

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
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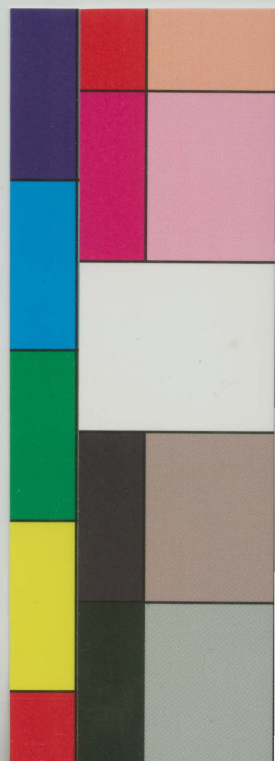
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PASADENA, Calif. -- The payload of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Surveyor C spacecraft will carry the Surface Sampler mechanism shown extended from the spaceframe. The device is a scoop about five inches long and two inches wide attached to an extendable arm hinged horizontally to pivot 112 degrees and to elevate or lower the scoop over a range of some 40 inches above to about 18 inches below a level lunar surface. Surface area available to the sampler totals about 24 square feet. The instrument will be used in conjunction with the survey TV camera. The scoop will be positioned in view of the camera, then activated to perform picking, digging, or trenching operations. Visual data combined with a determination of the force developed during the digging is expected to indicate strength, texture and cohesive characteristics of the lunar soil.

from BK. Planetary Exploration
by Carl Sagan
Cameron Lectures

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