

1957, Feb. 11.

Mrs. Carl G. Hinrichs,
3101 Hawthorne Blvd.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mrs. Hinrichs:

Within a few days after my return, I submitted the meteorite specimen to Dr. E. S. Henderson, Associate Curator, Division of Mineralogy and Petrology of the Smithsonian Institution, United States National Museum, Washington, D. C.

He has examined it carefully and tested the crust, but has gone as far as he can go without cutting the stone. He would like to section it by cutting it with a rock saw, and then polish the surface revealed on the main mass. I am going to ask your permission for this to be done. He did not ask for it, but I am going further and asking if they could be allowed to keep one of the pieces, say about half of the specimen. This would be recorded as a donation from you, and would assure the stone being on record and represented by a sample in the U. S. National Museum. I do not ask this for myself, but for them.

Please let me know what you are willing to do, as Mr. Henderson has strict instructions from me not to work on the stone unless I get your consent.

He has concluded that the white crust is definitely of earthly origin--essentially a limestone deposit from ground water. I sincerely believe this stone had been in the ground a long time before it was found, and that the witnessed fireball in 1892 was merely a coincidence. But the stone is still important and worthy of being studied, classified and recorded properly, and that is what we are after.

Thanks, again, Mrs. Hinrichs for your gracious reception of me and for trusting us with this piece. I am still delighted that you found the other specimens and now have the collection essentially complete.

Yours sincerely,