

1:30 pm

29 Aug

Dear Don & Evelyn,

Once again we arrive while you are away. I guess we should have phoned from Boise last night. We are on our way to the AMQVA conference in Bozeman so must be in Pocatello tonight.

After our trip we were eager to discuss with you several problems. I <sup>(Alan)</sup> am going to prepare a paper summarizing the early man problem particularly in Latin America. Although we saw Lorenzo's andesite industry from Tlapacoyá we did not have time to really study it while I suspect you did. I would like to have a simple description of the industry in a few phrases or sentences as well as your general evaluation of the industry and whether you have seen anything like it elsewhere. In addition I am curious what other people thought of it. I suspect that most just shrugged their shoulders, but I think the Tlapacoyá industry fits the total picture quite well.

The other problem you may know something about is the Chugui Complex from Chile. We were very disappointed with all of Lanning's Complexes - especially the Chivatona site - but the Chugui Complex is most puzzling. I remember what you said about long curving flakes that bend around the edge of a nodule or core having to be made in a vise or at least held between the knees. It was then pointed out to us that one Bruce Grove, concluded that "all" of the Chugui artifacts came from an old Colonial

road where they would be subject to wagon wheels, and horse, and llama feet pressing against the easily flakeable tuff nodules imbedded in the desert pavement. Perhaps you know all about the whole argument but what I would like to know is what your opinion was of the collection you saw.

We also visited John Fell and saw <sup>the</sup> Fell's Cave section which is quite fabulous as it is as littered with flakes, bones & artifacts as are the Dordogne cave deposits. Obviously people occupied the cave as a home and not just as itinerant campers. Unfortunately it snowed the night after we saw Fell's Cave so <sup>we</sup> were unable to visit Palli Aike, which reportedly was in a more favorable position. Fell's Cave is situated not far above the floor of a glacial outwash channel and could not be really early but Palli Aike is indeed high. Also high - and huge - and easy of access is Mylodon Cave. It's as big as a football stadium and light clear to the rear. Most exposed deposits are disturbed but there is a recent band of rockfall which covers a large part of the surface. It would be difficult to remove it but the potential is great. Like all ~~the~~ really early sites the problems of excavation are going to be great - but I feel, ultimately rewarding. I'm still trying to get Ruth to apply for NSF money to dig the lower deposits of Wilson Butte. But she is convinced that she couldn't get NSF money.

Sorry we missed you and hope to hear from you soon

Best  
Alan & Ruth Bryan