

SAS TOUR - A TASTE OF NEVADA HERITAGE – CAVES, ROCK ART AND PAIUTE CULTURE

On June 16 – 18, 2021 sixteen members of Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. toured the basin areas around Sparks, Fallon and Lovelock, Nevada. John Foster and Dan Foster led the exploration. In spite of the summer heat they hiked to find rock art and visit caves and rock shelters. On the first day they hiked in Sparks to enjoy the Griffith Canyon Petroglyphs. Then they drove to Fort Churchill State Historic Park to view the remnants of a historic fort.



Figure 1 Rock art at Griffith Canyon



Figure 2 Rock art at Griffith Canyon

On Thursday, June 17th Donna Cossette (Paiute) led the exploration of Grimes Point Petroglyphs and after viewing a movie on Hidden Cave at Churchill County Museum in Fallon continued offering a perspective on Paiute culture. Several members hiked to Picnic Cave, Hidden Cave and Burnt Cave.



Figure 3 Grimes Point boulder with petroglyphs



Figure 4 Donna Cossette and cupule boulder



Figure 5 Group at Lizard Rock near Burnt Cave & Picnic Cave



Figure 6 Looking at landscape from Picnic Cave

On the final day near Lovelock, John Foster and Dan Foster led the group to Lovelock Cave and offered historical perspective. After going inside the cave and enjoying the geology of the area a segment of the group went to Leonard Rock shelter. There they were pleased to see the beauty of nature in a tufa shelter and find rock art. All in all, the group ended the tour with expanded insight into the geological and cultural history of the area.

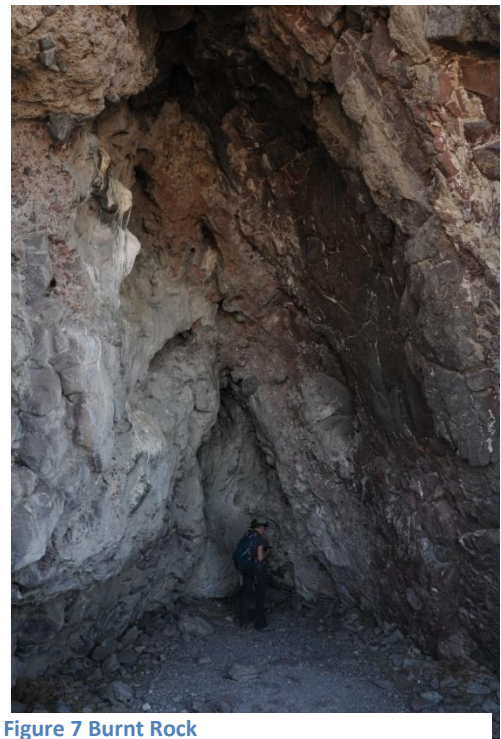


Figure 7 Burnt Rock



Figure 8 Lovelock Cave



Figure 8 Leonard Rock Shelter



Figure 9 Group in Leonard Rock Shelter



Figure 101 Tufa and Rock Art

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