

1212 N. 32nd Ave.
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Nov. 17, 1954

Dr. Douglas Osborne, curator of anthropology,
Washington State Museum,
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Dr. Osborne:

Thank you verymuch for your letter, written while carrying out such a busy schedule.

Since writing you about the prospective Mid-Columbia story dealing with the right bank across from the Celilo and the Dalles--one of a series--- I made a hurried trip there when I went to Maryhill to see Mr. Dolph about another matter. It was a rainy day but I obtained a few pictures, although none really showing the mound, so I shall watch for others and ones you mentioned. And I shall "observe" the photo concern mentioned that may be noted on the back.

I was particularly interested that the rock hounds seem to be working the mound furiously. One entire family was there with four shakers. I talked to several others---the woods are crawling with them in that region.

They said that the mound had been opened to digging.

They also said that the mound would not be affected by the creation of "Lake Celilo."

I suspect that the various articles in the Times and the Oregon papers have stimulated this digging. And I don't wish to add to the gold rush further. And it occurred to me that per aps this digging was going on because the mound was not posted by the proper authorities. Or maybe that it a situation that I know nothing about. Anyway, I saw some 60 fine gem points taken in one day's digging, one large "killed" mortar and two fire paint pots, plus some 20 to 30 bone artifacts, awls, plugs and gaming bones.

It is material to me to know whether the mound will be covered by the Dalles Dam water, or not; that is, it is material to my story. Hate to impose upon you, but maybe you can drop a postal or a brief note so what I write will not further complicate to troubles.

I think in time the Priest Rapids thing will work out good for all concerned. My prime concern is that the people, whose home was there so long, receive consideration due them for the old culture they still possess and that some of the rocks on "Hale Island, for which they have such affection and regard, due to their account of genesis, be preserved for them--at their new home there if one is provided them. There are many other rocks on the island, worthy of preserving and these people will cooperate with the U and places like Ellensburg, keeping peace all around.

I have more conferences with the PUD people, and also with Congressmen, so am hopeful that if things are not possible now, such as providing a new or in lieu home, that it will come about through congressional action or Presidential Proclamation.

I've been invited to make enough speeches in this area and elsewhere in the region in the past month to know that it is something the people want and will seek through resolutions etc. if necessary, which I do not believe will have to be done.

I shall look forward to your visit through the Yakima region. By all means let me know in advance so I can arrange my schedule, and provide you with what humble hospitality I may offer. My "workshop" is small, but full of things and there is much to talk about.

most sincerely

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