



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

Subject: palynology samples
To: hartkopf-froeder@gd.nrw.de
Cc: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Dear Colleague:

Al Traverse has just sent me a translation of the message you recently sent to him regarding your interest in the palynology of the Pennsylvanian/Permian of New Mexico.

Let me give you a little background so you will understand my situation. Although, my main interest is in the Upper Triassic plant megafossils of this area I have agreed to help a friend describe a large collection of Pennsylvanian plants she made in northern New Mexico some 30 years ago. Ever since she made the collection I have encouraged her to describe the flora herself but since she felt that she didn't have the background to do so she never did. Now that I am back in this area where she lives I have agreed to do what I could with the flora. The plant fossils are too broad ranging to help date the flora and none of the invertebrates at the locality have been dated. The reason that I contacted Al was to find out if he could give me a quick age determination based on the palynomorphs. Although, he has done some work on an Early Permian palynoflora from NM he declined to work on my new material because he is concentrating on his book. Actually at one time we had discussed the possibility of doing a Pennsylvanian/Permian palynofloras but nothing ever came of it except that I collected a number of samples for him to analyze.

At this point in time I am searching for someone who would be willing to make a palynomorphic analysis of three samples from the new Pennsylvanian locality in northern New Mexico and determine their age if possible. I would be willing to pay for the analyses and give the palynologist credit for his age determination or coauthorship of the report.

The samples haven't been run yet but I could send them to you immediately if you are interested. It will probably take me a couple more months to finish my evaluation of the megafossils and prepare a manuscript so there isn't a big rush about an age determination. If you still think that you are interested please let me know and I'll send them to you right away.

In your message to Al you mentioned that you had visited me in Ogden, UT many years ago. I had almost forgotten the incident. Weren't you working on the skating stones on playas in California at that time, or am I thinking of someone else?

With best wishes----

-----Sid

Sidney Ash, Ph.D.
1708 Quail Run CT NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122
(505) 856-5852

Delivered-To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
From: Sidash@aol.com
Date: Thu, 3 May 2001 17:59:52 EDT
Subject: Re: palynology
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
X-Mailer: AOL 5.0 for Windows sub 125

AI:

Thanks for Fred Rich's name; I'll contact him and see if he can help.

Yes, I'm afraid you have sunk pretty deep in the estimation of Lucas since you are and have been associated with me. Interesting, that although you were the first to do something on the Late Paleozoic palynology of NM that Lucas would bring in someone else to do additional work without at least consulting with you. Priority doesn't mean a thing to him unless it is his ox that.... He is giving a talk on the Chinle flora at the BotSoc meeting and although I have worked on the flora for 40 years he doesn't mention my name in the abstract. I was going to try and stop it but then I realized that he very well would have blocked the paleobot. field trip and banquet if I had done so.

You have got samples that Utting doesn't have and you could probably get out a paper on them before Utting does. If you don't, I guess history is going to repeat itself as I feared. What I am referring to here is my experience with Ron Litwin. I spent so much time with and without him collecting samples. Although, the focus of his job changed he had indicated that he would be able to finish some of our projects. In fact, I have a manuscript that has been on my desk for more than two years that is virtually done -- all he needed to do was recheck some small points. So you must understand my frustration. Perhaps I should write to Utting and point out the little priority problem?

cheers!

----Sid

Sidney Ash
1708 Oval Run CT NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122
(505) 850-8852

Subject: Re: new locality
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Hi Al and Betty!

Hope you both have got back safely from Germany. Probably very few, if any of the attendees at the exposition also attended the 1932/33 World's Fair like you did. Speaking of that fair, I was there also. I won't have been there under normal circumstances but my mother, brother and I had been visiting relatives in Indiana/Illinois during the summer of '33 and apparently we were between trains on the way back to Albuquerque. I only remember two things from the fair and I wonder if they affected me psychologically. First, I remember being strangely attracted to a large billboard with a picture of Sally Rand on it with her feather fan moving back and forth. Second, I remember waiting with my mother in the ladies bathroom until some woman let us use a pay toilet after she was finished. My poor mother was always trying to save money whenever she could. I can't remember seeing the dinosaur exhibits and I guess we didn't see them because I also remember my father saying when we got home that he wished we had. I would have been nearly 6 because we were rushing to get home before I turned 6 and we would have had to buy a ticket for me. Save! Save! Save!

I am glad you enjoyed the two papers I sent you. Any good in them is due to my two co-authors. I tried to get Lea to take my name off the AJB paper because of all the work she did on it. Also Geoff should have been at least first author on the other paper. I see from my files that I have neglected to send you some other ones. When I sent them out last year I guess I thought you weren't collecting reprints anymore. Anyway, you can throw them out just as well as me! Although you and Betty might be interested in one of them in particular??

Thanks for the interesting book. I was especially interested in the last chapter as you speculated.

The BSA meeting will be in the early part of August. The specific topic of your talk is really up to you; it could just be on the change in the floras from the Penn. to the Permian in the SW, for example or even go into the Late Triassic. Whatever you think might be diverting is okay with me.

Best wishes-----

-----Sid

Sidney Ash
1708 Quail Run CT NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122
(505) 856-5852

To: Sidash@aol.com
From: Alfred Traverse <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: Re: new locality
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

At 09:36 AM 6/28/00 -0400, you wrote:

Al:

I have learned of a new potentially palyniferous locality well up into the Lower Permian and another in the Middle Pennsylvanian in northern NM. Both contain nice plant megafossils and the rock is greenish-gray and fine grained – i.e., not ss. If they are indeed palyniferous it seems to me that they would give a handle on the floras well before and after the Paleophytic/Mesophytic transition which might be of interest. If you are interested please let me know and I'll get you some samples.

Remember, BSA in Albuquerque in 2001!

AT: Sounds great. Do collect samples and we'll have a look. To most paleobotanists I would say that it would be better if I collected the samples, but not to SRA! Your record is sensational.

Haven't forgotten Alb. BSA. Exactly when? Exactly what did you think we should/could present?

We leave for Germany in two hours. I wonder how many folks who show up at EXPO-2000 in Hannover, like me, were also at the Century of Progress World's Fair in Chicago in 1932-33?

Best. Al.

Alfred Traverse
1708 Quail Run CT NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122
(505) 255-5873

Subject: Re: miscellaneous
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Hi Al:

Yes, I was thinking about the Carrizo Arroyo palynoflora and or the Palaeophytic/Mesophytic transition bringing in all the boundary palynofloras in the SW. And by the way, I don't need to be a coauthor -- you can just thank me for assisting with the collection of samples.

Also, I have not forgotten about the Oregon palynofloras. It would be nice to get a note out on them.

At one time you indicated that you would be interested in a new Chinle project. I have one in mind but I kinda held off on proposing it because I thought Ron would eventually go back to the Chinle projects that I put so much time on and possibly work on this new one. But, although he indicates he wants to and will work on them, nothing happens. As you have found he doesn't answer correspondence or return phone calls and certainly doesn't finish any manuscripts. I guess he is taking out his frustrations with the Survey on us. If he doesn't make a move soon I am going to give up on him.

The new project would refine the position of the Carnian/Norian boundary on the Colorado Plateau which presumably lies in the middle of the Chinle at the Sonsela Sandstone Bed. Ron did preliminary work on the boundary, particularly in the petrified forest. We could start by going to the type locality of the Sonsela and collect a suite of palynomorph samples in that unit as well as above and below it. This new work could tell us where the boundary lies with respect to the unit and also tell us if the various units around the Colorado Plateau that are called Sonsela really correlate with it. Perhaps we could also involve Ron in the project if he ever gets back into the Chinle work. Whatcha think?

Hi Betty - how are your Medieval studies coming these days?

Best wishes to you both from us.....

...Sid and Shirley

Sidney Ash
1708 Quail Run CT NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122
(505) 856-5852

Subject: miscellaneous
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Al:

I just noted that Ron Litwin and friends published an article that you might be interested in: "Calibrating Late Quaternary terrestrial climate signals: radiometrically dated pollen evidence from the southern Sierra Nevada." It appeared in Quaternary Science Reviews, vol. 18, p. 1151-1171.

Did I acknowledge receiving the reprint of our little article on the Carrizo Arroyo palynoflora? If I didn't thanks for doing so. I hope you also sent one to our dear friend and colleague Jane Knaus.

With best wishes to you and Betty for the holiday season----

---Sid and Shirley

ASH

Subject: projects
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Al:

Thanks for your messages -- it will be good to see a reprint of our little NMGS article after all the hassle I went through to get you the samples, etc. Sorry to hear about that the roadside samples were barren.

It is up to you whether you want to put a paper together for next year's BotSoc meeting. I thought it would be an appropriate venue for such a paper and I didn't think that the paper would necessarily be a final statement on the palynofloras so I thought you might have done enough for at least a preliminary statement without too much trouble. Also, when I proposed the paper I wasn't aware of all of your pending travel and your consulting project in Nevada. Can you tie that work into the new work of Ron Litwin in California? I think some of that has been published or at least is in press.

Do you want me to try and track down anymore Permo/Carboniferous samples for you?

Joan Watson from Manchester and her husband are here for two weeks so we can put the finishing touches on a large manuscript on the coniferous foliage in the Chinle. Looks as if there are nearly two dozen species of them present in the flora.

With best wishes to you and Betty!

-----Sid

Ash

Subject: another opportunity!
 To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Al:

Do you think you might have enough done on the suspect palynofloras of Oregon to put together a talk which we (I) could give at the BSA meetings in Portland (OR that is) in August next year. I will be out there anyway helping run a trip to the enigmatic Carboniferous Spotted Ridge localities in central Oregon and could give the paper if you couldn't come out there yourself. The abstract deadline is March 1 next year.

Well, its another glorious sunny day in Albuquerque so I guess I'll go sit in the shade and review a manuscript for Palaeontographica.

Best wishes to you and Betty.....

.....Sid

P.S. Did you get any reprints of our little article that was published in the NMGS guidebook a few months ago? If you did I'd appreciate receiving a copy. Thankx!

Hi Sid

WE ARE JUST BACK FROM THE PALYNOLOGICAL SESSIONS IN GEORGIA. FIRST TIME IN A FEW YEARS. THE QUALITY OF PAPERS HAS NOT IMPROVED IN THE INTERIM BUT WE HAD A GREAT TIME. ALONG WITH OUR GUEST, CARMEN HELMICH FROM THE SURVEY IN HANNOVER. SHE IS A TRIASSIC PALYNOLOGIST.

YOUR INQUIRY ABOUT THE OREGON WORK COMPLETELY STARTLED ME. I THOUGHT WE WERE ON THE SAME PAGE--THAT THE OR STUFF WAS IN ABEYANCE. BECAUSE OF THE NEWFOUND URGENCY OF THE PERMIAN STUFF IN THE SOUTHWEST. BETTY HAS BEEN PROCESSING ALL THE SAMPLES FROM THE MAYMINT, ETC. (THE ONES FROM THE ROADSIDE OUTCROPS ARE, DAMN IT, ALL BARREN.)

AS I RECALL, I HAD THE OREGON PROJECT 90% FINISHED WHEN MY GURU PULLED ME OFF IT AND PUT ME ONTO ONE IN NM (ETC.). I CAN EASILY FIND THAT BOX ("OREGON PROJECT") AND PULL A PAPER TOGETHER ON IT--DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON THE FOSSIL PLANTS TO PUT WITH THE PALYNOLOGY?

ONE Y PROBLEM IS THAT I AM NOW GOING FULL BLAST ON A NEOGENE PROJECT FROM NEVADA FOR A YOUNG FELLOW IN UTAH. I BELIEVE I TOLD YOU ABOUT THIS BEFORE. IT IS A CONTRACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO. BELIEVE IT OR NOT, FURTHER, I AM GOING TO TURKEY FOR A MONTH BEGINNING 13 JAN 00. I MUST HAVE THE NV PROJECT DONE BY THEN. SO, ALTHOUGH I HAVE THE WORK ON THE OREGON STUFF ESSENTIALLY DONE, I DON'T SEE HOW I CAN REALISTICALLY GET ANYTHING READY WITHIN YOUR TIME FRAME.

Printed by Alfred Traverse <traverse@ems.psu.edu>

To: Sidash@aol.com
From: Alfred Traverse <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: Re: another opportunity!
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

At 12:20 PM 11/5/99 -0500, you wrote:

>Al:

> Do you think you might have enough done on the suspect palynofloras of
>Oregon to put together a talk which we (I) could give at the BSA meetings in
>Portland (OR that is) in August next year.

HI, SID!

WE ARE JUST BACK FROM THE PALYNOLOGICAL SESSIONS IN GEORGIA. FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN IN YEARS. THE QUALITY OF PAPERS HAS NOT IMPROVED IN THE INTERIM, BUT WE HAD A GREAT TIME, ALONG WITH OUR GUEST, CARMEN HEUNISCH, FROM THE SURVEY IN HANNOVER. SHE IS A TRIASSIC PALYNOLOGIST.

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ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT I AM NOW GOING FULL BLAST ON A NEOGENE PROJECT FROM NEVADA FOR A YOUNG FELLOW IN UTAH. I BELIEVE I TOLD YOU ABOUT THIS BEFORE. IT IS A CONTRACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO, BELIEVE IT OR NOT. FURTHER, I AM GOING TO TURKEY FOR A MONTH BEGINNING 13 JAN. 00. I MUST HAVE THE NV PROJECT DONE BY THEN. SO, ALTHOUGH I HAVE THE WORK ON THE OREGON STUFF ESSENTIALLY DONE, I DON'T SEE HOW I CAN REALISTICALLY GET ANYTHING READY WITHIN YOUR TIME FRAME.

I AM DELIGHTED YOU ARE STILL INTERESTED, HOWEVER, AND I SAY LET'S GET SOMETHING READY FOR PUBLICATION IN '00.

WE ARE DOING A LOT OF TRAVELLING IN '00, GETTING READY FOR WHEN IT WON'T BE POSSIBLE. BETTY GOES TO HAWAII FOR A MONTH AT SAME TIME I GO TO TURKEY. WE GO TOGETHER TO GERMANY IN JUNE/JULY. WE GO ALSO TO CHINA AND THAILAND IN NOV./DEC.

I HAVE JUST BEEN THROUGH AN EXPERIENCE THAT REMINDS ME OF MY MORTALITY. A PIECE OF MY RETINA IN THE RIGHT EYE TORE OUT, AND I HAD TO HAVE EMERGENCY LASER SURGERY TO WELD THE RETINA TO THE BACK OF THE EYE. FIRST ACTUAL AGE-RELATED HEALTH PROBLEM. HAPPENED THREE WEEKS AGO, JUST BEFORE WE LEFT FOR GEORGIA. I WAS EVEN ABLE TO DRIVE THERE, DESPITE A THING THAT LOOKED LIKE A COIL OF ROPE IN MY VISION. THAT HAS GOT FAINTER, AND I WAS BACK AT THE MICROSCOPE YESTERDAY.

