

NUMBERING OF APOLLO 15 SAMPLES

A five digit sample number was assigned each rock (generally coherent material greater than about 1 cm), the unsieved reserve and each sieve fraction of scooped <1 cm material, each drill stem and drive tube section and each sample of special characteristics. The explanation of the numbering system, below, is for all samples, but only rocks, or samples numbered as rocks, are included in this catalog.

The first two digits, 15, designate the mission number for all of the samples of this catalog. The last three digits were assigned with a dual purpose: to indicate sample type and to group samples by locality.

Without regard to sampling locations, the first 14 numbers (15001-15014) were assigned to drill stems, drive tubes, and special environment sample containers (SESC). 15900-15999 were housekeeping numbers used for sweepings, for material caught on filters from dusting operations, for small amounts of fines from sample containers with rocks only, and for any material not easily categorized. All of the other sample numbers were grouped by sampling locality (station) and the groups arranged in order of the traverses.

Materials from the three paired rake and soil samples were assigned the centuries: 15001-15199, 15300-15399, and 15600-15699. Within each the fines were numbered in the first one or two decades according to the fines convention explained below. The remaining numbers were given to rocks which are grouped by lithology.

A decade or more of sample numbers was used for the contents of each documented bag (DB). Fines (soil samples) were ascribed numbers according to the following system:

15XY0	Unsieved "reserve"
15XY1	<1 mm sieve fraction
15XY2	1-2 mm sieve fraction
15XY3	2-4 mm sieve fraction
15XY4	4-10 mm sieve fraction

The rocks were given numbers ranging from 15XYS-15XY9 for each number decade. Large rocks returned loose in the sample collection bags (SCB) were assigned unused rock numbers in the decades, as were some rocks returned in documented bags without fines.

Any material removed from a sample (splits, chips, aliquots, thin sections, etc.) is given a "specific" number, which is placed to the right of the sample number and separated from it by a comma (e.g., 15426,17).