MACOVICH COLLECTION OF METEORITES

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November 20, 2000

Mr. Victor M. Pracas
RMB 662
Waroona
Western Australia, 6215
AUSTRALIA

Greetings Mr. Pracas:

This is to certify and confirm that the specimen you've sent to me for identification (a mineral sample which has been cut in a manner that resulted in a complete oval slice measuring 96 x 63 x 6.5mm and weighing 248 grams), is indeed a sample of an iron meteorite.

Specifically, it appears to be a coarse octahedrite with schreibersite.

Meteorites are extremely rare. The entire mass of all known meteorites is less than the world's annual output of gold, and what little material that is available has become one of the most in-demand collectibles today. Hundreds of scientists study meteorites for every new meteorite recovery is a potential Rosetta Stone that may help 'unearth' the origins of our solar system.

There are three broad categories of meteorites: *Stones, Irons,* and *Stony-irons*. The specimen you provided to me is an *Iron* meteorite. Only 7-8% of all meteorites are *Irons*. On average, such meteorites are composed of 90% iron, 8% nickel and 2% trace elements. The amount of nickel determines the sub-classification as well as the type of crystalline pattern of the nickel-iron alloys that will form. This crystalline latticework is referred to as a *Widmanstätten* or acid-etch pattern and is unique to meteorites—and only those that contain 6-14% nickel.

The referenced specimen originated in our Asteroid Belt, between Jupiter and Mars. More specifically, it is from what was the molten iron core of a large planetoid that broke apart between Mars and Jupiter, and whose fragments now comprise part of the Asteroid Belt.

Certified genuine on this day November 21, 2000

Sincerely,
Curator of the Macovich Collection of Meteorites

Darryl Pitt
DP:hk

EDWINA RUSSELL
NOTARY PUBLIC, State of New York
No. 01RU3404500
Qualified in Kings County
Commission Expires May 31, 2001

Notarized by: