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ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE PREHISTORIC GREAT BASIN
LACUSTRINE SUBSISTENCE REGIME AS SEEN FROM
LOVELOCK CAVE, NEVADA

Robert F. Heizer and Lewis K. Napton
with major contributions by
F. L. Dunn, W. I. Follett, Mary Ellen Morbeck,
Frank Radovsky, and R. Watkins

REPORT NO. 1 TO THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
ON GRANT GS 2297

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

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PREFACE

The papers in this volume represent 20 percent of the total which have been written by us or contributed by specialists on the matter of prehistoric coprolites from Nevada caves. The coprolite analysis program at Berkeley has been in progress since 1965. Research materials studied have come mainly from Lovelock Cave (site NV-Ch-18). Lovelock Cave was first excavated by L. L. Loud in 1912 and revisited in 1924 by Loud and M. R. Harrington. Brief visits to the cave site have been made since 1950 by University of California field parties. The most intensive recent work was carried out in September 1968 and April 1969, at which time over 4000 human fecal pellets were collected. In the course of the 1969 excavations a map of the cave was made, stratigraphic excavations were carried out, and numerous organic samples were collected for radiocarbon age determinations. We report here on our interpretation of the chronology and occupational history of Lovelock Cave. A revised interpretation of the culture history of the cave is needed to correct what is surely an incorrect picture presented by Harrington (in Loud and Harrington 1929:119-123), but this is not yet complete and will be presented at some future time.

The present volume may be considered as the first of a series of projected reports on coprolite analyses carried out at Berkeley 1968-date. Earlier results have been published by Ambro (1967), Cowan (1967), Follett (1967), Roust (1967), Tubbs and Berger (1967), Heizer (1967a, 1967b, 1969a, 1969b), Heizer and Napton (1969a, 1969b), Napton (1969), Napton and Brunetti (1969), Napton and Kelso (1969), and Douglas (1969).

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