BEST TO YOU AND CORDIAL REGARDS TO DEAR SHIRLEY.

AL.

Subject: how you doing?
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Dear Al:

We haven't heard from you in sometime now and we're wondering if everything is okay with you and Betty. We are fine and enjoying the fine autumn weather we are having at last. The summer monsoons held on longer than usual this year so it is nice to have dry weather at last. Even without looking at the calendar we know autumn has arrived because of all the balloons in the sky each morning. In fact I came home early from the Petrified Forest last week because of rain and muddy roads. It ain't supposed to be that way this time of year! I'll go back in October I guess to finish up some business there.

Today is the first day of the NMGS fieldtrip. Hope they got the guidebook published on schedule. I didn't register for the trip. Probably should have but it was pretty expensive. Ah well, maybe I'll buy a guidebook anyway one of these days. I presume that they will send you the reprints of our article. If so I'd appreciate receiving a copy or two when it is convenient. Thanks.

How are you doing on the Penn/Permian boundary palynoflora of the SW? Do you need anymore samples?

best wishes-----
-----Sid

*(3 Sept. 1999)
received about
1/2 yr*

*Dr. Jane Knapp
Department of Biology
Southern Texas State Univ.
San Marcos, TX 78666 - 4606*

file as correspondence.

Ash

(3 Sept. 1999)
received about
1 July

NMMNH site L3433
"callipterid" zone

Dr Jane Knauer
Department of Biology
Southwest Texas State Univ.
San Marcos, TX 78666 - 4606

SAMPLES

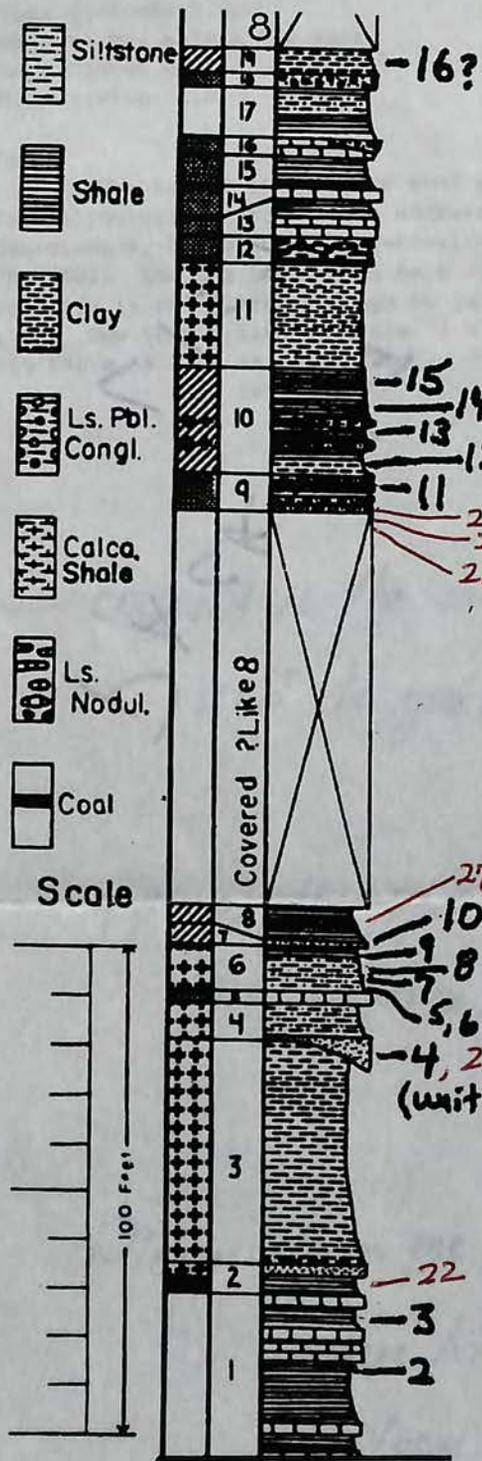
Carrizo Arroyo (Abbreviation AR1)

June, 1999

Sample Number	Unit Number (K&K, 1976)	Comments
18	19	Upper insect and leaf zone; Mark thinks that this unit is equivalent to K&K unit 19. I'm reasonably happy with that pick. Same as the sample that Jane Knaus sent you.
19		Equivalent/close to sample AR1-17. Above 18 both stratigraphically and lithologically. Maybe equivalent/close to sample AR1-17.
20		at a bit lower in unit 21. Maybe equivalent/close to sample AR1-17.
21		Greenish* shale above main fossil localities on east side of Carrizo Arroyo.
22	2	Greenish* shale below a bed of SS on west side of arroyo opposite and down stream a short distance from coal bed.
23	3	Defiantly in the top of unit 3; maybe equivalent to sample 4 of previous collection.
24	?8	Greenish* shale directly below LS pebble conglomerate (unit 9 of K&K); top 8 is covered in K&K, however. What unit should it be assigned to? 8 or 9?
25	9	Shale interbed in unit 9 in LS pebble conglomerate.
26	?	Greenish* nodular shale below a ledge of SS across wash from main localities; appears to be above LS pebble conglomerate in unit 9; maybe equivalent to unit 10.
27	8	Near top of greenish* shale exposure about 4'6" above coal unit (unit 6).
28	?	Shale from 3' below unit 9 and 2'6' below sample 24.
29	19	Base of slope below upper insect/plant zone. Probably the same as AR1-16. The upper flora/insect locality is in the top of this unit.

*file as
correspondence,
Ash
(this has saved
our bacon 2-3
times)*

*at least these units look greenish in outcrop!



handwritten: hallow plant / insect bees
 26?

LEGEND

- Color
- Red
- Green
- Grey
- Black
- Tan
- Lithology
- Lime-stone
- Sand-stone



handwritten: upper insect / plant beds

handwritten: New samples in red 6/99

Date: Mon, 29 Mar 1999 12:35:38 -0500 (EST)
From: Sidash@aol.com
Subject: Re: matrix for paly
To: gu01@swt.edu
MIME-version: 1.0

Jane:

Thanks for offering to send a sample of the matrix from your horizon to Al for palynological study. His address is: Dr. Alfred Traverse, Dept. of Geosciences, Dieke 307, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802. About a pound will be a sufficiency. Yes, I understand that the locality is still pretty rough to get into so camping certainly will save you time. Now that I live so close, I will probably start making regular trips out there as long as the ground is dry as it is most of the year!

take care..

....Sid

— enclosed is the sample Sid Ash requested I send to you.

All of the specimens dried to this light grey matrix.

Please inform me of results:

Jane Kraus / Upchurch
Biology Dept.
Southwest Texas State University
San Marcos TX 78666

S. P. As

1 July 1999

SAMPLES

Fossil Creek Canyon (Abbreviation FC1)

June 30, 1999

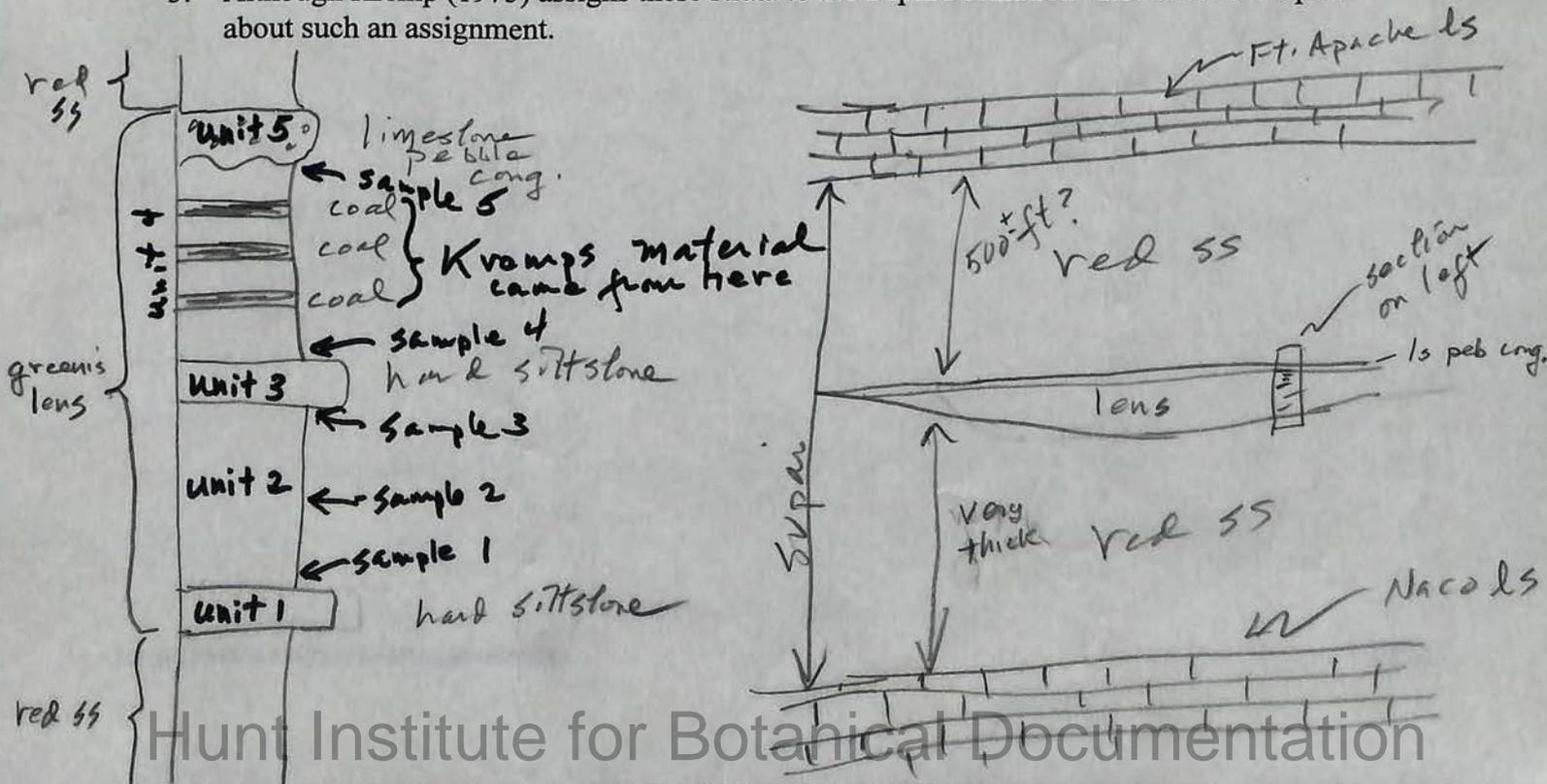
Correspondence

Sample Number	Unit Number (Ash, 1999)	Comments
FC1-1	2	Gray shale just above basal siltstone in lens.
FC1-2	2	Gray shale about 3 m above sample 1.
FC1-3	2	Gray shale about 3 m above sample 2.
FC1-4	4	Greenish* shale just above unit 3 which is a bed of hard tan siltstone.
FC1-5	4	Greenish* shale near top of unit 5 about 4 m above sample 4.

*at least these units look greenish in outcrop!

NOTES:

1. These samples are from a large (about 50 m x 1 km) greenish lens in red beds which have been assigned to the Supai Formation by some authors. They were collected from the eastern most exposures of the lens.
2. The samples that Kremp (1975) analyzed apparently came from between samples 4 and 5.
3. Although Kremp (1975) assigns these strata to the Supai Formation there is some dispute about such an assignment.



(?)
1 July, 1999

Subject: Re: Carrizo Arroyo
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Dear Al

As to Jane's problem, I am the one who should be angry. After all she is the one who moved in on the Carrizo Arroyo locality when she knew damn well that Tidwell and I had prior interest in the locality and had already published on it. From what I heard from independent sources she and Gary are the ones who pushed Spence into taking them to the locality. I am trying to be conciliatory as I can be under the circumstances -- note my e-mail to Jane. Of course, since she doesn't have a job I can understand why she is so cranky these days.

Spence's reputation precedes him and no one else will hire him. In some ways it would be nice to be actively involved at the NMMNHT but I can do a lot right here at home. Photography is my biggest problem but they don't have that capacity either so I'll probably end up at the University whether I am involved at the museum or not.

Take care...and have a happy fourth of J.

---Sid

Ash

SEARCHED
Fossil Creek, Arizona (2425-4400) (1/1)
June 30, 1999

Sample Number	Unit Number (1-4)	Comments
FC1-1	2	Just above base of unit 2
FC1-2	2	Just above sample 1
FC1-3	2	3 m above sample 2
FC1-4	4	Just above unit 3
FC1-5	4	Just above unit 3
FC1-6	4	Just above unit 3

beds which have been assigned to the Supai Formation by some authors. They were collected from the eastern most exposures of the lens.

2. The samples that Kremp (1975) analyzed apparently came from between samples 4 and 5.

3. Although Kremp (1975) assigns these strata to the Supai Formation there is some dispute about such an assignment.

At 02:54 PM 6/25/99 -0400, you wrote:

>Hi

> I guess you would throw out Jane's samples because we cannot be sure where they came from.

AT: DEAR SID:

SOMETIMES I REALLY YDT- WISE/FR ABOUT ESP. AT THE VERY TIME YOU WERE SENDING THIS MESSAGE TO ME (I WAS READING A LONG E-MAIL FROM MS KNAUS, IT IS CLEAR THAT THERE IS ONE OF THOSE USUALLY SITUATIONS BETWEEN YOU AND THE KNAUS/LUGAS FACTION. I WOULD NOT REPEAT THE THINGS SHE SAID, AS THERE IS STILL THIS TINY RESIDUE OF XN PEACE+LOVE IN ME THAT WANTS ME BETTER TO FORGET IT.

MS KNAUS CLAIMS THAT SHE CAN REFER HER SAMPLES TO EXACT LEVELS IN KUES AND KIETZ. WE ARE ONLY TALKING ABOUT 2-3 SAMPLES, SO I PROPOSE TO GO AN'AD AND PROCESS AND STUDY THEM AND SEE WHAT THEY SHOW. CANT DO ANY HARM. I WILL CONSIDER THEM AS JUST PERIPHERAL INFO - OK?

EVEN HAVE THIS FORLORN (?) HOPE THAT MAYBE I CAN WORK WITH BOTH THE SERBS AND THE ALBANANS AND PERHAPS EVEN HELP TO GET THEM TOGETHER.

MY PRIMARY LOYALTY IS OF COURSE TO SRA, BUT I THINK THIS SORT OF THING IS VERY CHILDISH, AND IT WOULD BE A GREAT FEATHER IN YOUR CAP IF YOU REFUSED TO GET REED. IF I WERE YOU I WOULD JUST TURN THE PROVINCIAL SHEEP. IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT SRA HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH HARVARD, NOT SD? IF DR. L. IS SUCH A BIG DEAL HE WON'T STAY IN ALB - HE'LL GO TO HARVARD OR WHEREVER. YOU SHOULD THEN BE IN A POSITION TO MOVE IN, WITHOUT HAVING BEEN BRANDED AN ENEMY OF THE STATE.

YE GODS, THIS IS WHY I NEVER WANTED TO GET INTO ADMINISTRATION.

ALL THE BEST TO YOU BOTH. TOMORROW WILL BE IN THE JENKINS AREA COLLECTING SAMPLES ALONG THE SUSTURUPANAR FOREST DEVELOPMENT WORK.

To: Sidash@aol.com
From: Alfred Traverse <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: Re: Carrizo Arroyo
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

At 02:54 PM 6/25/99 -0400, you wrote:

>Al:

> If I were you I would throw out Jane's samples because we cannot be
>sure where they came from.

AT: DEAR SID:

SOMETIMES I REALLY DO WONDER ABOUT ESP. AT THE VERY TIME YOU WERE
SENDING THIS MESSAGE TO ME I WAS READING A LONG E-MAIL FROM MS.
KNAUS. IT IS CLEAR THAT THERE IS ONE OF THOSE NASTY SITUATIONS
BETWEEN YOU AND THE KNAUS/LUCAS FACTION. I WOULD NOT REPEAT THE
THINGS SHE SAID , AS THERE IS STILL THIS TINY RESIDUE OF XN PEACE-LOVE IN
ME THAT INHIBITS ME. BETTER TO FORGET IT.

MS. KNAUS CLAIMS THAT SHE CAN REFER HER SAMPLES TO EXACT LEVELS IN
KUES AND KIETZ. WE ARE ONLY TALKING ABOUT 2-3 SAMPLES, SO I PROPOSE
TO GO AHEAD AND PROCESS AND STUDY THEM AND SEE WHAT THEY SHOW.
CAN'T DO ANY HARM. I WILL CONSIDER THEM AS JUST PERIPHERAL INFO. OK?

I EVEN HAVE THIS FORLORN (?) HOPE THAT MAYBE I CAN WORK WITH BOTH THE
SERBS AND THE ALBANIANS AND PERHAPS EVEN HELP TO GET THEM
TOGETHER.

MY PRIMARY LOYALTY IS OF COURSE TO SRA, BUT I THINK THIS SORT OF THING IS
VERY CHILDISH, AND IT WOULD BE A GREAT FEATHER IN YOUR CAP IF YOU
REFUSED TO GET RILED. IF I WERE YOU I WOULD JUST TURN THE PROVERBIAL
CHEEK. IT IS REALLY IMPORTANT THAT SRA HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH
NMMNH, NOT SO? IF DR. L. IS SUCH A BIG DEAL HE WON'T STAY IN ALB.—HE'LL
GO TO HARVARD OR WHEREVER. YOU SHOULD THEN BE IN A POSITION TO
MOVE IN, WITHOUT HAVING BEEN BRANDED AN ENEMY OF THE STATE.

YE GODS. THIS IS WHY I NEVER WANTED TO GET INTO ADMINISTRATION.

ALL THE BEST TO YOU BOTH. TOMORROW I'LL BE IN THE RENOVO AREA,
COLLECTING SAMPLES ALONG THE SUSQUEHANNAH FOR MY DEVONIAN WORK.

To: Sidash@aol.com
From: Alfred Traverse <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: Re: Carrizo Arroyo
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

At 11:39 PM 6/10/99 -0400, you wrote:

>Dear Al:

> Well, I finally got into the Carrizo Arroyo locality. Don Tidwell

>made arrangements to get the key and a guide who took us in there on Tuesday.

AT: HURRAY! AS YOU KNOW, THE SAMPLES ARRIVED IN 100% GOOD ORDER.

YES, JANE DID IDENTIFY THE UNIT (IN HER OWN TERMS, NOT IN TERMS OF THE NUMBERS YOU AND I ARE WORKING FROM). IN A VERY RECENT E-MAIL SHE ALSO OFFERS TO SEND A SAMPLE FROM ANOTHER ONE OF HER UNITS (THE AUTUNIA LEVEL), AND I SAID "FINE." I ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT SHE AND DR. LUCAS GET TOGETHER WITH YOU, AND SOON, SO THAT I WILL NOT BE WASTING MY TIME WORKING WITH SAMPLES THE RELATIVE LOCATIONS OF WHICH ARE KNOWN ONLY TO THE ALMIGHTY. (FOR EXAMPLE, I NEED TO KNOW WHERE IN OUR SCHEME JANE'S TWO LEVELS ARE, AS WELL AS LUCAS' VARIOUS "INSECT ZONES."

I STILL SAY THAT ONE COULD NOT HAVE FOUND THE LOCALITY FROM THAT "MAP," UNLESS ONE HAD SUPPLEMENTAL INFO.

ALL THE BEST AND REGARDS TO SHIRLEY.

AL.

Printed for Alfred Traversa <traverse@ems.psu.edu> 11:30 AM 6/23/99, Re: update

6/23/99

Subject: update
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Hi!

Just a note to update you on various items. First, George Austin has sent me a corrected proof of our article which shows that he has made all the corrections you requested. I did receive the copy of the proof you sent me and I have verified that the corrections you pointed out have been made. Spence still isn't back from Sweden. Sorry for the extra expense for you.

Second, I am scheduled to collect from the Fossil Creek Canyon, AZ locality on the 28th and I'll try to send the samples to you shortly thereafter.

best wishes-----
-----Sid

> Just a note to update you on various items. First, George Austin has
> sent me a corrected proof of our article which shows that he has made all the
> corrections you requested. I did receive the copy of the proof you sent me
> and I have verified that the corrections you pointed out have been made.
> Spence still isn't back from Sweden. Sorry for the extra expense for you.
> Second, I am scheduled to collect from the Fossil Creek Canyon, AZ
> locality on the 28th and I'll try to send the samples to you shortly
> thereafter.

AT: GOOD TO HEAR WE ARE FINALLY BACK FROM THE ADIRONDACKS AND
BETTY'S REUNION (FEATURING AN APPEARANCE BY HILARY RODHAM C. W. B.B.
AND HER ENTOURAGE OF 98 MEN AND WOMEN--EVEN BETTY TOOK A PHOTO)
THE BOX OF SAMPLES FROM GARRED ARROYO ARRIVED LOOKING AS IF IT HAD
JUST BEEN PACKED UP. IN THE PACKING LIST I WAS AMUSED THAT FOR
SAMPLES 19 AND 23 YOU STATE THAT THEY ARE "DEFIANTLY" LOCATED SO AND
SO. DON'T GET SO DEFENSIVE ABOUT IT [HA]

I AM ENORMOUSLY RELIEVED THAT THE CORRECTIONS COULD BE MADE IN OUR
MR. MANY THANKS

INTERESTING THAT YOU'LL BE IN FCC, AZ ON THE 28TH. WISH I COULD BE
ALONG. THAT DAY ILL BE AT THE FAMOUS DEVONIAN LOCALITY NEAR RENOV, PA,
"RED HILL" COLLECTING SAMPLES FOR A PROJECT THERE

CHEERS, AL

Printed for Alfred Traversa <traverse@ems.psu.edu>

To: Sidash@aol.com
From: Alfred Traverse <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
Subject: Re: update
Cc:
Bcc:
Attached:

At 10:52 AM 6/19/99 -0400, you wrote:

>Hi!

> Just a note to update you on various items. First, George Austin has
>sent me a corrected proof of our article which shows that he has made all the
>corrections you requested. I did receive the copy of the proof you sent me
>and I have verified that the corrections you pointed out have been made.
>Spence still isn't back from Sweden. Sorry for the extra expense for you.
> Second, I am scheduled to collect from the Fossil Creek Canyon, AZ
>locality on the 28th and I'll try to send the samples to you shortly
>thereafter.

AT: GOOD TO HEAR. WE ARE FINALLY BACK FROM THE ADIRONDACKS AND BETTY'S REUNION (FEATURING AN APPEARANCE BY HILARY RODHAM C. W '69 AND HER ENTOURAGE OF SS MEN AND WOMEN—EVEN BETTY TOOK A PHOTO). THE BOX OF SAMPLES FROM CARRIZO ARROYO ARRIVED LOOKING AS IF IT HAD JUST BEEN PACKED UP. IN THE PACKING LIST I WAS AMUSED THAT FOR SAMPLES 19 AND 23 YOU STATE THAT THEY ARE "DEFIANTLY" LOCATED SO AND SO. DON'T GET SO DEFENSIVE ABOUT IT! [HA!].

I AM ENORMOUSLY RELIEVED THAT THE CORRECTIONS COULD BE MADE IN OUR MS. MANY THANKS.

INTERESTING THAT YOU'LL BE IN FCC, AZ, ON THE 28TH. WSH I COULD BE ALONG. THAT DAY I'LL BE AT THE FAMOUS DEVONIAN LOCALITY NEAR RENOVO, PA, "RED HILL" COLLECTING SAMPLES FOR A PROJECT THERE.

CHEERS. AL.

SAMPLES

Carrizo Arroyo (Abbreviation AR1)

June, 1999

Delivered-To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
From: Sidash@aol.com
Date: Mon, 14 Jun 1999 14:03:45 EDT
Subject: samples
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 13

Comments

Upper insect and leaf zone; Mark thinks that this unit is equivalent to K&K unit 19. I'm reasonably happy with that pic. Same as the sample that Jose Kama sent you.

AI:

It was good to talk to you yesterday. I don't think there will be any problem with getting the corrections made to our little guidebook article. I have sent Spence a message about them and I will also contact Austin (the man who signed the letter with proofs) about them.

The main purpose of this message is to let you know that I sent you some new samples from Carrizo Arroyo on Saturday so they should be waiting for you when you get back from your holiday. A packing list is enclosed in the package together with a stratigraphic section which shows where each sample came from. I only sent you a split of the each of the samples I actually collected so if you need more of any of them I can give it to you without the hassle of returning to the locality.

By the way, I have arranged for a visit later this month to what is probably Kremp's palynological locality in Fossil Creek Canyon. I'll try to collect a more complete and extensive set of samples than she had so that your assistants will have plenty to work on in July.

The weather is still cool here and they are forecasting rain later today. Boy am I glad we moved back to Albuquerque!

Hope you and Betty had a nice holiday.....

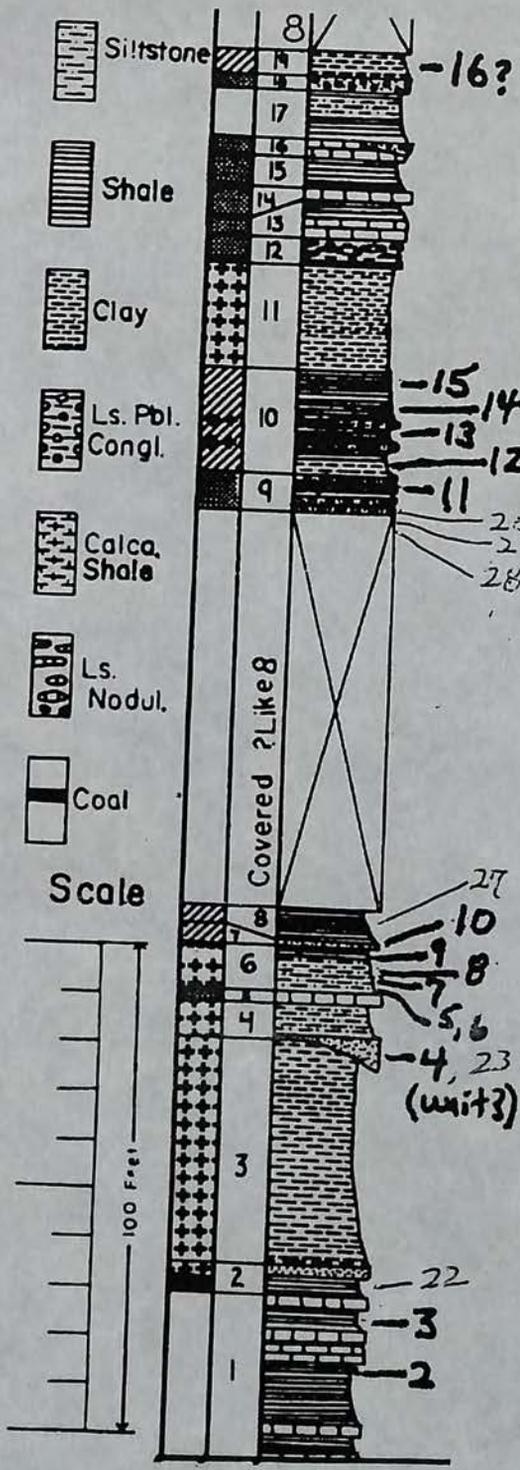
....Sid

23	1	Probably in the top of unit 3; may be equivalent to sample 4 of previous collection.
24	7	Greenish* shale directly below LS pebbly conglomerate unit 9 of K&K; top 8 is covered in L&K, however. What unit should it be assigned to? 4 or 9?
25	5	Thin interbed in unit 9 in LS pebbly conglomerate.
26	2	Greenish* nodular shale below a ledge of SS across wash from main locality; appears to be above a LS pebbly conglomerate in unit 9; maybe equivalent to unit 10.
27	8	Near top of greenish* shale exposure about 40' above coal seam (unit 6).
28	7	Shale from 3' below unit 9 and 16' below sample 24.
29	13	Base of slope below wagner insect zone stain. Probably the same as AR1-16. The upper insect zone locality is in the top of this unit.

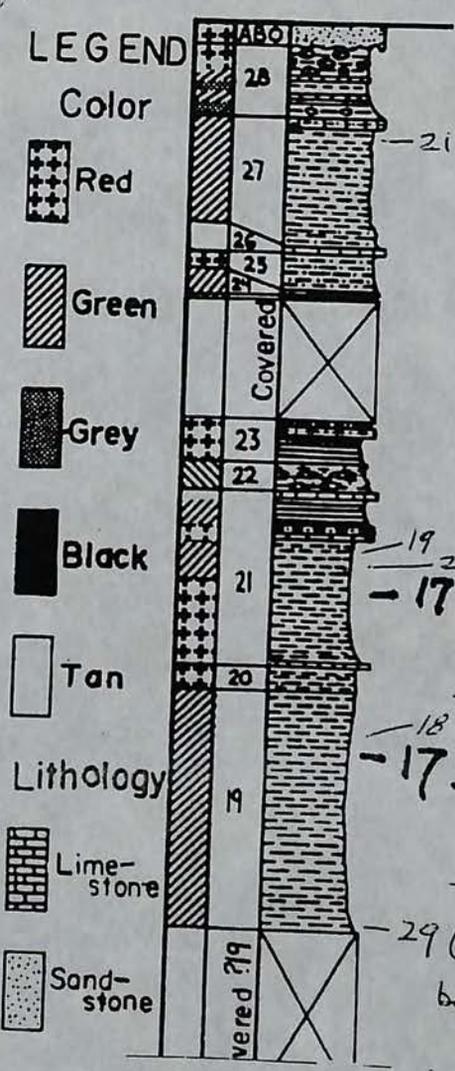
SAMPLES
Carrizo Arroyo (Abbreviation AR1)
June, 1999

Sample Number	Unit Number (K&K, 1976)	Comments
18	19	Upper insect and leaf zone; Mark thinks that this unit is equivalent to K&K unit 19. I'm reasonably happy with that pick. Same as the sample that Jane Knaus sent you. Maybe equivalent/close to sample AR1-17.
19	21	Defiantly above 18 both stratigraphically and geographically. Maybe equivalent/close to sample AR1-17.
20	21	As above, but a bit lower in unit 21. Maybe equivalent/close to sample AR1-17.
21	27	Highest green* shale above main fossil localities on east side of Carrizo Arroyo.
22	2	Greenish* shale below a bed of SS on west side of arroyo opposite and down stream a short distance from coal bed.
23	3	Defiantly in the top of unit 3; maybe equivalent to sample 4 of previous collection.
24	?8	Greenish* shale directly below LS pebble conglomerate (unit 9 of K&K); top 8 is covered in K&K, however. What unit should it be assigned to? 8 or 9?
25	9	Shale interbed in unit 9 in LS pebble conglomerate.
26	?	Greenish* nodular shale below a ledge of SS across wash from main localities; appears to be above LS pebble conglomerate in unit 9; maybe equivalent to unit 10.
27	8	Near top of greenish* shale exposure about 4'6" above coal unit (unit 6).
28	?	Shale from 3' below unit 9 and 2'6' below sample 24.
29	19	Base of slope below upper insect/plant zone. Probably the same as AR1-16. The upper flora/insect locality is in the top of this unit.

