



KOYOOE TUKADU:
PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE KIT



◆ WE ARE ALL PEOPLE OF THIS EARTH

Lovelock Cave

Lovelock cave is located 22 miles south of Lovelock, NV in Humboldt County. The limestone cave is about 150 feet long and its widest area is 35 feet wide. In 1926 archeologists were informed of some artifacts found in the caves by guano miners. Two archeologists, Loud and Harrington, began excavating. They found Lovelock cave to be one of the richest sites in America. In just four months Loud and Harrington found 10,000 artifacts!

The dryness of the desert and constant temperature in the cave allowed many artifacts to preserve. Things like baskets, clothes, plant fiber sandals, nets, snares for small animals, fishing line with bone fish hooks and stone knives with wooden handles were found. Loud also found many pits that were believed to be used for storage. The pits varied in size and shape. Some Duck Decoys, some finished and others unfinished, were found in the false bottom of one of these pits. Duck decoys were made from marsh bulrush or tule grass.

Robert Heizer divided the time of inhabitants of the cave into three periods: The Humboldt Culture resided by the cave between 9,000 and 7,000 years ago; The Leonard Culture resided around the cave between 6,000 and 3,500 years ago; and the Lovelock Culture resided by the cave between 3,500 to 150 years ago. Scientists believe that the inhabitants used the opening of the cave as a type of shelter and used the cave itself for storage and protection from bad weather. Eventually the cave was abandoned. Today the opening is much smaller because of an earthquake.



Duck Decoys

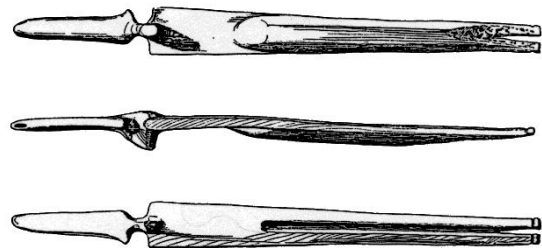


FIGURE 13. Lovelock Cave Atlatl (after Loud and Harrington)

For more information visit:

http://www.mnsu.edu/emuseum/archaeology/sites/northamerica/lovelock_cave.html

Follow the Lovelock Tour created by the BLM at:

<http://www.alpinix.com/Personal/Geocaching/LovelockTour.htm>