

EARTH SCIENCE MUSEUM  
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY  
1683 N. CANYON ROAD  
PO BOX 23300  
PROVO, UTAH 84602-3300  
(801) 378-3680



Mr. Peter Ambrose  
USDA Forest Service  
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre &  
Gunnison Nat'l Forests  
2250 Highway 50  
Delta, CO 81416

Feb. 21, 2003

Dear Peter,

Since our telephone conversation earlier this month in which you told me that you and your supervisor have concerns about a loan of specimens by the BYU Earth Science Museum to the North American Museum of Ancient Life (NAMAL), I have clarified some of the questions that you brought up. I spoke with Cliff Miles, a partner in Western Paleo Lab, Inc., about the current administration of the Museum (NAMAL). He told me that it is being administered through a lease arrangement by a non-profit foundation, the Thanksgiving Point Foundation, whose president is a man named Ralph Rasmussen. Direct administration is provided by the Thanksgiving Point Development president, Tom Pugh. Western Paleontological Lab, Inc. (WPL) was one of the original partners in the development of NAMAL and had the contract to do the exhibits but their investment in the Museum was bought out by the Foundation and they no longer have any influence in the exhibitry or day-to-day administration of the Museum. The specimens from the Dry Mesa Quarry are being well exhibited and adequately cared for. It seems a better choice to have these significant specimens on exhibit in a nice facility rather than in the collections of the University (BYU), as long as they are well protected and are not needed in the collections for research purposes. You will note that there is an agreement that the specimens be accessible to qualified researchers even if that research purpose requires removal of the specimens from exhibit temporarily.

Please also understand that because of the high profile of the primary financial backer of the Thanksgiving Point development, Mr. Alan Ashton, and the respect that he has earned in this area, the decision to loan specimens from the BYU collection was not solely an individual decision by me but involved some of the administrative members of the University. I was willing to make the loan and I am still satisfied that it is a secure loan for exhibit by one museum to another. In fact, I was the initial person contacted about the possibility of loaning specimens to NAMAL and I agreed to it when first contacted. I have enclosed copies of some of the correspondence between principals at NAMAL and administrative members of Brigham Young University to illustrate the point I am making that the loan of specimens to NAMAL has a broader base of support than simply a decision by me as the Curator of Collections to make the loan.

I am also enclosing copies of the loan paperwork. As you will note, the loan is due for review in 2004 on July 1<sup>st</sup>. It was written as a 3 year loan period and may I suggest that when this review is made, there would be a natural opportunity to request a return of the specimens. Obviously, if this is not acceptable to you I can also recall the specimens at an earlier date, but it will create an awkward situation and I will need to work with the administration of the University to get their approval before such a move is made. I hope that this is clear to you from my earlier statements and the included copies of letters.

I will be happy to have you and Mr. Wong visit the Earth Science Museum at BYU and the vertebrate collections that the University holds. I would also recommend that you both visit the North American Museum of Ancient Life at Thanksgiving Point before you make a final decision on this matter.

I am planning to spend some time at the Dry Mesa site this summer and I hope to collect some of the specimens under the south east end of the protective fence. In particular, the nice sauropod cervical vertebra that was partially visible in 2001. I will correspond further with you as plans become more specific but it will probably be during the months of July or August.

I hope this information allays some of your concerns expressed to me in the telephone conversation that we had. If you need further information or clarification please let me know. I will await some form of communication from you concerning this matter.

Sincerely,



Kenneth L. Stadtman

Curator

cc: Dana Griffen, Assoc. Dean, Coll. Phys/Math Sci.

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY  
PALEONTOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS

Invoice of Specimens

Original to be retained at Brigham Young University

Date 5/22/01 ☒

Loan of specimens is conditional upon return of all specimens, and a copy of all published data relative to the borrowed material.

TO: William W. Bridges, Executive Director Purpose: Loan for study  
North American Museum of Ancient Life Exchange \_\_\_\_\_  
2929 North Thanksgiving Way Gift \_\_\_\_\_  
Lehi, UT 84043 Return of your loan \_\_\_\_\_  
Other X exhibit

Shipped by: \_\_\_\_\_ parcel post; \_\_\_\_\_ rail; \_\_\_\_\_ motor freight; \_\_\_\_\_ hand carried;  
X other (specimens packed and transported by borrower on 5/11/01.)