*at least these units look greenish in outcrop!



lower plant / in 22 of beds



Upper insect / plant beds

New samples in red 6/99

Delivered-To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
From: Sidash@aol.com
Date: Thu, 10 Jun 1999 23:39:01 EDT
Subject: Carrizo Arroyo
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 13

Dear Al:

Well, I finally got into the Carrizo Arroyo locality. Don Tidwell made arrangements to get the key and a guide who took us in there on Tuesday. We went back on Wednesday also.

It was where I said I thought it was towards the end of the day we tried to find it. In spots the road was worse than the one we were on earlier in the day and I do not think you would have enjoyed parts of it. If we had continued into it that day we really wouldn't have had enough time to collect it. Our mistake was in assuming that the wide haul road for the dump was the road marked on the map we had. It wasn't and was way off. We did spot the remains of the old road on the map but the entrance to it was blocked off on the new road. The road that Don Tidwell and I used took off from the haul road about 5 miles from the gate and connected up with the road we were on late in that day we tried to find the locality. I should have had the courage of my convictions!

Anyway, I collected about 10 more samples for you and will send them off later this week I hope. Now you will have a few more samples for your helpers to prepare in July as you planned.

Did Jane ever tell you what unit she got her sample from like I asked her to do?

as ever
-----Sid

P.S. Hi Betty!

Delivered-To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
From: Sidash@aol.com
Date: Mon, 23 Nov 1998 23:55:19 EST
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: Red Tanks/Carrizo Arroyo flora
X-Mailer: AOL 4.0 for Windows 95 sub 226

Dear Al:

Glad to hear that you are in position to start working on the Red Tanks/Carrizo Arroyo palynoflora; I look forward to hearing more about your findings in due course. In the meantime I think we had better agree on the name of the palynoflora. In my opinion, I think that we should call it the Carrizo Arroyo Palynoflora after the locality just as we talk about the Kinney Brick Company Quarry Palynoflora or Kinney Palynoflora. But what do you think? Prefer?

The official deadline for receipt of the manuscripts for the major papers in the guidebook is now established as 15 January but it may slip a week or so if absolutely necessary. As I mentioned earlier the papers must have been reviewed by two people prior to submittal and copies of the reviews have to be included with the manuscripts. I'll get you copies of the review forms and the Instructions to Authors later this week.

In case you run out of time an alternate route is to submit a "minipaper" which have a 1500-word and 1-figure limit. These are reviewed by the guidebook editors only. The deadline is also 15 January for minipapers. They do not require abstracts or headings.

Thanks for your comments about the new name Tharrisia - as far as I can determine it hasn't been used for fossil plants yet but I do not know about the living ones. I guess you figured out the name honors Prof Harris.

Hope Betty gets some help cooking for your feast. We are going to Gallup to celebrate with Shirley's folks - hope they don't turn on this pilgrim while we are there!

---Sid

Printed for traverse@ems.psu.edu (traverse)

From: Sidash@aol.com
Date: Fri, 21 Aug 1998 09:06:53 EDT
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: RT

Dear Al

Thanks for bringing me up to date. Sounds as if you will be busy the next little while. Hope that all goes well.

When he returns in October there is always the possibility that the organizer of the symposium/monograph will not allow us to participate or if he does he may put his name on the articles. (He is obsessed with getting as many titles as possible!) So we should be prepared to publish in another venue. In any case do you think that you would want to put your article in the same obscure series as the Kinney Brick Quarry volume? Perhaps, it should go into a more mainline series such as Palynology or Review of Palaeobotany.....?

good luck with your trip next week

----Sid

It's nice to know you are happier in Alb. But I found the "good opportunities to eat out" puzzling, as you claimed last October to be more or less immune to such affete matters.

It is great to know that you are back at work. I have given a bit of thought to the question of a term for the pattern of plant extinctions. The ideas that one wants to stress are that plants are as groups survivors and thus do not die off with the preciseness of animal lines. Further, the big thing with plant evolutionary patterns is the origin of new lines, not the extinction of old ones. This shows clearly in the spore record, where bottoms are much more distinct than tops.

"Piecemeal" isn't bad but seems perhaps to suggest that while extinction is irregular it is complete even though occurring in steps. However, I am not able so far to come up with anything that is much better. "Disjunctive with stragglers", "irregular with residues", "random with relics", "partial and disharmonious with many vestiges", "checkerboard of extinction with survivors", "haphazard with leftovers" - I perhaps like the checkerboard one the best of these.

We are using the air conditioning practically every night. Some years we seldom use it at all. So, this is a hot summer. But it hasn't produced individual days as hot as some in the past. We have had summers with many days over 100 (highest recorded at our place - 106). This summer the highs have been mostly in the high 80s and low 90s. We could do with more rain.

All the best to you both. Al

To: sidash@aol.com
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: extinction, etc.
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

I am finally moved into the cubicle I will share with Lauren Wright, to the point where I could get my computer hooked up. So, this is my second outgoing message since getting reattached in here. My library and slides, etc., are in about 150 boxes, completely filling our two car garage--I really feel sad about the Oregon work, because that was going so well when the boom was lowered in mid-June. As of yet, I haven't found any of the loose ends of that project, though I tried to arrange it so that I would have no difficulty.

It's nice to know you are happier in Alb. But I found the "good opportunities to eat out" puzzling, as you claimed last October to be more or less immune to such effete matters. Hmmm.

It is great to know that you are back at work. I have given a bit of thought to the question of a term for the pattern of plant extinctions. The ideas that one wants to stress are that plants are as groups survivors and thus do not die off with the preciseness of animal lines. Further, the big thing with plant evolutionary patterns is the origin of new lines, not the extinction of old ones. This shows clearly in the spore record, where bottoms are much more distinct than tops.

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All the best to you both. Al

From: Sidash@aol.com
Return-path: <Sidash@aol.com>
To: bettyandal@juno.com
Date: Sun, 26 Jul 1998 13:10:32 EDT
Subject: miscellaneous
Message-ID: <135ae621.35bb6309@aol.com>
X-Status: Read
X-Mailer: AOL 3.0 for Windows 95 sub 76

Dear Al:

I don't think we are in Utah anymore, Totto - there are so many non-Anglos here and so many good opportunities to eat out! And the attitudes are so different! We can hardly accept the fact that we have managed to get back to our "roots."

Although we haven't finished unpacking yet I have started my research again. In one of my manuscripts which has been accepted for publication in IJPS I have used some of the information in your very nice 1988 article "Plant evolution dances to a different beat..." and am searching for a name for the type of extinction pattern shown by plants which will contrast to the "mass extinction" pattern shown by animals. You have clearly described what has happened to the plants but I can't seem to have a name for the pattern. I have suggested using the term "piecemeal." Can you think of a better one? I would define it as "the pattern where individual taxa have become extinct at widely different times during the geologic past rather than many disappearing at one time or during a very short interval of geologic time." Any comments and/or suggestions would be appreciated. thanks.

I suppose you are still busy moving your office and I understand your situation very well since most of my office stuff is still in boxes and I have to stop and search for this or that when I'm trying to finish my projects.

Hope it isn't too hot for you folks this summer. It did get into the low 100s a couple of days but has finally cooled off now that the "monsoons" have begun. The relative low humidity is what makes this place bearable during the summer.

best wishes
—Sid

Disjunctive
stragglers

stopshod-
survivors

irregular

residual

leftovers

haphazard
random

checkerboard
survivors

partial
qualified

distasteful
jumbled

From: Sidash@aol.com
Return-path: <Sidash@aol.com>
To: bettyandal@juno.com
Date: Thu, 11 Jun 1998 23:51:34 EDT
Subject: Re: contact
Message-ID: <332ff626.3580a5c7@aol.com>
X-Status: Read
X-Mailer: AOL 3.0 for Windows 95 sub 76

Dear Al:

That is indeed bad news that you have to move your office on such short notice. I know it is bad enough when you know months ahead of time like me.

But at least you don't have to transport your library as far as I do!

What about selling your paleobotany library to a dealer such as Wheldon and Wesley in England or there is a dealer in Cottonwood, AZ who buys such stuff also.

I'm home right now and don't have the address of either handy. If I remember to do so I'll send the addresses to you on Monday.

My new addresses are as follows: sidash@aol.com and 1708 Quail Run Court NE, Albuquerque, NM 87122. Will let you know about the phone number

after we get that sorted out.

Going back in an early message I know that Ron doesn't always follow-through so I'm not holding my breath until he actually does produce something for us. With all that you (and I) have to do in the next couple of months I guess there isn't that big a rush to get something from him anyway. And I suppose there might be a possibility that he is just stringing us along.???

I'm off to Albuquerque tomorrow with a load of books and fossils.

Hi Betty!

—Sid

Date: Fri, 05 Jun 1998 14:46:21 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: various -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Al:

Although Ron indicated he would share projects with you he hasn't been very prompt in doing so has he. He told me that the Judd Tongue project was almost done and I thought he was going to send us the stuff right away. As far as I know Bruce is not at all interested in palynology so I think the Jurassic material he worked on is available. I did not discover the locality but I do have material from there if you need to make new preparations.

The research schedule you propose sounds logical. I am glad to hear that you are interested in pursuing the Red Tanks palynoflora. We will be living only about 35 miles from the locality so it would be handy to show it to you if you are in the area of Albuquerque or to get more samples.

Shirley has had aol for several years and has now signed me on also. My address is sidash@aol.com Juno sounds good. Maybe we'll try it later.

The new owners want to move in three weeks from yesterday so it is back to packing!

---Sid

To: sidash@weber.edu

From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)

Subject: various

Cc:

Bcc:

X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

You did great. One normally expects to sell for at least 10% below the original asking price. That's standard, at least around here, so everybody asks at least 10% more than he/she expects to get. Even 15% is still pretty good. New address noted. You will send the new phone number. But what about an e-mail address? Will you get AOL or Compuserve or whatever at home? At home we have Juno, which is only for e-mail--not networking--but it has the marvellous advantage of being absolutely free.

If you are interested, send Betty an e-mail to bettyandal@juno.com, and she will send you info on how to get aboard. We have found it great. They seem to have servers everywhere. For example, we used it in little towns on the way to Florida in Dec. (using our laptop with motel phone jacks) and never had to pay for long distance. When we had AOL we found plenty of places without a server, and we had to pay a long distance call to get on. Besides, AOL was always overloaded, and we usually couldn't get on anyway.

It is not clear to me what my function would be in the proposed SW Triassic/Jurassic work, but I will approach that subject with an open mind. I am very keen to have an ongoing relationship with S. A. Taking on the flora that Bruce worked on sounds interesting--do you know if he ever published it or thinks he has claims on it? I haven't heard from him in years. Who discovered it--you or he?

But there's more. By strange coincidence, after some months of silence from Deb, I get in the same day's e-mail as yours a long, very nice missive from her. She says, in part:

"Regarding the Red Tanks work, I only looked at samples from the Pine Shadow Mbr. of the Wild Cow Fm., so there would be no duplication of effort in your work with Sid. I'll be anxious to see how those assemblages compare to the Wild Cow samples and with some that Kosanke had from the Paradox Basin - maybe we'll start to get a better picture of vegetation in "upland " sites of the Late Pennsylvanian and Permian."

Sometimes I really do wonder about ESP.

So, it seems to me that I should first finish the Oregon stuff--I'm working on it every time I get a chance. One of our samples from Elk River is just great. When I finish that, I guess the indications are that I should go back to the Red Tanks stuff and polish that up. Not so? Then I would be responsive to some segment of the SW work with you and Ron. It doesn't really sound to me that he is willing to "cede" any part of his kingdom, though he might be willing to take on a sharecropper. As I said above, however, I am willing to consider any concrete proposal, and I very much want to work with You.

I guess that takes care of it. Moving is a hell of a mess and will destroy about a year of your life, unless you are a lot better at it than we are. Good to know that you will have help from K-E. She and especially Randall should start learning Navajo asap. Would increase their credibility. I believe firmly that one can't really be in touch with a culture without knowing its language.

Felicitations about progress in your lives again. Regards to Shirley.

All the best. Al.

As I've indicated before, I would be interested in working on these. Your idea is the best and you, if you are willing to tolerate them to us, I don't want any more. I don't want them and already there.

News on the world sounds really encouraging. Thanks very much for the news and the best wishes for the future.

Best Al.

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: projects
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

Good suggestion. I'll contact Deb for an opinion and let you know what she says.

As I've intimated before, I would interested in working on those Tr/Jr units in the west with you, if Ron is willing to release them to us. I don't want any feuds, though, I mean more than are already there.

News on the house sounds mildly encouraging. The next couple of months are the best ones for real estate sales most places.

Best. Al.

—Sid

Date: Mon, 18 May 1998 08:29:38 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: projects -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Dear Al:

I can't seem to find anything in Deb Willard's study of the Late Pennsylvanian (Early Virgilian) Wild Cow palynoflora (NMBMMR Bull. 138) about the Red Tanks palynoflora. Somehow I got the idea (from you?) that the Red Tanks palynoflora was younger - Early Permian (Wolfcampian) in age. In some places various authors say the unit is Late Penn-Early Permian. Perhaps you could settle the question. Even if it is Permian I suppose that there might not be much difference in them. Perhaps you need to contact Deb Willard directly to find out if she has worked on the Red Tanks palynoflora. As I remember it, I collected a stratigraphic sequence of samples at the Red Tanks locality so you could work on vertical changes in the palynoflora.

