

4239 Bellevue Avenue
Tucson, Arizona 85712

October 23, 1975

Dear Don and Evelyn:

It's been so long since I've written you that I simply can't remember thanking you for the beautiful obsidian you sent us last February. I'm still, now and then, trying to figure out the proper mounting for the pieces. Maybe I'll use one for Jane's bracelet, when she gets her Ph.D. And I'm sure I did, but maybe I didn't, thank you for arranging for the papers to be sent to Manuel Robles. That was kind of everyone concerned, and much appreciated. I hear by the grapevine that you had an operation, performed with your own inimitable glass knives? And that you have survived very well, and are doing fine. Helen and I trust the grapevine is accurate, and that you and you are both fine.

You mentioned a shell midden below San Felipe, as being partially mineralized. You are surely correct. I will state publicly that the grey, eroded, shell tools from Pinacate are more than 20,000 years old, and there is an extinct estuary, floor now 25' or more above sea level, whose banks are covered with grey food shell, eroded. Richard White has dates from such shell along the Gulf north of Tiburon of more than 26,000 years B.P. We're making progress, Don! And the proof of that is that Amer. Antiquity's editor, Frank Hole, told me last week he would be running my paper on Pre-Altithermal Archeo of the Pinacate. When, I don't know, but it's coming out, he says. There I present charts etc with the figures 30,000 and 40,000 - and being taken seriously. I will send you a reprint, of course, if and when.

Jane is busy working at the Park Service, where she is lab chiefess, and has her prelim paper nearly done. From what she says about it, it ought to be a landmark paper. Then- the thesis, on Pinacate and desert lithics, which we need so badly, and which she, thanks to you, can do so well. I have another associate, young Mike Waters, 20 yrs old, who, an undergraduate, is doing an honors paper on Yuman ceramics from the Pinacate. That will be a real contribution, too. And somehow the Dept broke down and made me his thesis advisor - first time a non-academic has been allowed do do that. Mike is a good man. He is staking

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out the Cabeza Prieta area as I did the Pinacate, and devoting what free weekends he has to surveying and collecting there. That, of course, ties right in with Pinacate, being an extension northward of it. Might a few are willing, or can, or both, to do that kind of field work these days.

Jane and I had a good trip ^{courtesy of INAH} to Tihuron end of May. Saw a PaleoIndian site eroding out of stabilized dunes, which were capped with Seri and Amargosan material (reverse Seri and Am). And the oxidation on the Paleo tools, in pink rhyolite, was intermediate between Malpais and late San Dieguito, equivalent to SD I material from the quarries near by. Good check on time relationship, and one which leaves Vance Haynes shaking his head. But he's coming around, too. Has asked to go to Pinacate with me!

Well, Helen and I hope you both will be in Tucson one of these days, before too long - better get out of that snow and ice! And that we'll see you again.

Meanwhile, good health and good luck,

