**Introduction**

Bunch et al. (2008) announced another large basaltic rock from Mars – NWA2800 – that appears to be similar to the Los Angeles specimens. It has a coarse ophitic texture with preferred orientation of intragrown elongate grains of plagioclase and pyroxene (figure 2). It is apparently “complete and lightly weathered with significant desert ablation”.

**Mineralogical Mode for NWA2800**

Bunch et al. 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mineral</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plagioclase</td>
<td>47 vol. %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyroxene</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symplectite</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residuum</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxides</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Petrography**

NWA2800 is very coarse-grained with ophitic to subophitic texture with oriented elongated crystals and patches of what was apparently pyroxferroite (now
converted to a symplectic intergrowth). Plagioclase (now shocked to maskelynite) and pyroxene crystals are up to 6-7 mm long. Pyroxene is chemically highly zoned (figure 3).

Interstitial patches of late-stage residuum are adjacent to patches of symplectite (presumed breakdown of pyroxferroite). The late-stage minerals include silica-plagioclase graphic intergrowths, fayalite and K-spar while the complex sympletite intrgrowths include fayalite, pyroxene, silica with minor phosphates, opaques, sulfides and silica glass (Bunch et al. 2008).

**Isotopes**

Rumble and Irving (2009) have reported oxygen isotopes (Delta $^{17}$O is 0.25‰).
**Figure 4:** False-color image of back-scattered-electrons from thin section of NWA2800 (Bunch et al. 2008). Bright-colored zoned minerals are pyroxene. White is ulvospinel. Speckled regions are decomposed pyroxferroite.

**References for NWA2800**


Figure 5: Symplectite intergrowth in NWA2800 (Bunch et al. 2008).