I've tried to contact Ron about joint/cooperative projects but he hasn't returned my calls. The Jurassic palynoflora samples were collected by Ron and I so he would have first call on the locality but if he doesn't mind I could recollect the section for you this summer. I hope he will cooperate????

We did have an open house yesterday but we weren't there and the agent hasn't said anything about the results. He is very up beat but we haven't seen any real sign of interest. ?? Interestingly in the past we have had two Hispanic couples look at the property. Guess at least some of the Hispanics who used to live mainly in the central older part of Ogden are trying to move out and up to get away from the criminal activity there. We already have two Hispanic families living adjacent to us so maybe it is a sign of the times in Ogden.

best wishes

---Sid

Date: Tue, 12 May 1998 13:20:30 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: MS -Reply (5/12)
Content-Disposition: inline

Dear Al:

Thank you very much for your review/edit of my little manuscript. I found it lurking in my mail box when I got back from Denver last night. Everyone of your comments and suggestions is appreciated and will probably be accepted. It was prepared at the request of the editors of "PALAEONTOLOGY II" so the length is tightly controlled - 1500 words maximum. I had considered including an illustration but the manuscript must be shortened to compensate for any that are used. But I will rethink that idea at least. Yes, I will help stamp out Tertiary and Quaternary.

HOUSE SALE

No, still no movement on our Ogden house inspite of the fact that we lowered the price \$10K. Our agreement with the agent expires at the end of June. If he hasn't got the place under contract by then we plan to turn it over to another broker as you suggest. We have got a 30 day extension on the Albuquerque contract so we could hang on until August 1 without too much problem.

PROJECTS

I recognize that like me, you want to work on projects that will give you the most bang for your buck (effort) so I understand why you want to be choosy with what you do with your research time. Thus I understand your reluctance to work on the Red Tanks palynoflora if Deb Willard worked on it already. But are you sure she worked on it? I knew she did the Wild Cow palynoflora in the same area but it was my understanding she wasn't going to work on the Red Tanks stuff which is older. I've never seen her report on the Red Tanks palynoflora-can you give me the reference?

The NB flora would have to wait until 1999 at least. But I am interested.

The new Jurassic palynoflora has never been described but it could be compared with Cornet's work, such as it was. It is a Ron project. When I suggested a Chinle/Dockum project I was mainly thinking of resurrecting some of the projects Ron and I started. I would envision using the samples Ron and I collected and working closely with him and putting his name on the resulting reports. Of course that would mean that the manuscript would have to be approved by the USGS wouldn't? I invested a lot of time in the field with Ron collecting the samples so I don't think he should complain about our work, especially since it is pretty obvious he will never return to the Triassic-Jurassic. If he and/or you aren't interested in such an arrangement then you and I could probably

dream up something new and/or different. I'll contact him after I learn what you think about this. I could always go back and collect the Jurassic material and you could start anew with that project.

Thanks again for your help with my manuscript.

---Sid

X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

I have gone through the MS with a red pencil. It has been my experience that with this sort of job there is no substitute for the hard copy. In other words, I think I should mail this out to you. I will hand carry it to the post office on the way home.

As I said before, not knowing what this is for makes it hard to suggest general changes. I would really like you to try to make some sort of diagram of "Herbivory through Time," or some such, as it would cross up the article and make it more interesting. However, the general flow of the article is logical and, depending on the target, will be just fine.

What I have done is to suggest some improvements in language, plus indicate some errors that should be corrected, or mistakes in agreement of number. In many places the def. art. can be dropped, and I have suggested condensation of wording in a number of places. There are quite a few places where I think additional commas are needed for readability, as well as by grammatical rules.

Please help abolish "Tertiary" and "Quaternary," which as Del Berggren correctly says, should follow Primary and Secondary onto the rubbish heap of science. The periods of the Cenozoic are Paleogene and Neogene, and Neogene runs to the present (despite some misguided souls who haven't read the original descriptions of the period).

Didn't Sid Ash himself do something about herbivory in the Triassic? Why not quote it?

Must dash. Best, Al

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: MS
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

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Didn't Sid Ash himself do something about herbivory in the Triassic? Why not quote it?

Must dash. Best. Al.

Date: Thu, 30 Apr 1998 09:25:07 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: FMs -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Dear Al--

SUSPECT TERRANE PROJECTS

Yes, you are correct the TH samples are from the Riddle Fm.; the quarry samples from near Riddle most probably are from the Riddle Fm also. People who have worked in the area are a bit vague about what to call the unit but don't seem to feel alarmed about calling it Riddle. In our report I think that we could just say that it is mapped as Riddle, particularly if the palynomorphs seem to fit. If they are way off the mark then we will need to rethink it.

You are correct about the other samples. The Port Orford and EK samples come from the Rocky Pt fm which could be the same age as the Riddle samples or not since they are thought to occur in different Suspect Terranes.

OTHER PROJECTS

It doesn't look like Litwin will get back any time soon to the Chinle/Dockum projects we had started. Maybe you could take them over so that all our work won't have gone to waste. We also had a new Jurassic microflora that needs to be worked up. Would you be interested at all in pursuing any of these projects?

The NB trip/project sounds interesting but do you think there is much possibility of collecting any good leaves there?

What about that gorgeous microflora from the Pennsylvanian Red Tanks Fm near Albuquerque. I remember collecting a section there which could be used to determine any vertical changes in the flora.

WINTER HOME

The reason for my comment about the numbers of people of colour in LC is that some people get nervous about being around people who don't look the same as them, not that people of colour are necessarily bad. I just wanted you to be aware that LC is not that different from El Paso in that regard. Frankly I think it would be great place, at least to try out.

I delayed responding to your questions in you recent messages thinking that by doing so I could get my little ms finished and on the way to you for review. It still isn't quite done so I though I should go ahead and respond before any more time passes. Hopefully I can send it off tomorrow but don't hold your breath. In the meantime best wishes, and Betty good luck with your presentation!

----Sid

Date: Fri, 24 Apr 1998 12:35:56 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: review (4/24)
Content-Disposition: inline

AI:

Would it be possible for you to look at a little (1500 words) manuscript that I have been asked to prepare on herbivory? You have such a way with words that I am sure it would benefit from your red pencil. I could send it to you by e-mail early next week if its practical for your to look at it. There are better qualified people to write the article but I was chosen. Perhaps because the others were too busy!! Thanks.

I think Las Cruces would be a good possibility for a winter retreat for you and Betty. But remember there are a lot of people of color there, mainly hispanic. Perhaps a small town in southern Arizona near Tucson might work too.

Hi Betty!

----Sid

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: samples, etc.
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

What a neat e-mail address you have! You may miss it.

Regarding more Thompson Creek samples: there is a puzzling bit about it all.. We have once obtained a more or less workable (sparse, poorly preserved) palynoflora from one sample (TH-2). Since then Betty has processed all sorts of other sub-samples of TH-2 with 0 success. VERY STRANGE. If you have different sorts of lithology from what we have so far tried, why not? Even if only slightly different, they might work. How would we go about getting some pieces from the fossils in the USNM? I am only a four hour drive from there, of course.

Of course, nothing would happen until about April. Because we leave for Florida in ten days. (By the way, I think I've already mentioned that everything from here, snail mail, e-mail, will be forwarded.)

Look forward to info on the Riddle Shooting Gallery.

You insist on kidding me about a serious psychological problem. I try to forget it. You wouldn't kid me about my swollen prostate gland--or would you? Hmmmm.

You should find jury duty interesting at times and BIG BORING at other times. If you ever get sequestered, they won't even let you have daily papers or anything else to read. Also no radio. Etc. I had to play dominoes with my fellow Texans.

In Florida we'll be in Clearwater. Friends around here are regaling us with the Scientology presence there. Won't bother me. I hadn't planned on even visiting Dilcher, but I might change my mind. I have two scientific papers to complete down there. One is Devonian, the other a proposal to amend the Code, for Taxon.

Best to both you and dear Shirley for the holidays and for 1998.

Al

Date: Fri, 12 Dec 1997 09:42:04 -0700
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: samples -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

AI:

Thanks for the update on our samples. Would you want more samples from the Thompson Creek locality specimens I have in my collection? There are also specimens collected in the last century from the same locality in the USNM collections-perhaps they might be worth checking to see if they possibly include other/more productive lithologies.

I am still trying to confirm the name of the formation at the quarry near Riddle. I'm sure I'll have that info by March.

By the way thanks for the photo Christmas card and letter. I still think the photo would have been dramatic if it had been taken right on the bank of Crater Lake. Then you would have looked even more Christmasy with a green complection! (or would it have been white?)

The authorities downtown have finally caught up with me and I have to report for jury duty on Monday. It should be interesting.

We are going out of town too - to Albuquerque on 20 December for about 10 days. That is, if the weather cooperates and it doesn't snow the weekend we leave. We received nearly 2 feet of snow on Monday and most of it is still on the ground because the tempertures have not got above freezing since then. Of course they did get 3 inches in Albuquerque the other day so we won't entirely miss snow when we move down there.

Where will you be in Florida? Will you be going to work with Dave Dilcher while you are there?

best wishes to you and Betty
---Sid

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: update
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

I have previously told you that samples 1-7 from Thompson Creek were all barren. Sample 8, from up on the road, at the locality you thought would turn out to be Cenozoic, did, but the palynoflora is not per se especially interesting, so I guess I'll pitch it too since there is no particular need to date the stuff.

The Elk River samples, however, are productive, and a couple of them big time productive, with beautifully preserved sporomorphs.

The Riddle "quarry samples," also known as the "shooting range samples" are productive, though the sporomorphs are wretchedly preserved. So, it has turned out to be important to find out if the stuff is actually Riddle Formation.

Betty is still working with the seaside samples, and they don't look very good from the prelim slides I have examined, but if the Elk River locality is Rocky Pt., it doesn't matter so much.

Happy holidays. Regards to Shirley. And to you! Al.

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: natal greetings
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

According to my (sometimes faulty) records, this is your birthday! If I got it right, Happy Birthday! If not, please set me straight. What year?

Hey, I was called out of retirement to give a lecture on plant evolution to an elementary class yesterday. Made me nervous, but it was fun.

Betty is processing the second half of the Oregon samples. She stuck in a couple of my Devonian samples with the first half, and THEY'RE SUPER. So, I am studying the slides this morning.

Colin McGregor is the great Devonian guru, up at the Canadian Survey in Ottawa. I e-mailed him asking him if I could visit with a few of my slides for a day or two to compare notes and pick his brain. His response?: "I'm retired and having fun with travel and my hobbies. I'd love to see you personally, but don't bring any slides and don't mention palynology while you're here." Ye gods.

Celebrate with lots of potato chips! Many happy returns.

Best. Al.

P. S. The machine said the first effort to send this failed, so I'm trying again.

Date: Tue, 25 Nov 1997 10:49:02 -0700
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: natal greetings -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Al:

Stop! Stop! Stop!

One remainder of my birthday is enough. In spite of what your machine told you I did receive the first natal greeting and then the three subsequent editions

I was surprised to get your message(s) because the weather folks were saying that you were having trouble with ice storms, etc. at State College and that travel was difficult, etc.

I received the additional field trip photo in this mornings mail. It looks good and brings back some nice memories. Thanks!

While we are in contact can you give me the address and name of the person from whom we can order the last few issues of PALYNOLOGY. I am still ordering books for our library and I would like to get this series up to date before I leave.

That is interesting about your Canadian friend. I don't see how a person can just turn of their research like that!!!

best to you and Betty.

----Sid

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: samples
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

Bad news. Samples 97-1 through 97-7, those from the Thompson Creek locality, are ALL barren, utterly, though they do contain reasonably abundant organic matter, some with woody structure. Puzzling indeed.

Samples 97-8, which was the one from the outcrop at roadside about 5 miles from the Thompson Creek locality, has very abundant organic matter, including plenty with cellular structure, but only a few sporomorphs. From two slides I only found about 20 specimens. If I had to take a guess based on this tiny "flora" I would say early Paleocene. But, in any case, I only sampled that place because it might turn out to be a super flora--which it isn't. (If it were important, this sample could be dated with many more slides.)

So, now on to the Elk River samples. And we have only more shot at Riddle Fm., from the quarry, right?

Chagrined. Al.

Date: Mon, 24 Nov 1997 14:18:40 -0700
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: samples -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Al:

I was about ready to thank you for the photos you sent us last week when your message arrived. The photos are nice, especially the one of the rainbow at the front of the mountains. That is discouraging about the Thompson Creek samples. If I recall correctly I think I said that the roadside locality was probably Tertiary in age when I looked at the map of the area so your age determination fits. Hope the other samples are better. I wrote to the folks that did the geologic map of the area about the age of the rocks in the quarry but they have not replied; I think I will wait until I hear from you about that sample before I bother them again. Sorry that you've wasted so much time and money with these samples.

Our best regards to you and Betty. Hope you both have a happy Thanksgiving holiday.

---Sid

Date: Wed, 05 Nov 1997 08:52:14 -0700
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: samples, etc. -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Al:

Glad to hear that you survived your trip to Germany.

Don't bother looking for the maps I promised to send you because I am just now mailing them to you. (I just got back from another trip to AZ and NM.) If you indeed return to the NW for further collecting, etc. I recommend that you purchase the entire maps that the photocopies came from as follows:

1. Port Orford, OR, 1:100, 000 30' x 60' quadrangle.
2. Canyonville, OR, 1:100, 000, 30' x 60' quadrangle.
3. Crater Lake, OR, 1:100, 000, 30' x 60' quadrangle.

These maps are just about as detailed as the conventional 7.5' quadrangles, yet they cover a bigger area.

That is interesting news about the Senckenberg Museum and their new exhibit. Too bad they don't have some other plants besides *Arau. az* from the Chinle for the exhibit. I'd estimate that the polished log cost about 10 K; the polishing is what would run the cost up.

By the way, thanks for sending along the article on the Navajo rug exhibit in St. Louis; we found it interesting. It is a different exhibit than what Kathleen worked on.

best wishes to you and Betty

---Sid

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: mystery
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

We got home last night at 9 p. m., after three hour drive from Baltimore. The trip down took five hours because of an accident that marooned us on I-70 for two hours. My sister did show up at the SL airport, and we had a nice visit with her. She met us as we deplaned and walked with us to the new departure gate, and ate her lunch with us.

Thanks for sending off the samples and much else. We had a great time with you. Fantastic trip, even if it bored YOU.

Interesting about the Port Orford rain. My only regret about the trip is that I didn't take your advice and go for staying overnight down there. Maybe we could have found the outcrops-proper for the Rocky Pt. If you will provide maps or something to help, I am going to try again by flying to Portland next summer sometime and driving down to coast.

Which reminds me that I THINK what I tried to get you to write in the little book, in which I wanted you to take scads of notes, but you just wouldn't, was: find out from Oregon folks whether the Riddle quarry is in the Riddle Fm. While you are at it, you might try to find out if we were really in the Rocky Pt. at the place where we almost had our feet in the Pacific Ocean (!--what a trip).

