

Dear Ruthie

I am indeed surprised at your new address, and we hope your new program is as you desire it.

I know you must be excited to collaborate with Dr. Healey. He is a washing library of vast knowledge. It should be gratifying to be able to spend some time with such a respected person.

Ruthie Jim is a chemist and I do know that acid in combination with the mineral flourstone will produce Hydrofluoric acid which will etch glass and siliceous materials. The ~~acid~~ flourstone would have to be present in the soil or the Hydrofluoric acid precipitated over the artifacts in some manner. The only western deposit that I know of is near Topog Mountain in Utah. This type of etching ~~is~~ would be unusual.

Strong alkalis will affect silica but very slowly.

If calcium carbonate is present in combination with the silica when it was formed, it will dissolve slowly if it is in contact with carbon dioxide or carbonic acid. None of the three situations are likely to occur

Ca-26-4-18

MATERIALS

~~Typical stone~~

There just may be a remote possibility.

The Clovis & Folsom material ^{that I have seen} shows
no sign of this type of erosion so from
all outward indication these artefacts could be
of great age.

Lemona Goss Davis spent a few days with
us here and I tried to help her with precession
work. I did give her direction to the Temple
Bar site just East of Boulder Dam and showed
her some specimens and told her to contact you
so you may both visit the site. There may
be a chance of finding an occupational site
with some stratigraphy at the Base of the mountain
that forms the terraces. The artefacts at
Temple Bar and at Gerns are quite similar
in character and shape. ~~They~~ The
Broken ones appear to be whole tools and
not pre forms or blanks, they are unique
in themselves.