

1967, May 22.

Dr. Edward Anders,
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Dear Dr. Anders:

I am happy that we both have the foreword to the Ninninger edition out of the way. I think you were confident it would not require editing because you knew it would not be very scientific! Thanks for making the corrections. The point I really had in mind thruout was that Ninninger was generally thought of and indeed openly accused of commercializing meteoritics, and in truth, he did, because it was the only way he could work on it. Having been reared in the commercial world, I found this entirely acceptable. To some of the educational fraternity it was not so palatable.

In a recent letter you mentioned Kirbyville and the desirability of getting a 100 mg. sample. I suppose it is a eucrite, but do not pretend to classify it from any knowledge I have. It is an achondrite and only Ninninger and Mason of the professionals have seen it, so far as I recall--maybe Carleton Moore did once, too. While Mason calls it a pyroxene plagioclase achondrite in his locality listings (p/ 243 of his book) he does not list it in Table 23, pp.105-6.

We have the entire stone and it is so beautiful except for one broken corner that I've never taken a bit off it. The fall was investigated by me on a two day trip some 30 years after it occurred and the date was fixed from the memory of the witnesses in one family; the year could be wrong by one or two and the day might be off (maybe even one whole month). The time was fixed by the fact that it fell near a man operating a "sugar furnace", as I now recall. It was a detonating fireball but the region is densely wooded and there was no chance of finding other pieces. I never found even a newspaper report, nor did I try, telling of the fireball.

If you are ever thru here or I come back to Chicago we might be able to scrape off the required quantity, but I think we would have to supervise the operation jointly--you to be sure of what you get, and I to be sure the main mass is not harmed. If you used a new, clean grinding wheel could you get what you want?