That was a great trip to Snow Mountain, or whatever it is called. Thanks!

National R. C. did refund me the money for the power steering fluid, and the young lady who took care of checking us in was just about the cutest redhead I've ever seen, and she had such a wonderfully sweet manner, that I got to thinking that she might be.....almost certainly.....

Regards to Shirley.

Al.

Date: Fri, 10 Oct 1997 09:07:12 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: miscellaneous
Content-Disposition: inline

Hi:

I presume you have arrived safely and are busy getting ready for your next trip so I will keep this short.

The box of samples was sent off yesterday by snail mail. Hopefully it will arrive someday!

When I unpacked I found a note reading "samples" and thats all. Although I can't believe it has happened it appears that my mousetrap-like mind has failed me. Can you remind me what I was suppose to do??? Your answer can wait until after you return from Germany.

All in all I sure enjoyed our trip to Oregon and back and your short visit in this area. Next time you visit us I hope we will be in Albuquerque where there are more things to see and do. I heard on the weather channel that Port Orford received 2 inches of rain on Wed. Guess it is just as well we didn't wait for better weather.

Best wishes to you and Betty!

--Sid

Date: Wed, 06 Aug 1997 14:13:15 -0600
 From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
 To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
 Subject: instructions -Reply
 Content-Disposition: inline

Al---

Sorry it has taken so long to get back to you but as you realized I've been out in the field. Also, when I did get back a few days ago I had other more pressing work to do -- NSF reviews, etc. - In any case, I have gone over your messages and will answer them in order.

7/16 and 7/23 messages:

A Ford Taurus will be fine for our trip and I will help pay for it or other expenses as appropriate. Yes, I will send you a map to "Casa Ceniza."

8/4 message:

The weather just maybe cool at least in the evenings in both northern Utah and Oregon when you folks are here. It also very well could be rainy in Oregon. Thus, I recommend light coats and or sweaters in addition to rain gear.

Since there is no very direct route for us we will have choose between several slow routes. The most direct route we could take to OR is through northern NV which would take us by scenic Guano Lake. If we go that way, Winnemucca, NV would be about half way to the localities so might stay there the first night out. Another possible stop would be at Adel, OR - but does it have any motels? A somewhat longer route would be to take I-84 from here to Fruitland (guess what they grow there?), ID; then take US highway 20 west to Bend, OR where we could drop south to Crater Lake Nat. Park and then go west towards Roseburg. Although this route is longer than the first I believe that there will be more motels. Or we could follow a combination of both routes. Perhaps Betty would have a preference. In any case our localities are between Roseburg and Grants Pass (on I-5) and the Pacific.

I will be returning (via Albuquerque) to the field on Tuesday and be back in Ogden around 7 or 8 September. Most of the time I will be in Petrified Forest Nat. Pk where I can be reached at (520) 524-6228. FAX (520) 524-3567.

Hope I've answered all your questions.

Cheers!

----Sid

this way seems best to me; from Winnemucca N on 95 to state 140 & then across OR on 140 to I-5 (or could go up to Crater Lake from Klamath Falls if time)

To: sidash@weber.edu
 From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
 Subject: trip
 Cc:
 Bcc:
 X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

Yours of earlier today most welcome. I haven't made the air reservations yet, so there's still time to readjust.

So, I need you to be brutally forthcoming in order to be helpful. Are you saying that two days is not quite enough for the Ogden to OR passage?

If it REALLY is, then what's wrong with my proposed schedule is the amount of time in OR at the localities. How many more days do we need? What if we came back on the 10th October instead of the 9th? That would give three days in OR within the present schedule. Is that enough? You still haven't said exactly how many days you think we should have in OR.

I am determined for Betty to see SLC in some depth. You'll note that I put in 7 Oct. as a turn around day or safety valve. With one additional day in the trip, plus that day, we should be able to have that day in SLC? I don't care whether it is at the beginning or the end, but I do care about Betty having that experience. At the beginning has the advantage of giving us a fool-around day with you and or Shirley, to get used to the different time and recover from the SC-Ogden via LV travel before departing for OR. So, I'm leaving it that way, but adding one day. Please respond frankly!

Now, here's a revised suggested schedule:

- ~~28 Sept. to LV, get rent car, proceed north via Zion NP~~
- ✓ 29 Sept. arrive Ogden *via SLC + Baltimore*
- 30 Sept. See SLC. Get ready for field trip.
- 1 Oct. Start for Oregon
- 2 Oct. Arrive in Oregon
- 3, 4, 5 Oct. Field work (could be increased one day by using the turn around day listed below, arriving Ogden on the 8th)
- 6 Oct. Depart OR
- 7 Oct. Arrive Ogden
- 8 Oct. turn around day (this could be used in OR if necessary)
- ✓ 9 Oct. to *LV Baltimore from SLC*
- ~~10 Oct. to State College~~

So, does one additional day do the trick (plus the turn around day that could also be used)? Hope you understand the preference for doing the SLC bit at the beginning--fear that it might not happen, among other things.

What do you think? The one thing that can't be changed, once booked, is the air ticket. So, I've got to be solid on the 28 Sept. departure and 10 Oct. return before I call the USAirways Dividend Miles people.

Hosca kal! (my Turkish lesson is in one hour) Al.

Date: Mon, 07 Jul 1997 09:17:02 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: field trip, etc. -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Al--

Your schedule sounds fine whenever you start, except I'm a little nervous about the time in the field. It will take two full days to get to the localities. Two days in the field seems a bit short. I suggest leaving the SLC tour until after the field work. Then we will have more flexibility and won't feel so pushed for time in the field. We look forward to seeing you both in September.

cheers!

---Sid

Now about the trip. To my slight surprise, Betty was very enthusiastic--I was surprised because we have a lot already on the plate for Fall. For starts, we need to spend at least a week at our place in the Adirondacks, and we had planned to do that beginning about 25 Sept., including the first week of October. On 17 October we fly to Germany for about three weeks, getting back in early November. I know that both Betty and I will have a lot of fun with you and Shirley.

However, I just talked to our agent in the Mts., and he says that our place is not rented for any weeks in September at all, and there appears to be no reason we couldn't go up there earlier, getting back here about 22 September or so.

So, how does this sound for first approximation--be frank! (With frequent flyer tickets one has to be a little flexible about date of departure and return, but it is likely to be off by no more than a day in both ends.) Whoops!--I just discovered a MAJOR problem--our frequent flyer tickets are with USAirways, and I just phoned the airport here and discovered that they can't go to Salt Lake City. Closest to Las Vegas. I guess we should get a rent car in LV and head north on I-15, go off on U-9 and see a little of Zion NP and stay overnight somewhere on US89, then proceed to Ogden the next day. My original idea was to spend one whole day in SLC, staying in a motel, but I wasn't thinking of how close Ogden is to SLC. Maybe we could do the sightseeing in SLC while staying with you in Ogden. We'll have the rent car--which we could also use for the field work, unless you had other ideas. I would hope that you and/or Shirley could guide us around SLC--would save time? Maybe a Grayline tour?

Sun, 28 Sept. Fly to LV. Get rent car. Proceed north via Zion NP.
Mon, 29 Sept. Drive to Ogden.
Tue, 30 Sept. See SLC, etc.
Wed, 1 Oct. Start for Oregon.
Thurs, 2 Oct. Arrive in Oregon.
Fri, 3 Oct. Field work.

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: field trip, etc.
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

Yesterday was a banner Ash day here--first your e-mail of 2 Jul. and then the envelope with the very interesting reading matter--your paper on arthropod-plant reactions, Kathleen's paper on her weaving ancestors, and Ms. Berndt's article in which she guarantees the necessity of her emigrating. I will read the articles more thoroughly later today, but they are all obviously very interesting in different ways. There was also a sheet with something about the reference to our paper. The date 1995 is crossed out and replaced by 1994. 1994 is, of course, correct. I don't think I've ever used a different date. What am I missing?

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Thurs. 2 Oct. Arrive in Oregon
Fri. 3 Oct. Field work.

Sat. 4 Oct. Field work
Sun. 5 Oct. Drive toward Ogden
Mon. 6 Oct. Arrive Ogden
Tues. 7 Oct. turn around day or safety factor?
Wed. 8 Oct. Traverses drive to Las Vegas
Thurs. 9 Oct. Fly to State College

Several questions occur to me: you say it is "about" a two day drive to the localities in OR--does that mean it is really a little more than two? If it can comfortably be driven in two days the above will work. Is two days about right for the actual field work? Actually, as I look at the schedule above, I think maybe we should go to the Adirondacks a couple of days earlier, and depart for Utah maybe the 26th, to get us back say the 7th. We'll need some turnaround time for the European trip.

So now I await your reactions before doing anything more about this.

All the best. Al.

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: samples, etc.
Cc: [redacted]
Bcc: [redacted]
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

Yours of 27 June fun, as always.

If you think the project is worth it--and I'm not talking \$ of course--I'd say lets go to Oregon and look at the EK and TH sections in hopes of finding better lithology--it's likely we would. None of the samples you've sent was specifically selected for palynology, right?

Betty and I have lots of frequent flyer miles. She's never been to Utah. We could fly to SLC and see the sights, then visit you and Shirley briefly, then you and Betty and I could (drive?) go to the Oregon localities.

In the meantime we'll look for the samples.

All the best. Al.

Date: Wed, 02 Jul 1997 11:13:48 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: samples, etc. -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Al--

Yes, I think our project is worth a trip to the Oregon localities from both a paleobotanical and geological point of view. The only sample I collected specifically for palynology was sample TH-1 so it could be very helpful if you did the sampling yourself. Shirley and I would enjoy a visit from you and Betty and of course you could stay with us in our guest room while in Utah..

As far as a time for such a trip I suggest late September- early October. I am going in the field on July 14 down to the Petrified Forest and other Triassic localities in AZ and NM. I probably will not be back in Ogden for more than a few days at a time until about 10 September. (Now that I am retired my schedule is pretty indefinite as you know from first hand experience.) This year's GSA Annual meeting is in Salt Lake City October 20-23 with a pre-meeting field trip I am supposed to go on Oct. 17-19. Perhaps you might want to consider going to the meetings while you are out here? Abstracts are due July 8, however. Another possibility would be later in October but then we would be taking more of a chance with the weather.

We would need about a week for field work after leaving Ogden because the localities are about a 2 day drive from here. No direct easy route from Ogden. If you look at a map of Oregon the localities are in the triangle between Port Oxford (on the ocean) and Grants Pass and Roseburg in SW Oregon. One of the sights we could visit while in southern Oregon is Crater Lake NP.

If you do visit SLC with Betty I hope she controls your behavior so that you don't get into trouble for desecrating a particular grave in the city like you attempted to do when Ron and I were with you on our last visit there before the Keystone meetings!

cheers!

---Sid

Date: Fri, 27 Jun 1997 13:30:42 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: new samples
Content-Disposition: inline

Dear Al---

I have just sent you a small package with new samples from EK-1 and TH-2. All the stuff I have looks pretty much alike so the samples were not chosen because they necessarily looked better than others. I suppose the best bet would be for you to visit the locality yourself and go through the whole section; alternatively, you could visit me and go through my collection. But I'm not sure it is economical to do so. I still can't believe that the coaly sample (TH1) wasn't any good.

In a separate package I have sent you a reprint and some other stuff you may find diverting???

My official duties are about over. Now I can concentrate on my own chores, such as moving my office. Also, I hope do catch up on my reading -- I'm only 30 years behind!

cheers!

---Sid

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: samples, etc.
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

As long as the computer system being "down" didn't wipe out your files, one day down seems a non-problem. When I get busy at the scope I sometimes don't check this sucker in a week.

Let's see. Oh, yes, I was gratified by the confession from ol' Sid that I didn't just make up this business about EK1 having something to do with "the project."

When I gave you collecting guidelines yesterday I didn't say anything about color, except that gray is best. I did mention that mottling (typically, grays, greens and reds) is always bad. White is bad. Red is bad (the only reddish rock out of which I ever got palynomorphs was sent to me by dear Sid Ash--I've always thought that the redness must not have been due to oxidation, as is usually the case, but due to inherent red minerals). Greens are sometimes good, if the green was original, but it is often secondarily reduced--too late! Brown is often o. k., but not if the brownness is from oxidized minerals instead of organics.

In the Adirondacks the people who love the open spaces go out into such in canoes. What would really turn you off is the utter lack of sedimentary rock. Our place is built on charnockite and anorthosite. The former is famous in mineralogy because the type locality is a gravestone in Bombay (or is it Calcutta?), India. The stone was shipped out from Charnock's home area of Scotland, as I recall the story.

Regards to you and Shirley. Al.

Date: Thu, 26 Jun 1997 08:55:28 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: project -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Al--

Our computer system was down yesterday so it could be upgraded, whatever that means, so I didn't see your message until this am. Prior to this upgrading the system was working fine..I don't why they had to mess with it. There seem to be some new problems with the system now. Why fix it, if it isn't broke????

I'm not sure when I sent you my last message - probably 2 weeks ago?? But, in any case I will go through my collection and send you a few more samples from TH2. As I said earlier, I think I sent all there was from TH1 but I will keep searching for more as I pick out some fudgy material from TH2.

I think your confusion with the locaity for sample ER1 (aka EK1) is that I didn't make it clear in my correspondance that there was any significant difference. Sorry for this.

I now have more time for research as I only have to finish the annual report for the department and move my office elsewhere in this building. Unfortunately the room doesn't have a window. But at least I will have a place to work for at least a year. In the meantime I have gotten rid of my books and reprints on Tertiary floras. I will be going back to the Petrified Forest on July 14 and won't be back to Ogden very much until about the 10th of September. I will take the latest version of our report along and work with it when it is available.

Your visit to your place in the Adirondacks sounds like fun but I would probably feel too closed in by the trees to really enjoy it! Give me the wide open spaces.

best wishes to you and Betty
---Sid

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: project
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

We are just back from eight days at our place in the Adirondacks. Conferring with contractors and agents, splitting and stacking firewood, hanging the new curtains B. had made, and to a certain extent recreating--e. g., entertaining a cousin from Montreal. With her we climbed Bald Mountain, an anorthosite massif with lots of glacially produced rounded cliffs, glacial striae, the works. Lots of Cyripedium, etc. There isn't a sedimentary rock or fossil within 200 miles. Flora and fauna impoverished. Good place for a paleobotanist to relax!

Your phone message listened to. The machine says only "Wednesday," without a number, so it could have been early today, or a week ago today. E-mail message of 18 June also in. Lithology--I thought I had long ago educated you on that--gray color, siltstone [or claystone or sandstone with lots of silt], no evidence of cooking or slickensides, no evidence of weathering [most often indicated by mottling]. Presence of plant fossils is neutral--some such rocks are barren, others productive. Heavy cementation is negative--in other words, gray fudgy siltstones are best.

