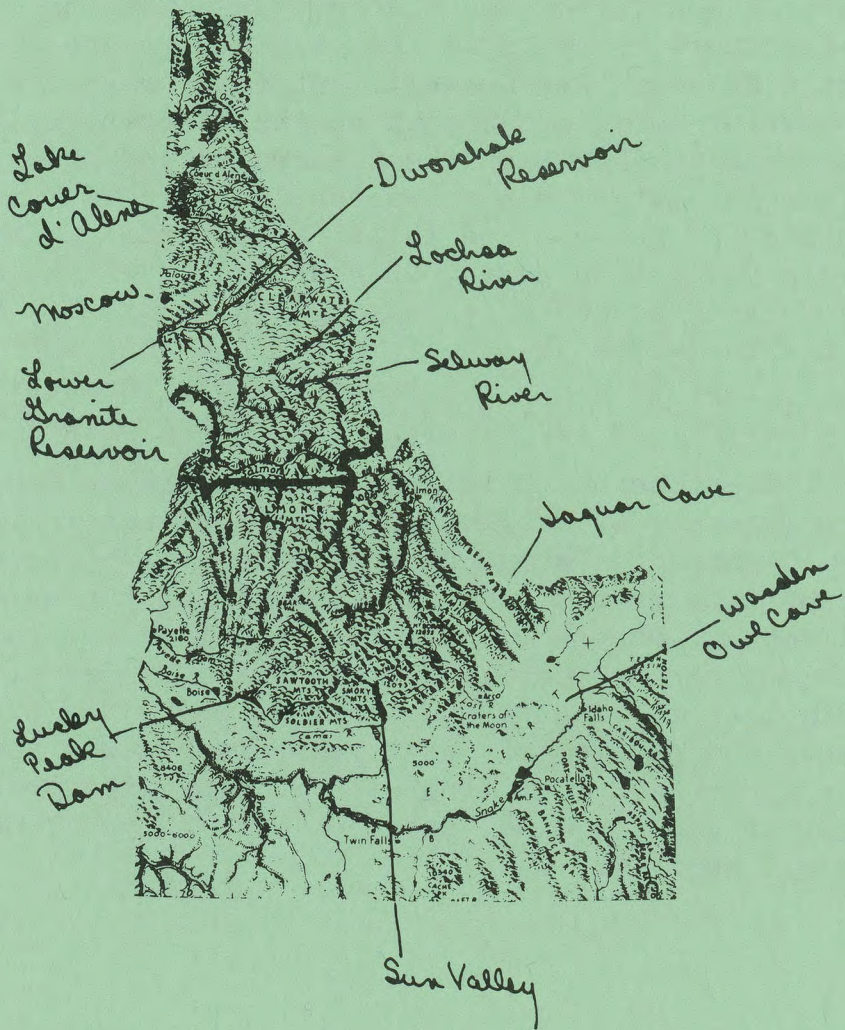
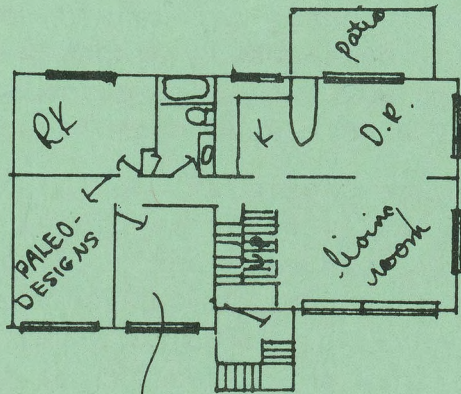
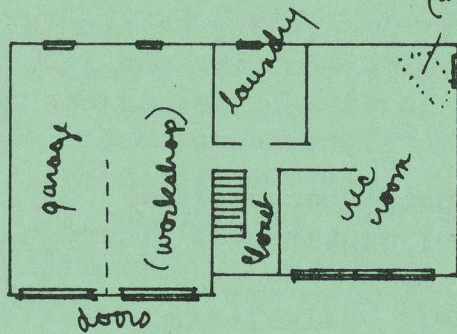


NORTHERN IDAHO





guest room



(future fireplace)

It's the end of another year, and from my snug new home here in Idaho's Palouse Hills I send you....

