

310 Clay Street
Los Angeles 13, California
May 22, 1957

Dr. G. E. Untermann, Director
Utah Field House of Natural History
Vernal State Park
Vernal, Utah

Dear Dr. Untermann:

It appears now that certain difficulties have developed in the matter of the casting of the molds of *Diplodocus* here at the Los Angeles County Museum. In a recent discussion with Dr. Theodore Downs, Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology, with whom I had arrived at a tentative agreement to participate in the project, lack of room in the Museum, lack of time and money for technological supervision, labor and material, and perhaps lack of interest also, have combined to throw considerable cold water on the plan.

This is extremely disappointing to me and places me in an embarrassing position as regards my Japanese colleagues with whom I have discussed the project as an almost accomplished fact. As it is a matter very close to my heart, I am now prepared to try other means of approach.

As I understand it, the molds are (or were) to be delivered to the Los Angeles County Museum sometime within the next two weeks. I even agreed to pay half the cost of transportation which seems to me generous in view of the fact that the molds are (or were) to be transported here anyway.

I also agreed to pay half the cost of casting the molds, including labor and material. As far as labor and material are concerned, I see no difficulty whatever. I feel I am quite competent, under technical supervision, to do my part of that job in a highly satisfactory manner. It is then only a question of having someone, skilled in the casting of large specimens, to stand by occasionally to see that all is progressing well. This requirement of a technician, in a city the size of Los Angeles, should not present the difficulties Dr. Downs seems to anticipate as far as obtaining one is concerned.

Now should the project as previously conceived fall through, I should like to advance three substitute plans for your consideration.

My understanding is that the molds of *Diplodocus* in your possession are the property of the Utah Field House of Natural History,

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Page 2

May 22, 1957

presented as a gift from the Carnegie Museum. This being so, (Plan #1) would it be possible to have castings made of the molds at the Field House itself, under your supervision, and after completion, freighted to Los Angeles, from which point I will arrange shipment to Japan. All expenses incurred in the work, including freight, are to be paid by me.

(Plan #2) Would it be possible to transport the molds, on loan, from Utah, or from Los Angeles, (if they arrive here), to Japan for one year, to be cast by Japanese technicians, and after the work is completed, to be returned to the Utah Field House at no expense whatever to the Museum?

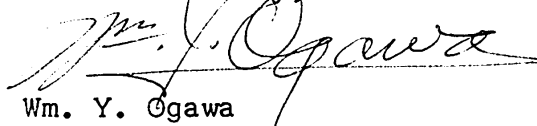
Dr. Downs informs me that some museum in the State of Louisiana is next scheduled for the molds, directly after the Los Angeles County Museum has finished with them.

This being so, (Plan #3) would it be possible to have the molds shipped from New Orleans to Japan and back to Utah on the same terms as outlined in Plan #1. This, of course, involves considerably more time and expense, which I should prefer to avoid if possible.

I should expect to furnish proof of my financial and personal integrity in scrupulously adhering to the terms of any contractual agreement which may be arrived at.

You will realize from the tone of this letter what this whole project means to me and I am quite sure as a fellow paleontologist you share my keen disappointment in its present unsettled situation. I hope something may eventuate to realize what has long been my most cherished dream.

Yours sincerely,



Wm. Y. Ogawa