

P.O. BOX 398 · VISTA · CALIFORNIA 92083

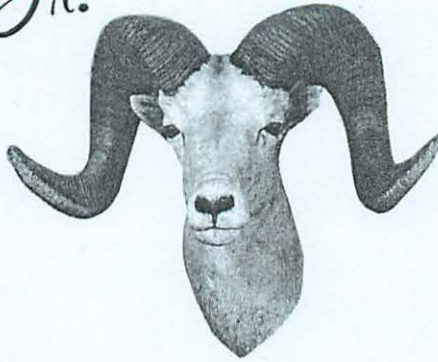
*Cloyd Sorensen Jr.*

PHONE AREA 714-724-8411

MAY 10, 1965

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RA

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
STEWART L. UDALL, SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.



DEAR MR. UDALL:

HELP ! ! !

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN DO TO SAVE THE ANCIENT INDIAN PAINTINGS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY'S POWAY VALLEY.

THESE PAINTINGS AND PETROGLYPHS, KNOWN AS THE POWAY PICTOGRAPHS ARE UNIQUE. FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW I HAVE SEARCHED FOR THEIR LOCATIONS, PHOTOGRAPHED THEM AND TRIED TO GET SOME RESPONSIBLE PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THEM BEYOND CURIOSITY.

PRESENTLY THEY ARE IN GREAT DANGER FROM THE BULLDOZERS THAT ARE CLEARING LAND FOR MORE AND MORE HOUSES AND SHOPING CENTERS. IN ONE AREA THE BLADE OF A GIANT BULL DOZER CUT AT THE FOOT OF A HUGE BOULDER HAVING UNUSUAL CUT CIRCLES IN THE ROCK. SOME OF THE ROCKS HAVE ALREADY BEEN BLASTED AND MOVED AWAY AND MORE ONLY AWAIT THIS FATE.

MOST OF THE POWAY PICTOGRAPHS ARE GEOMETRIC AND COMPLEX DESIGNS OF RUNNING SCROLLS, SQUARES AND RECTANGLES WITH ROWS OF CONCENTRIC CROSSES UNIFORM IN WIDTH AND PATTERN. SOME COVER MANY SQUARE FEET OF BOULDER SURFACE.

SOME ARCHEOLOGISTS THAT HAVE SEEN THE PICTOGRAPHS FEEL THAT THEY RESEMBLE THE MAYAN WORK BUT HAVE NO EXPLANATION AS TO WHAT THEY ARE DOING IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

IN MY OUTDOOR TRAVEL AND EXPLORATION OF THE SOUTHWEST UNITED STATES, I HAVE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING ELSE LIKE THEM. NEVER HAVE I SEEN THE USUAL INDIAN PICTURES OF GAME, CIRCLES AND CHARACTERISTIC DESIGNS ALONG WITH THE POWAY PAINTINGS.

MOST OF THE PAINTED AREAS THAT I AM FAMILAR WITH ARE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY AND IN MANY AREAS THE LAND THEY SIT ON IS NOT SUITABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT. WHEN THEY ARE DAMAGED OR DESTROYED IT WILL USUALLY BE THAT THEY ARE JUST IN THE WAY. IF NOTHING ELSE, I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SEE A COUPLE OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING PAINTINGS PROTECTED AND PRESERVED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS TO PONDER OVER AS I HAVE.

MOST SINCERELY,

MEMBER



~~RA~~  
L58

May 19, 1965

Mr. Cloyd Sorensen, Jr.  
 P. O. Box 398  
 Vista, California 92083

Dear Mr. Sorensen:

Your interesting letter about the petroglyphs in Poway Valley has been referred to this office, the Division of Archeology Studies.

We, too, are greatly concerned with the vanishing heritage of the ancient inhabitants of this country. The pictographs and petroglyphs which you described seem to be very interesting examples of part of that heritage and we shall do what we can to gather more information about this area. However, we understand from your comments that much of the area is private property which is itself a limiting factor on what can be done.

We are referring a copy of your letter to our Regional Archeologist, Western Region, San Francisco, California.

We thank you for calling this matter to our attention and commend you for your interest in conservation.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

John M. Corbett  
 Chief Archeologist

cc:

Mr. Schumacher - Western Region Archeologist w/c inc.

Dr. Corbett - RA w/c inc. (det'd.)

DCCO w/c inc.

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