

Stolen New Mexico meteorite worth \$20K-\$40K found

January 10 2012

(AP) -- A meteorite that landed in Russia in the 1940s and was recently stolen from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque has been located.

KRQE-TV reports authorities found the rock after a man in Missouri bought it for \$1,700. It's worth between \$20,000 to \$40,000.

The Meteorite Museum at UNM flew an employee to retrieve the nearly 21-pound chunk of space - and lug it through security.

School police believe someone stole the meteorite from the display case and walked out the front door. Investigators have a suspect but no one has been arrested.

The meteorite was once part of the [asteroid belt](#) between Mars and [Jupiter](#) and crashed in [Siberia](#). It was a gift from a Soviet scientist.

The Meteorite Museum is closed for a security review.

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