

C. C. PINCKNEY

and Associates

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BIRMINGHAM 1, ALABAMA

March 1, 1955

STRUCTURAL DESIGN
MECHANICAL LAYOUTS

Mr. O. E. Monnig
Monnig Dry Goods Company
P. O. Box 2200
Fort Worth 1, Texas

Dear Mr. Monnig:

Thanks for your letter of February 23, and I will write to Mrs. Chitwood to prod her on endeavoring to get the name of the party who actually found the meteorite. It is bound to be in the school records somewhere, but of course, they have to trust to memory to pick out the right name.

Mrs. Chitwood said she did not think the girl whose toe was actually broken would ever forget the name, but this "girl" is a grown woman now.

Press announcements say that the small piece of the Sylacauga meteorite sold for "several hundred dollars". I have been down to Sylacauga and gossip sets this figure at \$150. The large piece is locked up in a bank vault, pending court action. Mrs. Hodges has become very bitter and says she doesn't want to hear or see a meteorite again. The shyster lawyers have really muddied the waters.

My other two leads are washed out. The owner of one of the pieces sent it direct to the Smithsonian Institute and last week received the following report from them:

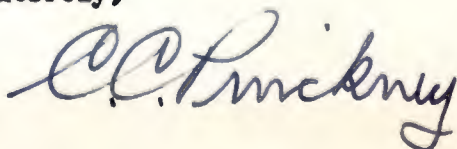
"While it has the outward appearance of a meteorite, we find upon slicing and testing, that it is probably Hematite".

However, I do not feel badly about thinking it to be a meteorite since the Smithsonian required slicing and testing for proof.

The Pacific Museum, Shell Beach, California is advertising a 1 x 4 x X7 meteorite for \$25.

When I can get anything further from Mrs. Chitwood, I will immediately pass it along to you.

Sincerely,



CCP/mr