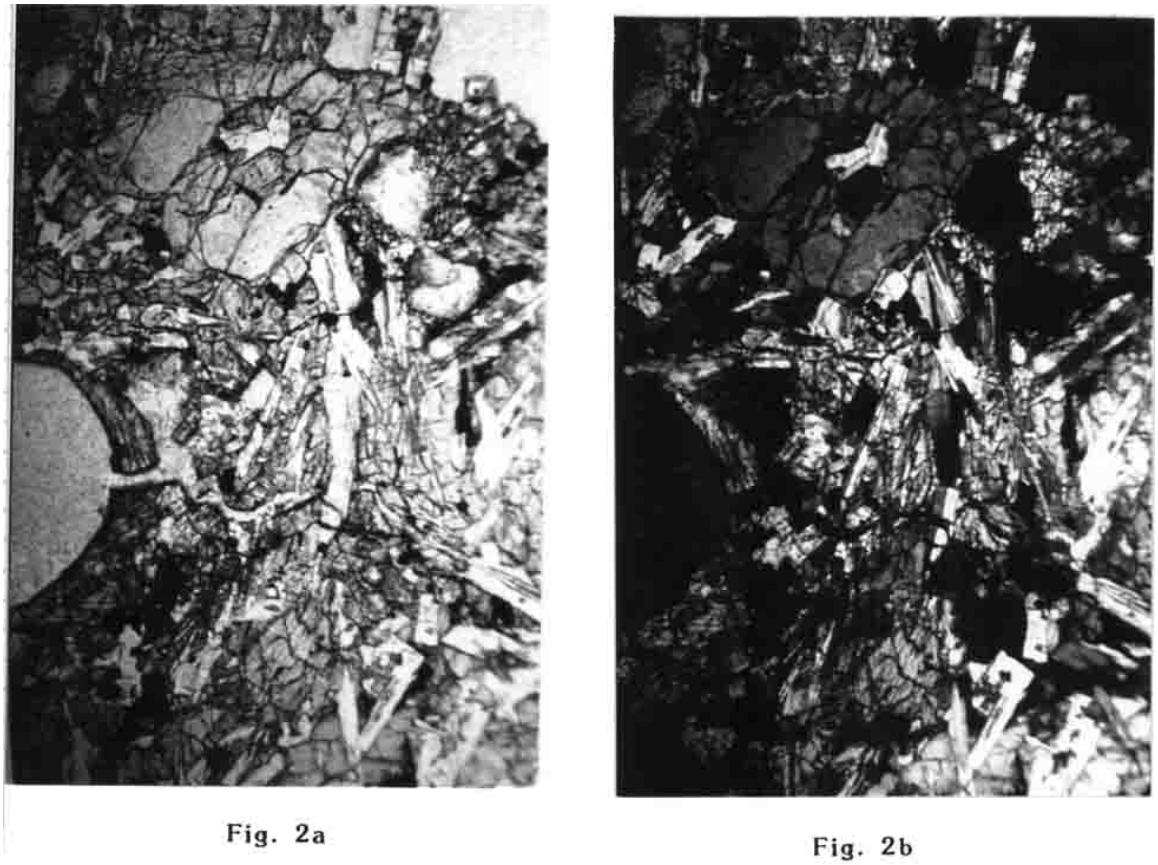

Fig. 2a

Fig. 2b

Figure 2. Photomicrographs of 15621,6.
Widths about 3 mm. a) transmitted light; b) crossed polarizers.