ACOM/MIAC Collection

Two years ago, Steve Kissin asked me if I would be willing to receive a few boxes of loose material he had collected through his many years of service on the Associate Committee on Meteorites of the National Research Council of Canada (ACOM) and the Meteorites and Impacts Advisory Committee of the Canadian Space Agency (MIAC), and organize them so they could be accessioned somewhere for their preservation and accessibility to later investigators. Peter Brown added to this material by providing me with Ian Halliday's set of ACOM meeting minutes. I have finally gotten around to doing this task. This was easy and straightforward when the minutes of a particular meeting were stapled together, but difficult when forced to use various sleuthing tactics to join together scattered pages (or fragments of pages) of unidentified or undated material.

The heart of the collection is comprised of the minutes of the ACOM and MIAC annual meetings. I have made separate folders for ACOM meetings from its 13th meeting in 1970 (the first that I have material for) through its 35th and final meeting in 1991. I then made a folder for material related to the transition from ACOM to MIAC, followed by separate folders for MIAC meetings from its 1st in 1992 to its last in 2006. Included in the ACOM and MIAC folders is whatever material I could find that was associated with that particular year's business or activities.

Other folders I made are devoted to various ACOM or MIAC activities (e.g., fireball reports, the Meteorite Observation and Recovery Project (MORP), Prairie Searches), particular individuals (e.g., Ian Halliday, Steve Kissin), the Canadian Space Agency, Cultural Property, and individual meteorites (e.g., Penouille, Tagish Lake, St. Robert). The St. Robert file is particularly rich, with newspaper reports, field notes and reports, published papers, notes on the acquisition of some fragments, etc. In addition to these folders, there is also the MIAC Manual (an extremely valuable loose-leaf binder assembled by Damien Lemay in 2000), and various MIAC-related floppy disks and CDs.

The collection occupies somewhat less than 1.5 banker boxes, slightly less than 2.0 linear feet. Randall Rosenfeld, the RASC's Archivist, has agreed to accession it in the RASC Toronto office. He has said he will produce a Finding Aid for it, and will eventually digitize it. Anyone interested in using the collection should contact him (randall.rosenfeld@utoronto.ca) for further information.

Howard Plotkin