

TWO CHONDRITES FROM NEW SOUTH WALES

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SUMMARY

The Rowena olivine bronzite chondrite (H6) was broken into many fragments when struck by a plough on "Franxton" property (lat. $29^{\circ}48'$, long. $148^{\circ}38'$), 27 km west of Rowena railway station. It was found in January 1962. The stone was weathered and the weight of fragments recovered was 34.42 kg. The mineral composition and structure are given.

The Willaroy bronzite chondrite (H3) was found lying on the ground on "Willaroy" property (lat. $30^{\circ}06'$, long. $143^{\circ}12'$) on 12 March 1970. It was in four pieces the total weight being 4.05 kg. It was weathered. Mineralogical compositions and a chemical analysis are given.

ROWENA INTRODUCTION

"Franxton" property is owned by Mr. Henry Morse. It is situated on the black soil flood plain of the Barwon River in northern New South Wales, about 500 km north-north-west of Sydney. The site of the discovery is on lat. $29^{\circ}48'$, long. $148^{\circ}38'$, 27 km west of Rowena railway station.

Some time in January 1962 Mr. C. M. Phelps of Glen Eden, Rowena, and his brother-in-law Mr. R. Colyvan of Narrabri were ploughing in a paddock on "Franxton". This stony meteorite was struck by the plough and 34.42 kg of fragments were recovered, the two largest weighing 14.8 and 9.2 kg respectively. The remainder of the fragments ranged down to quite small pieces.

Mr. Colyvan sent all the fragments to the Mining and Geological Museum in Sydney and they were later sent to the Australian Museum by Mr. H. F. Whitworth, then Curator of the Mining Museum. Mr. Ray Witchard, of the Preparation Section of The Australian Museum faithfully joined the fragments together. Views of this are shown in figures 1 and 2, with the original surface outlined in chalk. No original surface is present on the back of the reconstruction indicating a greater original unweathered mass. The original mass of the Rowena would therefore have been one of the largest of Australian stony meteorites, exceeded in weight in all probability, only by the Barratta stones Nos. 1 and 5, and Karoonda.