

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS 77843

Department of  
CHEMISTRY

July 17, 1972

Mr. Oscar E. Monnig  
29 Chelsea Drive  
Fort Worth, Texas 76134

Dear Sir:

I wish to thank you for your kind letter of June 25 regarding samples of Bells and Crescent. I can appreciate your position.

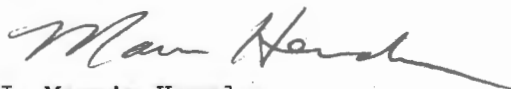
The scientific community at large has been quite generous in supplying samples of the carbonaceous chondrites. We have specimens now of two thirds of the entire thirty-six that are known.

Though I don't wish to sound persistent, I would like to mention a couple of points relating to my interest in Bells and Crescent (just in case you again have time and inclination). The National Bureau of Standards has placed at our disposal a new instrument for measuring remanent magnetism which is 1000 times more sensitive than the previously available ones. That means we can use samples on the order of 1/8 inch in diameter or less (in fact, we plan to measure individual chondrules).

Also, we are now able to ascertain the amount of  $Fe_3O_4$  in the matrix of carbonaceous chondrites. This has never been successfully done since the grains are so small that they do not diffract x-rays. (Usually the oxidized iron is reported chemically as  $FeO$ .)

Again let me thank you for considering my request and for your courtesy in explaining your position.

Sincerely,



J. Marvin Herndon

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