



**Smithsonian Institution**

*Smithsonian Institution Archives*

## **National Museum of Natural History, Division of Meteorites Correspondence - Australia**

Extracted on Apr-18-2024 11:37:21

**The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.**

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website ([transcription.si.edu](https://transcription.si.edu)), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Smithsonian Institution Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Smithsonian Institution Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Smithsonian Institution Archives or [transcribe@si.edu](mailto:transcribe@si.edu)

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Smithsonian Institution Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

[[top left]][[underlined]]AIRMAIL[[/underlined]]

Dr. C. Gray,  
Geology Dept.,  
La Trobe University,  
Bundoora, Australia 3083.  
Dear Chris,

I reply to your letter of April 14, let me give you a little background on the Pena Blanca Spring meteorite. It fell in a waterhole (used locally as a swimming pool) on a ranch in west Texas in 1946. The ranch owner has never been willing to part with it, and the main masses are I believe stored in a closet in his home in San Antonio. Our 400-gram piece seems to be the largest fragment in a museum. ~~[[strikeout]]~~To provide you with a 10-gram interior piece would involve breaking up the entire specimen, and this we are most reluctant to do. Why must you use Pena Blanca Spring in your projected research? If all you need is a second enstatite achondrite, Norton County would be a natural. I think we could supply you with a 10-gram internal fragment from this meteorite;  
Sincerely yours,

AIRMAIL

Dr. C. Gray,  
Geology Dept.,  
La Trobe University,  
Bundoora, Australia 3083.  
Dear Chris,

I reply to your letter of April 14, let me give you a little background on the Pena Blanca Spring meteorite. It fell in a waterhole (used locally as a swimming pool) on a ranch in west Texas in 1946. The ranch owner has never been willing to part with it and the main masses are I believe stored in a closet in his home in San Antonio. Our 400-gram piece seems to be the largest fragment in a museum. ~~[[strikeout]]~~To provide you with a 10-gram interior piece would involve breaking up the entire specimen, and this we are most reluctant to do.

Why must you use Pena Blanca Spring in your projected research? If all you need is a second enstatite achondrite, Norton County would be a natural. I think we could supply you with a 10-gram internal fragment from this meteorite;

Sincerely yours,

National Museum of Natural History, Division of Meteorites Correspondence  
- Australia  
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers  
Extracted Apr-18-2024 11:37:21



## Smithsonian Institution

*Smithsonian Institution Archives*

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: [www.si.edu](http://www.si.edu)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)