

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 29 Chelsea Drive

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1961, Oct. 11.

Mr. Walter White,
Science Dept.,
Bonham High School,
Bonham, Texas.

Dear Mr. White:

I was delighted to get your letter when I got home last night. -I was up there, too, last Sunday, with my nephew Bill Monnig who sometimes goes on meteorite working trips with me, and wish I could have got together with you.

I am anxious to see your specimen, but it certainly seems to answer the description of this meteorite. The outside crust should be lacy and in thin irregular lines. The meteorite should be susceptible to a magnet as it contains enough iron for an Alnico to detect. On a piece that has been in any rain, some of this iron should show up as tiny rusty spots upon examination with a low power magnifying lens, even just 4 to 6x. There is a white mineral in little specks showing on interior broken surfaces, and it is grayish perhaps in a slightly weathered piece. The piece we have looks almost exactly like an artificial charcoal briquette.

I urge you to preserve this carefully, and while it is good to let people look at it, don't let too many handle it. They will get it dirty or greasy gradually or perhaps drop it, and a carbonaceous chondrite of this type is quite fragile.

These meteorites are of an unusual type, much desired by scientists for experiments, and it behooves us not to waste any. I know you may not believe me, but the other material I saw at Bonham will not be accepted by any authority as being related to the fall. I never heard of a case of any meteorites being so far from the established path, and the material looks all wrong.

I have become convinced that the meteor perhaps went a little west of Bells and hence I spent a good deal of time Saturday and Sunday canvassing in that region and to the north. I had already worked a number of houses in the region of the first find. We have also worked far to the north following a piece several observers insist went on, but I am having no further luck. We have been at over 125 houses!

I cannot come up there Saturday on account of business here, as we have our salesman in, but hope to be up Sunday. I may phone you.