You never answered my earlier questions about how I fell into the trap of thinking that the two samples we have been corresponding about were part of the same story.

The Russians just passed a law to stop Mormon missionaries in their tracks--I'll bet your papers have had editorials.

Best. Al.

SIDNEY ASH, 01:50 PM 6/18/97, new samples etc.

1

Date: Wed, 18 Jun 1997 13:50:34 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: new samples
Content-Disposition: inline

X-Attachments:

Al--

I now have time to return to the Thompson Creek flora. Before I send you any new samples I'd like to talk to you about appropriate lithology. So, I'll give you a call tomorrow morning after I get to the office (about 8am my time). Cheerio!

---Sid

Well, let's have another go at what you have of TH-1--could be that if you carefully select for silliness and lighter than average color, it might go. Regret to report that Betty's most recent repeat of TH-2 was again utterly barren. Very puzzling. The TH-2 that produced the (very scarce and poor) spores from which I was able to date the sample came from the same jar, but perhaps by dumb luck included a little stringer of good stuff. I processed it as the class demo of processing two-years ago. It's very perplexing. As you know, you sent a series of additional TH-2 that all turned out barren. We are game to try another TH-2 and another TH-1.

You could also read the other message and respond to the ideas in it. It would still be possible to publish on TH and EK (TH), even on the basis of only two miserable polymorphs--in fact, a neat illustration of marginal paleontology.

For your supper? Is Shirley ill?

When you get "free," maybe I'll be able to talk you into having a go at New Brunswick with me. I continue to work on the spores and pollen.

Best, Al

Printed for traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)

1

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: contact, etc.
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

That pesky other message came back as a sort of repeating echo, again and again. I only forwarded one to you. O. K.--"scinet" is duly expunged. God, these outfits are picky!

Well, let's have another go at what you have of TH-1--could be that if you carefully select for siltiness and lighter than average color, it might go. I regret to report that Betty's most recent repeat of TH-2 was again utterly barren. Very puzzling. The TH-2 that produced the (very scarce and poor) spores from which I was able to date the sample came from the same jar, but perhaps by dumb luck included a little stringer of good stuff. I processed it as the class demo of processing two years ago. It's very perplexing. As you know, you sent a series of additional TH-2 that all turned out barren. We are game to try another TH-2 and another TH-1.

You could also read the other message and respond to the ideas in it. It would still be possible to publish on TH and EK (ER), even on the basis of only two miserable palynoflorules--in fact, a neat illustration of marginal palynology.

Fix your supper!? Is Shirley ill?

When you get "free," maybe I'll be able to talk you into having a go at New Brunswick with me. I continue to work on the spores and pollen.

Best. Al.

Date: Fri, 02 May 1997 16:23:10 -0600
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: our e-mail problem
Content-Disposition: inline

AI

The snail mail version of your e-mail message regarding samples EK-1 and TH-2 arrived safely this am. I haven't had time to consider the content of the message just yet but I do want to address the e-mail problem, and that's the problem - the address. My new address as of a couple of months ago doesn't have scinet in it so it is now just:

sidash@weber.edu

The computer folks promised that e-mail sent to the old address would be automatically forwarded to the new address for a year but I guess they changed their minds and quit early.

I've got lots and lots of TH-2 if you want to try your (Brtty's) luck again. I still can't believe that TH-1 was barren. It looked so much better to me than TH-2. More on this later.

I know your feelings about not getting at least one of your projects undercontrol - I feel the same way because I've got about six projects about 7/8s done but I can't seem to get any of them finished for one reason or another. But in a little over eight weeks that's going to change!

At least that is what I keep telling myself. But now I've got to go fix my supper.

cheerio.

To: sidash@weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: Riddle
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

Took off Thurs. to do our monthly accounts and some income tax business, in preparation for our trip to Italy (we leave two weeks from today). Was here Friday, but spent the day at the scope, without checking this thing. Saturday I had a helper, with whom I cut up five large trees--one black walnut, four spruces, felled by a big windstorm a while back. Today I am in again. There are four items from you, viz.:

1. an e-mail (5 Mar.) saying that you'd fax it.
2. a fax (dated 5 Mar.), in my mailbox, in fine form.
3. an e-mail (5 Mar.), TH-EK reply, which is essentially the same as the fax--you said you "embedded" it--what does that mean? And for my education, what did you do differently so that it went through this time?
4. an e-mail (7 Mar.), "revision...."

O. K., now I'll produce a preliminary version of the paper, with the palynology, and send it off to you, but with only mockups of the plate and the distribution graph. I will get that off to you pre-Italy, with the idea that the final paper will be produced in April, after we return. There are a couple of tactical problems. Betty has to leave this afternoon to drive to Camp Hill (near Harrisburg) to help out with Celia's sick baby. She'll be gone three days at this critical time. Ken Hsu, the Chinese/Swiss geologist who has been one of my closest friends, and his wife, are arriving this weekend for a six-day (whew!) visit, leaving just before we depart for Italy. Talk about unfortunate timing.

Date: Sun, 09 Mar 1997 11:28:08 -0700
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: Riddle -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Al----

Sounds like you really are very busy -- not to worry if we don't get this ms sorted out in final form until after you trip to Italy. If you have a chance to send me something before you leave for Italy that would be nice but not really essential although it would probably expedite preparation of the final drift. I won't be bent out of shape if you can't send me anything this week.

By embedding I meant that I was including the manuscript fragment in the text of the message, not as an attachment. Nothing really technical - if it was, I probably couldn't have done it.

Hope you two aren't too tired to enjoy your trip...

Best to you and Betty

-----Sid

P.S. Throw out the pre 7 March editions of the ms.

Date: Mon, 24 Feb 1997 16:52:52 -0700
From: SIDNEY ASH <SIDASH@weber.edu>
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Subject: TH & EK -Reply
Content-Disposition: inline

Al---

Sorry that I didn't get back to you earlier but the paper work we are having to generate in connection with semester conversion has got me and just about every one else at this institution pretty well bogged down. And the authorities keep changing their minds about what we should do so we have to keep redoing what we did earlier. What a grand waste of time and forests!

I think we should try to publish in "Geology." I'll try and send the background material later this week. I can't do it for a few days as I have got too much other stuff on my plate - like teaching classes, grading lab reports and evaluating people for tenure.

I can hardly wait until I am retired so I can do like you and Betty.
best wishes---

Sid

To: sidash@scinet.weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: TH & EK
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

Betty and I will be in tomorrow, Tues., 24 Feb., and then not for a week. We are following the Lady Lions basketball team to the Big Ten Tournament in Indianapolis--frivolity, huh?

As I send this I am working on what I can do with the manuscript about the Early Cretaceous (Barremian?) palynoflora. When we get back it would be nice if there were in hand here the background info, so that I could put it together with what I have and send back to you in very preliminary form. We are leaving on 20 March for three weeks in Italy. Easter in Rome. More frivolity. My old friend, Ken Hsu, the famous Chinese geologist, and wife are going to be here 14-19 March as our guests, but there is this little window of time 5-14 March.....

Where do you think we could/should publish? And what sort of paper?

Best. Al T.

To: sidash@scinet.weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: TH-2 & EK-1
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

I have essentially finished the basic work on this little project and am working with the photos and the literature.

How do we go about putting together a paper on this? I suppose I could write up what I have and send it to you. On the other hand, maybe it would help me to write up the paleopalynology to have what you think (no illustrations necessary at this stage) would be the basic geological explanation in hand. Could you send that to me--just a couple of pages of rough draft would be fine.

For example, is it o. k. for me to lump TH-2 and EK-1 together in my reasoning?

All the best. Sure would be good to see you one of these days. The only state in the conterminous 48 that Betty has never visited is Utah. One of these months your phone will ring with the crazy suggestion that we bug out there for her to add it to her life list. As you may recall, I also have some unfinished business in Salt Lake City.

Cordially. Al.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES
PALYNOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
435 DEIKE BUILDING
UNIVERSITY PARK, PA 16802, USA
Phone: (814)863-3419; Fax: 814-863-7823
E-Mail: traverse@ems.psu.edu

14 October, 1996

Dr. Sidney R. Ash
Department of Geology
Weber State University
Ogden, Utah 84408

Dear Sid:

Your fax of 11-X just delivered to mail room. Whereas e-mail is so easy, fax is for me way too complicated. Incoming is delivered with regular mail, outgoing requires me to fill out a noxious form, go to another part of the building, wait in line, etc. So, for this sort of thing I go with snail mail, which is like e-mail still free, and easy for me. Phone is now pay through the nose (because I have to use a calling card, I must dial a minimum of 28 numbers and pay an outrageous rate), and fax is difficult and probably will be charged for as soon as they figure out how to do it.

Thanks for the additional info on the samples, which Betty is processing whenever she has time. As I write she is in Camp Hill (suburb of Harrisburg) with Celia's family, to help out with an emergency.

Yeah, I remember that balloon bit in Alb. all right. Ron and I had driven until 1:00 a. m. the night before, and we had breakfast with you and your dad. It was a scene. When we had our 23-state trip in Dec./Jan. we passed through Alb. on the way home. I was shocked by the way the place has grown. Takes hours just to pass through, which we did and stayed in Moriarity, or some such name. Has a GREAT Italian restaurant. About 40 mi. E of Alb. In the current number of Forbes Alb. is one of about 20 cities in USA slated to explode in population and prosperity. Pity. Two cities in Utah are also so touted. Actually, two city-complexes. Pennsylvania is expected to wither on the vine. Good. However, maybe I should buy a piece of land in Ogden as an investment? Or a four-plex?

Now to the main event. Friedemann is now "im Ruhestand." You should write to his Nachfolger, Volker Wilde. Same address at Senckenberg as F. S. was. Dynamic guy. Whoops, you don't have address: Forschungsinstitut Senckenberg, Botanik/Paläobotanik Senckenberganlage 25, D-60325, Frankfurt/M, Deutschland. Fax:49-69-79400437.

Alfred Traverse

From: Self <EDU-WEBER-SCINET/SIDASH>
 To: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
 Subject: miscellaneous
 Date: 11 Oct 96 15:14:50

Dear Al--

Yes, the sample that looks like ER1 is really ER1 in spite of what my memo says. Yes run the other samples as TH2a, etc.

Yes, I also agree tourism, is ruining the world. Its even happening in far off western China - but there most of the tourists are Chinese! ,It seems that they have a growing middle class that is trying to imitate us Americans.

Is your friend Friedemann still at the Senckenberg Museum? I need to get some information on certain Triassic fossils which probably are stored there. I can't seem to find his address or FAX number - could you send them to me if he is still there? I'd really appreciate it. Thanks.

The leaves here started to turn a few weeks ago when it got cold for a few days. Now its back up into the high 70s and low 80s so they aren't doing much. No frost in the valleys so far - gets down into the 50s at night but maybe next week???

By the way this is the week they are holding the big hot air balloon fiesta in Albuquerque. I guess you remember that don't you?
 best wishes to you and Betty

-----Sid

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	10/11/96	# of pages	1
To	DR AL TRAVERSE	From	Sidney Ash		
Co./Dept.	Penn State	Co.	LSU		
Phone #	(814) 863-3419	Phone #	801 626-6908		
Fax #	(814) 863-7823	Fax #	801 626-7445		

Al
 I'm having trouble with my e-mail - some
 lines it works and sometimes it doesn't.
 Therefore, I'm sending this by FAX also.
 Probably your best bet is to reply
 by FAX.
 Thankx

Sid

To: sidash@scinet.weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: samples

Dear Sid:

The little box of samples is in. Just to keep the record straight, could you let me know if the labelled one is really EK1 (could be interpreted as EK1), per your enclosed note, or ER1 (ERI), as written on the sample? This sort of difference sometimes causes us problems later.

The unlabelled samples all will be run as TH2a, b, etc. I note that one of them is chockablock full of plant fossils. Another is slickensided, which almost always means no good. We'll see.

Just back from the Adirondacks. It used to be that in October one had the place to himself. This time it was a mob scene. Fall coloration is the excuse. At a restaurant on Sat. there was a TWO HOUR wait to be seated. We went elsewhere, where it was ONLY an hour. Tourism is ruining the world.

Best. Al.

X-PMrqc: 1

Date: 26 Sep 96 10:16:38 MST+1

From: Sidney Ash <SIDASH@scinet.weber.edu>

Subject: Age of TH-2, etc.

To: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)

Priority: normal

Al--

Thanks very much for continuing to investigate the age of sample TH-2. We appreciate it very much and understand that what you have found out is based on more than a guess. Your findings are rather significant because they give us a new age determination for the Riddle flora. Until now it has been considered Late Jurassic in age. Now, how to proceed. The floral revision we are working on won't be finished for some time yet so I think you and I would be justified to put together a note on the age of the flora. I still have tons of material and will send you some more samples of the dark gray siltstones from the locality.

We had a great time in NYC and France. It was a real thrill to see some of the actual cave paintings and footprints made by our ancestors so many years ago. We would have liked stayed longer and seen more than the three caves that we visited. Maybe we can go back again sometime. We spent one night in a village built on the top of a cliff which is virtually unchanged since the Late Middle ages as far as the architecture goes. However they do have electricity, running water and modern plumbing! Also we enjoyed the scenery and the food and wine. Boy, those people know how to enjoy the finer things in life.

Kathleen and her husband are doing just fine. Actually, she went to France for a couple of weeks a few years ago. She is keeping very busy doing work that she loves. Currently they are arranging a new exhibit of ancient and modern Navajo weaving which opens next week in NYC. Her husband, Eddie, is a book buyer for Barnes and Noble. As a result he is constantly being wined and dined by publishers and their stable of authors in order to encourage him to peddle their books, all of which will be best sellers, of course.

Hope you were able to help your sister a little but I guess there really isn't much one can do in situations like that.

best wishes to you and Betty.

---Sid

To: sidash@scinet.weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: TH samples
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

Exciting. Let's have a go at a few more samples from the locality. Then I think we can get out a paper, providing that I don't find that the other samples knock me into a cocked hat.

The trip to St. Louis was very successful. I got my sister out of the house and to the Missouri Bot. Gard., among other places. She needs EXERCISE AND CHANGE. I visited with my poor brother-in-law, who is giving up too easily. My sister (who is six years younger than I) declined to go to the Shaw Arboretum (too much walking, Alfred) with me, but I spent most of a day there alone and want to go back. It's a great place. It's a 450 acre farm that MBG bought in 1935, to move the Garden too, because pollution was killing all the trees. Then industry cleaned up its act, and the trees recovered, so they made the farm into a sort of arboretum (native trees more or less exclusively, plus large wetlands and high grass prairie areas, both artificially created but very interesting).

Glad you had fun in France (not one of my favorite countries), and to get news about dear Kathleen. But is she going to make you a granddad? She has a stack of great genes.

We go to the Adirondacks for annual Fall visitation (incredible coloration) day after tomorrow and will be gone a little over a week.

Will look for the samples. Remember, 100 g. per sample is a great plenty.

Best. Also to Shirley. Al.

