

1966, Oct. 21.

Dr. E. P. Henderson,
U. S. National Museum,
Washington, D. C. 20560

Dear Ed:

I must ask you to retract any action you have taken to accession the little piece of Tishomingo iron as a gift, as stated in your letter of Oct. 20. You are under a misapprehension as I never intended to give it to the Smithsonian and never so indicated.

I let you take it with you in Oct. of 1965 to verify it as a meteorite, since you seemed to have some doubts (you will recall I did not, nor did I ask for verification). You wrote on Oct. 28 "The Tishomingo, Oklahoma, iron you let me carry away weighs 360 grams....."

On Nov. 29 I wrote "No hurry about returning the little piece or what is left of it." You had said you were going to cut off a very thin slice. This was in response to your letter of Nov. 18 saying "The little specimen you trusted me to bring with me home has been examined...."....."The part I expect to return is ready but I am holding it for a little while to see how stable it will be."

I feel I have been amply co-operative in letting you reduce the weight of the specimen to 313.1 grams and handle it as you please, but now I must respectfully ask you to have it ready to return to me when I come to the meeting in early November.

I have not been able to acquire the big masses but when I announce the find I shall ask everybody there to respect my prior rights, and the owner has promised me first refusal. I had really intended for you to keep the two prints if you cared for them, and had so stated in the letter in which they were sent.

Yours sincerely,