

Tishomingo, Oklahoma Meteorites

On a trip March 8, we learned that Glen Orr, 14 year old son of R. C. Orr on Route 2, Tishomingo, Johnston County, had been bird hunting on the last day of the season, January 14, 1965, when he stumbled on the projecting point of the larger meteorite. His full name is Harris Glen Orr.

The find was on a neighbor's land, Section 3, Township 3 and Range 6, owned by Mr. John Whiteley. Leaving the Orr place the mileage was 30.1; at 30.55 the road crossed a running stream; at 30.85 we were by the spot where the meteorites were dug up some 60 feet north of the fence. At 31.35 another creek; at 31.65 the highway; at 32.45 the center of Tishomingo.

The point of find is therefore 5.8 miles north of town and 0.8 miles east of the highway (which makes it 0.3 miles west of the running stream). This is about 0.75 from the Orr house.

The Capital Democrat paper of Tishomingo printed an article March 4, 1965.

Whiteley has a pitted rock at his house he wants inspected.

When Glen stumbled on the meteorite he seems to have gone on at first, but went back because of a rabbit and decided to inspect the piece on which he nearly tripped. There was a second area projecting from the soil a short distance (a few inches) away and he scooped out the dirt in between, revealing the large shallow pitted area which reminded him of a dinosaur track. He dug around it further and reported it to his father, who did not see it for several days, during which time Glen apparently kept on with occasional digging.

To get under one side of the main mass and gain leverage so as to take it out, he used the shovel and struck the second piece, which was just to the southwest of the main piece and apparently under it in part. They seem to have been separate when dug out. The father used a crowbar and probed the ground around the hole further to check for further pieces, but none was found.

They were dragged to the fence line and the REA men used their winch and truck to loan them and haul them to the Orr yard, but took the smaller one to the college at Ada. Orr Sr. weighed the larger one on his cotton scales and got 365 pounds; subtracting an allowance of 5 pounds for the trace chain used to hold the piece he figures it weighed 360 pounds. The other one was weighed at Ada at 214 pounds reportedly.