Merry Christmas,
Don

- hope '78 is better

Love,
Duthann

**SEASON'S
GREETINGS!**



P.O. Box 8938
Moscow, ID 83843
31 December 1977

Hi again after a two year's absence! I hope you and yours are feeling well and prosperous within your current life space--I sure am. Did you have a busy 1977? Please drop me a line and let me know. I'm feeling almost overflowing with good things these days with a fine new house, a full-time job I love, a small business that's growing, warm friends, and some good feminist support coming from within Idaho and from the Houston IWY meeting; that despite being in debt, overworked, and overcommitted. But aren't most of us?

My house--come visit! I received a full-time tenure-track appointment (Resource Management Archaeologist/Ass't Research Prof) in the Lab of Anthropology here at the University of Idaho as of July 77 and with my folks' help made the big jump and contracted for a new house. The house was finished in August and it's hard to remember living anywhere else. It's standard middle America--three bedrooms, double car garage. And lots of windows, a luxurious sense of space with a light interior and wheat-colored carpets to set off all those things collected over the years. I'm in Woodland Hills, a small new subdivision 4 mi east of Moscow, and am surrounded by wheat fields to the north and west. Tomer Butte rises to the south and I can lie in bed at nite and watch the moon chase the clouds across the butte and listen to the wind (that always blows) sigh thru the Ponderosas up there. And to the east for 30 mi I can watch the weather move across the foothills of the Clearwater Mtns and over the fields of the Southwick plateau. It's so close to town, yet so deliciously separated that I can truly relax and "get away from it all" out here. The guest room is always available if you can come and visit.

Whee, it's been a busy year--vacation time was taken only in a couple of 1-2 day intervals in the midst of everything else. Our Laboratory of Anthropology has been designated by the State Historic Preservation Office as the Northern Idaho Regional Archaeological Center and we now administer all Idaho archaeological site survey records and collections for our area (see map). In February we had a formal open house of all 5 floors of our facility--an excellent excuse for cleaning up, but a lot of work. I spent an exhilarating and exhausting week in mid-March as a participant in an international Lithic Use-Wear Conference in Vancouver, BC, and will have a paper in the final conference volume being published next year by Academic Press. April saw me in Pocatello for a semi-annual meeting of the Idaho Advisory Council of Professional Archaeologists (IACPA), and I came back via a visit with Don Crabtree in Twin Falls and a few days in Sun Valley and Stanley. And then the field season hit! I had planned on scheduling only a few small projects so that I could devote my time to finishing up some major things (like Anton Rygh and Red Smoke?!) but fate decreed otherwise and I spent late May thru early November commuting among projects up on the Clearwater, Lochsa, and Selway Rivers in the Bitterroots; on Dworshak Reservoir on the Clearwater and Lower Granite Reservoir on the Snake; on the Snake River Plain in eastern Idaho (Wasden Owl Cave with its Folsom level); and in the Boise River canyon outside of Boise. The latter is an exciting major project, a small prehistoric site called Lydle Gulch with a 3-4,000 year old level and a late prehistoric (ca. 1500 AD?) upper zone; one of my grad students is running that as thesis research. It's been an Idaho year! I finally did get a full-time assistant in the Lab this fall, which will help with the day-to-day administration there, but it's still too much to do. And next semester I'm teaching again (seminar on Idaho prehistory) on top of all this. But I do enjoy it.

Then there's Paleo-Designs' expansion (thanks to some national advertising) and all the N.O.W. stuff (I was Idaho State Treasurer in 1977, and am Secretary-Treasurer in 1978) and a new Democratic Party precinct job--I never seem to get bored with life. I've driven all over Idaho this past nine months, hunting out previously dug archaeological sites so I could have slides and photos of them for teaching, and have seen so much beautiful country. The Geological Society of America field trip to the Wasden site in November gave me the opportunity of a side trip into the Tetons and I always enjoy the Sun Valley-Sawtooth Valley area. I've met some marvelous people this past year and renewed some old friendships, and feel very privileged to share parts of my living with so many warm, rich people. I hope it's been a good year for you, as good as mine, and that with me you look forward to both the chores and adventures of 1978. Happy New Year!

CC.6.3.5/

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