Number of packages: 5

Material to be returned by: July 1, 2004

Approval: Kenneth J. Hultman (curator) R. J. Smith (Dean's Office)

Acknowledge receipt July 4 date May 29, 2001

Condition of shipment \_\_\_\_\_

Number of specimens	Identification	Condition of specimens
BYUVP 725/12962	<i>Supersaurus vivianae</i> ; scapulocoracoid (type)	excellent
" 725/13018	? <i>Supersaurus</i> <i>vivianae</i> ; pelvic complex	badly distorted, lacks left ilium
" 725/9044	<i>Supersaurus</i> ( <i>Ultrasauros</i> ) <i>vivianae</i> ; post. dorsal vert	distorted, lacks right trans. proc.
" 725/9462	<i>Brachiosaurus</i> ( <i>Ultrasauros</i> ) sp.; scapulocoracoid	good, soft bone
" 725/12867	<i>Brachiosaurus</i> sp.; post. cervical vertebra	excellent

## BYU Earth Science Museum Loan Conditions

1. Loans will be made for a period of one year or less. If extensions to the initial period are granted, they must be reviewed by the appropriate curator/department head and written documentation of the extension provided.
2. The borrower agrees to assume financial responsibility for all materials on loan from the BYU Earth Science Museum if lost or damaged.
3. All loan material will have insurance coverage in accordance with accepted Museum and/or departmental policy. Unless otherwise noted, all costs of wall-to-wall insurance, packing and transportation shall be borne by the borrower, as well as any additional charges, which may be incurred through necessary conservation or appraisal. A certificate of insurance, if required, will be furnished to the BYU Earth Science Museum.
4. Objects will be returned via the same method of shipment as they were sent unless other arrangements are agreed to in writing.
5. Damages, whether in transit or on the borrower's premises and regardless of cause, shall be immediately reported to the borrower's insurer and the BYU Earth Science Museum.
6. Items placed on public exhibit must be in locked or otherwise secure cases, or when large objects are involved, displayed so as to provide maximum security. Objects not on display must be stored in a secure area.
7. Loan items may not be cleaned, repaired, retouched or altered in any way except with the written permission of the BYU Earth Science Museum. The Museum's identifying marks on the items will not be removed.
8. Items covered by the agreement may be photographed only for record and publicity purposes, and/or for reproduction in an exhibition catalog or research publication, unless different restrictions are attached in writing. A copy of this publication will be provided to the BYU Earth Science Museum without cost and full credit will be given, as indicated on the front of this agreement. Notice of copyright in the BYU Earth Science Museum will be prominent on any such publication if copyrighted works are included. The borrower assumes full legal responsibility for any infringement of literary, copyright or publication rights.
9. The borrower will not reproduce the loaned items in any media (including photographs) for purposes of sale, and the items will not be subjected to technical examination of any type involving risk of their physical change without written permission of the BYU Earth Science Museum.
10. No object, exhibit or reproduction of an object or exhibit will be used in the promotion of a product or service for any purpose which implies the endorsement of the said service or product by the BYU Earth Science Museum. Any request for use of an object or exhibit for promotional purposes will be reviewed and approved in writing by the BYU Earth Science Museum Director.
11. The BYU Earth Science Museum reserves the right to set any additional conditions or restrictions related to the packing, shipping, insurance, exhibition installation, environmental controls and security of the loan items which it deems necessary. The Museum may also require, at the expense of the borrower, loan items be accompanied by a member of its staff who will supervise the care and handling, both outgoing and incoming. All conditions and restrictions shall be made in writing and attached to this agreement prior to approval of the loan.

The undersigned is an authorized agent of the borrower. Signature acknowledges acceptance of the conditions listed above. Receipt acknowledged by:

Signature [Signature] Title Executive Director Date MAY 29, 2001

ESM Curator/Director [Signature] Date 5/22/01

Dean, College Phys/Math Sci [Signature] Date 5/22/01