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Colorado National Monument

Colorado National Parks

Letter: Colorado National Museum

R. E. Ohler

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McPherson College

W. W. PETERS, PRES.

McPherson, Kansas

PLACEMENT BUREAU R. E. MOHLER, DIRECTOR

February 1, 1943

Colorado National Museum Grand Junction, Colorado

Dear Sirs:

McPherson College has a very splendid museum. It covers a variety of interests. Our mineral and rock collection comes from many parts of the United States.

I am wondering if you would be so kind as to send us some typical specimens from your region. There might also be some plant, animal, or fossil specimens which you could include.

We will be happy to place these on display and show them as contributions from the park establishment.

Thanking you for your consideration in this matter, I am

Sincerely, N.E. Mohler

R. E. Mohler, Curator of Museum

REM:rjs

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COLORADO NATIONAL MONUMENT GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

February 5, 1943

MEMORANDUM for the Coordinating Superintendent, Child Clark Mesa Verde National Park,

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The Reference is made to the enclosed letter from McPherson College.

State Please advise what action, if any, can be taken on this by this office.

ED ECE Acting Custodian,

FEB 8 - 1943

MESA VERUL MAPL PARK

February 9, 1943.

MEMORANDUM for the Acting Custodian, Colorado National Monument.

Reference is made to your memorandum of February 5, forwarding request for rock specimen, etc., from Colorado National Monument for McPherson College at McPherson, Kansas.

The most interesting specimen that could be sent from the monument would probably be one of the so-called dinosaur gastroliths from the Morrison formation on a ridge west of headquarters. The fossil remains of dinosaur bones found in the red Chinlee shale exposures higher up on the ridge are so fragmentary and deteriorated as to have only slight resemblance to bone structures. A considerable number of persons believe that the so-called gastroliths are only sand- and wind-polished river pebbles--not gizzard stones of dinosaurs. I am quite certain that handsized samples of the have, and sandstones, would have no value to the museum.

If you think that a gastrolith, and perhaps a fossil dinosaur bone, would be appropriate, these could be collected at your convenience and sent at the expense of McPherson College (with copy of your transmittal letter to this office).

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Jesse L. Nusbaum, Acting Coordinating Superintendent.

JLN/bes