

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 29 Chelsea Drive

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1961, Sept. 20

Dr. E. P. Henderson,
U. S. National Museum,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Dr. Henderson:

The fireball of Sep. 9, 10.08 p.m., was the best and nearest one to occur for me in a long time. I missed all of it, being indoors reading with a strong light and my back to windows; an informant called within a minute, but while I was outdoors looking for any possible dust cloud or waiting for detonations, the phone began to ring off the wall, so in I went to start talking to various persons reporting the sight in order not to be/courteous, and thus I missed the shock wave also!

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I have no doubts this is a fall, and Morse, Brown and I in some combination or other have spent three days (both week ends) vigorously working the matter. The rains from hurricane Carla intervened so the meteorites got wet.

The Dallas moon-watch team made a good observation and telephoned Smithsonian Astrophysical so I suppose your call came from that source. (I urged them to call me next time, not you!)

We think we have the sub-final point located a little east and north of Sherman, Texas, perhaps as far east as the Grayson County line or the Red River, but probably not that far. We have interviewed some 25 houses in the suspected region, but are still gathering on the spot observations for further refinements of the path and end point, and are encountering all the usual conflicts and inconsistencies (you remember Haskell).

We hope to continue working it until something is found. The country involved is not ideal but is not bad; there is a mixture of rough and wooded land with some cultivated and some dairying areas, with a moderate number of people.

The true path was about S to N (bearing a little to the west of north, I think) over a region east of Dallas, and the shock wave was heard there and in Fort Worth strongly. There are many "pops" in addition to the usual roar and rumbles in the region we are working--many stones, I am sure. But whether we can find any, wh