To: sidash@scinet.weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: TH-2
Cc:
Bcc: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

Well, it was more than a "guess"! It's all based on one taxon, but I think that a bit of literature searching could find the known range of the item. For Pocock, it was Barremian, period. I suspect that had to do with dating of the outcrops from which the sample came, and I'd like to find out what is now known about the range of *A. jansonii*. However, we really need more taxa, and I am having Betty fool around with the sample to try to improve it. Better would be to try a couple more samples--dark gray siltstones if possible! Even as it is, it would make an interesting paper about "marginal palynology"--what one barely recognizable species can do for you! Think about the additional samples. And cross your fingers about the current re-processing (previous experience has been 95% negative on such efforts).

Have fun in NYC--shouldn't you take Kathleen to France? What's she up to? As a teenager she was a smashing gal. By the way, Shirley should try to dredge up some Penobscot, Mohawk, or Micmac in her background--the northeastern Indians are getting rich on their gambling casinos.

Back to the scope--working on modern pollen collection at the moment. Am going to St. Louis next week to hold my sister's hand a little. Her husband has Parkinson's, and she's got it pretty tough. She is now 65 and is going to retire (she's prof. of music) because she can't handle the situation and continue working.

Best to Shirley. And to you. Al.

X-PMrqc: 1
Date: 6 Sep 96 16:28:07 MST+1
From: Sidney Ash <SIDASH@scinet.weber.edu>
Subject: Re: TH-2
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Priority: normal

Al--

Thanks very much for giving us a guess on the age of sample TH-2 and the related flora. We were hoping it would be Late Jurassic but we will take what we get. An Early Cretaceous age does fit with an undocumented age determination by Davie Jones based on the non-descript clam *Buchia*. darn! I will pass the info to my colleague. Do you want to do a little paper on your findings as it corrects previous ideas about the age of the flora. For now we will give you credit for this age determination. Thank Betty for her help with the sample.

We leave early Monday morning for NYC where we will visit Kathleen for a couple of days and then we will be off on the trail of early man (Cro-Magnon) in the Dordogne region of France where we will visit painted caves and other sites.

I'll be in touch when we get back.

Cheerio!

-----Sid

To: sidash@scinet.weber.edu
From: traverse@ems.psu.edu (Alfred Traverse)
Subject: TH1
Cc:
Bcc:
X-Attachments:

Dear Sid:

We have been out of town since the 27th August. Therefore just read your message of 26 Aug. We were in Philly for the Cezanne exhibition--marvellous, though a mob scene. Also a conference at the Acad. Nat. Sci. re my Devonian project that was next in line before turning to TH1. They seemed to like my preliminary report. Also took in the Morris Arboretum, to which I've belonged for years but had never visited. Then we had an annual camping trip with daughter, Celia, and family--over Labor Day weekend. It was to celebrate my birthday, as usual. I was born on Labor Day, 1925.

OK, I will drop everything else and come up with an estimate on the sample in question, but I don't like to do business that way--no chance to seek consultation, really do the literature, etc. However, on the Devonian business, I looked at one slide 18 mos. ago for about 30 mins. and said, "Famennian, probably late Famennian." After a month of hard work on over twenty slides from four samples, my opinion, albeit more defensible, is the same.

Better get at it. Best. Al.

X-PMrqc: 1

Date: 26 Aug 96 09:21:54 MST+1

From: Sidney Ash <SIDASH@scinet.weber.edu>

Subject: pollen terminology, etc.

To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Priority: normal

Al--

Just received your letter and reprints. I see by your letter that you will be out of town this week but maybe you haven't left yet, otherwise this will be waiting for you.

As to the terminology used in our little report Ron was responsible for that as well as the drawing. Yes, in hindsight I should have sent you the ms for review but I relied on Ron for that. Ah well. His life has been in such a unsettled state with all the RIFs and reorganization at the USGS that I am not surprised about the errors. I'll send you a reprint as soon as they are received.

The last item I am writing about is sample TH1; the student who is working on the megafossils in the flora from that locality will be leaving for graduate work in a couple of weeks. Couldn't you just give us a horseback guess on the age of the palynoflora and latter on a full blown treatment which you and I could publish? Appreciate your help. By the way Shirley and I will be on vacation in France September 9-21 so in order to be useful I need the date before 9 September. Thanks!

--Sid

Figure 25 is surely not "polar" but lateral (equatorial).

The Dominican project is coming along fine--I go to Philly next week to confer with Deane about it (and see the Casareto exhibit and visit the Morris Arboretum).

Regards to Shirley. She helped with nomenclature, huh? In our recent paper Bryan Fossil named a pollen species for her CAT.

Best,

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

P.S. Please send a reprint of paper. Did you do the best drawing of the spines? Looks like his work. Incidentally I wrote you because I had to.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES
PALYNOLOGICAL LABORATORIES
435 DEIKE BUILDING
UNIVERSITY PARK, PA 16802, USA
Phone: (814)863-3419; Fax: 814-863-7823
E-Mail: traverse@ems.psu.edu

21 August, 1996

Prof. Sidney Ash
Department of Geosciences
Weber State University
Ogden, Utah 84408-2507

Dear Sid:

Just read the article on Pramelreuthia (God, what an ugly name) in AJB. Congratulations. I will, among other things, want to incorporate the pollen info in the new edition of Paleopalynology, if I live long enough to complete it.

Too bad you didn't send me a copy of the MS to peruse (I would have been glad to do so). Fig. 24-28 contains somewhat incorrect designations. First, and most important, "polar" is a term used for tricolpate and most other angiosperm pollen because the more exact terms "proximal" and "distal" cannot be used. When it is possible to use proximal and distal, they, plus lateral (or equatorial, though when polar is not being employed, lateral seems more symmetrical) should be used.

Furthermore, Fig. 24 is surely not equatorial (lateral) but presumably distal (if impossible to decide between proximal and distal, "polar" could be employed, but there doesn't seem to be any doubt). Figure 25 is surely not "polar," but lateral (equatorial).

The Devonian project is coming along fine--I go to Philly next week to confer with Daeschler about it (and see the Cezanne exhibit and visit the Morris Arboretum).

Regards to Shirley. She helped with nomenclature, huh? In our recent paper Sarah Fowell names a pollen species for her CAT. Hmmm.

Best.

Yours very truly,

Alfred Traverse

P. S. Please send a reprint of paper. Did Ron do the neat drawing of the specimen? Looks like his work. Incidentally I wrote YOU because it says to.

Encl.:reprints

X-PMrqc: 1
Date: 15 Jul 96 12:04:00 MST+1
From: Sidney Ash <SIDASH@scinet.weber.edu>
Subject: Re: TH1
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Priority: normal

AL-

another reminder about subject sample. We are making considerable progress on our study of the plant megafossils at this locality and it sure would be a big help if you could give us an age determination.

thanks

--Sid

> Date: Mon, 27 May 1996 11:25:36 -0500 (EST)
> From: "Alfred Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
> Reply-to: traverse@ems.psu.edu
> To: sidash@scinet.weber.edu
> Subject: TH1

> Dear Sid:

>
> We are just in from spending May in Korea and Japan. I gave some lectures,
> and we toured the countries. We left Tokyo yesterday at 1 p. m. and arrived
> in Detroit at 11 a. m., two hours before we left. Still a bit strung out.

>
> Your message of 14 May was something like 29 out of 59. Noted. Will get to
> it one of these days. Your message helps, because I post it in a prominent
> place.

> Greetings to Shirley also.

>
> Best. Al.
> Alfred Traverse
> Palynological Labs.
> Deike 435, PSU
> University Park, PA 16802
> Ph.814-863-3419; Fax 814-863-7823

Received: from cc.weber.edu (cc.weber.edu [137.190.1.2]) by pangaea.ems.psu.edu
Received: from education.weber.edu (137.190.1.20)
by cc.WEBER.EDU (PMDF V5.0-4 #7039) id <01I40U22JRG095OZTR@cc.WEBER.EDU> for
traverse@ems.psu.edu; Tue, 14 May 1996 08:31:38 -0700 (MST)
Received: from EDU-WEBER-EDUCATION/MERCURY by education.weber.edu
(Mercury 1.11); Tue, 14 May 1996 08:31:37 -0700
Received: from MERCURY by EDU-WEBER-EDUCATION (Mercury 1.11); Tue,
14 May 1996 08:31:27 -0700
Received: from styx.weber.edu by education.weber.edu (Mercury 1.11); Tue,
14 May 1996 08:31:25 -0700
Received: From EDU-WEBER-CENTRAL/WORKQUEUE by styx.weber.edu via Charon 3.4
with IPX id 100.960514083045.448; Tue, 14 May 1996 08:31:50 -0700
X-PMrqc: 1
Date: 14 May 96 08:29:59 MST+1
From: Sidney Ash <SIDASH@scinet.weber.edu>
Subject: sample TH1
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Message-id: <MAILQUEUE-101.960514082958.480@scinet.weber.edu>
X-Mailer: Pegasus Mail v2.3 (R5).
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Priority: normal
Content-Type: text

Al-

Just a gentle reminder about your promise (see below) to give me an age determination for sample TH1 - Late Jurassic or Early Cretaceous? We are starting to put together a little report on the flora and an age determination would be very helpful. We could either do one or two reports. One with you and me simply on the age of the flora; the other by my student and I on the composition of the flora referring to the one by you and me for the age. Or just one big report with all three of us. In any case an age determination will be appreciated as soon as practical. Thankx!

Although I am anxious to devote more time to research I'm still having fun being chair so I've agreed to stay on at least one more year.

Hi Betty.

SID

*ans d
27-V-96*

> Date: Mon, 11 Mar 1996 11:08:39 -0500 (EST)
> From: "Alfred Traverse" <traverse@ems.psu.edu>
> Reply-to: traverse@ems.psu.edu
> To: sidash@scinet.weber.edu
> Subject: sample

> Dear Sid:

>
> We have been gone most of last two weeks, just back. Your message one of
> dozens in this box (one of the problems with e-mail--it's like a culture
> that proliferates in one's absence).

>
> Help! Your address seems to have changed. At least the one above is not
> what I had on your card. Or do you have two?

>
> There are a lot of people pounding on me about this and that, but your
> sending a reminder on TH1 was very timely--I'll print it out and put it in a
> prominent place to force me to get at it.

> The trip to the West Coast was great--23 states. This recent trip was also
> fun (although it involved a funeral)--but when we got home we were greeted
> by 7 inches of snow on our lane. We had to trudge up and get the truck with
> plow and plow out before we could drive the car up. This winter is getting
> out of hand.

> MERCURY by EDU-WEBER-EDUCATION (Mercury 1.11); Tue,

> Best to both you and Shirley. Al.

> Alfred Traverse x.weber.edu by education.weber.edu (Mercury 1.11); Tue,

> Palynological Labs. -0700

> Deike 435, PSU -WEBER-CENTRAL/WORQUIN by styx.weber.edu via Charon 3.1

> University Park, PA 16802 8 320; Tue, 12 Mar 1996 08:24:31 -0700

> Ph.814-863-3419; Fax 814-863-7823

> Date: 12 Mar 1996 08:24:31 -0700
From: Alfred Traverse <altraverse@cinet.weber.edu>

Subject: My address

To: traverse@psu.edu

Message-ID: <95100005-101.95012602339.3528@cinet.weber.edu>

X-Mailbox: Pegasus Mail V3.3 (RS).

Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Priority: normal

Content-Type: text

Al--
Cheers for your response to my message. My address works
equally well, for now at least. However, they are in the process of
changing the e-mail system (over the objections of most users) so my
address may change again. If that happens then our messages are
supposed to be forwarded. ?? we'll see.

psu, we had a bear of a winter too. We didn't get any real winter
until January and then nature made up for the delay. I kept
wondering myself why we were still here every time I went out to shovel
snow. Retirement looks better and better because it will mean we can
get away from such winters.

I look forward to learning your results on TH1. Guess Don is
happy that he still has a job even though it is in the overburden -
the pleistocene!

cheers

al

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Received: from education.weber.edu (137.190.1.20)
by cc.WEBER.EDU (PMDF V5.0-4 #7039) id <01I28TES9Q8GHWFU8W@cc.WEBER.EDU> for
traverse@ems.psu.edu; Tue, 12 Mar 1996 08:23:57 -0700 (MST)
Received: from EDU-WEBER-EDUCATION/MERCURY by education.weber.edu
(Mercury 1.11); Tue, 12 Mar 1996 08:24:57 -0700
Received: from MERCURY by EDU-WEBER-EDUCATION (Mercury 1.11); Tue,
12 Mar 1996 08:24:43 -0700
Received: from styx.weber.edu by education.weber.edu (Mercury 1.11); Tue,
12 Mar 1996 08:24:33 -0700
Received: From EDU-WEBER-CENTRAL/WORKQUEUE by styx.weber.edu via Charon 3.4
with IPX id 100.960312082428.928; Tue, 12 Mar 1996 08:24:31 -0700
X-PMrqc: 1
Date: 12 Mar 96 08:23:39 MST+1
From: Sidney Ash <SIDASH@scinet.weber.edu>
Subject: my address
To: traverse@ems.psu.edu
Message-id: <MAILQUEUE-101.960312082339.352@scinet.weber.edu>
X-Mailer: Pegasus Mail v2.3 (R5).
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Priority: normal
Content-Type: text

Al--

thanks for your response to my message. either address works
equally well, for now at least. however, they are in the process of
changing the e-mail system (over the objections of most users) so my
address may change again. if that happens then our messages are
suppose to be forwarded. ?? we'll see.

yes, we had a bear of a winter too. we didn't get any real winter
until January and then mother nature made up for the delay. i kept
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i look forward to learning your results on TH1. guess Ron is
happy that he still has a job eventhough it is in the overburden -
the pleistocene!

cheers

sid

Received: from cc.weber.edu (cc.weber.edu [137.190.1.2]) by pangaea.ems.psu.edu
Received: from education.weber.edu (137.190.1.20)
by cc.WEBER.EDU (PMDF V5.0-4 #7039) id <01I1V8F2AMR4HWCJKO@cc.WEBER.EDU> for
traverse@ems.psu.edu; Sat, 02 Mar 1996 15:02:10 -0700 (MST)
Received: from EDU-WEBER-EDUCATION/MERCURY by education.weber.edu
(Mercury 1.11); Sat, 02 Mar 1996 15:02:59 -0700
Received: from MERCURY by EDU-WEBER-EDUCATION (Mercury 1.11); Sat,
02 Mar 1996 15:02:56 -0700
Received: from styx.weber.edu by education.weber.edu (Mercury 1.11); Sat,
02 Mar 1996 15:02:47 -0700
Received: From EDU-WEBER-CENTRAL/WORKQUEUE by styx.weber.edu via Charon 3.4
with IPX id 100.960302150151.320; Sat, 02 Mar 1996 15:02:49 -0700

X-PMrgc: 1

Date: 2 Mar 96 15:00:39 MST+1

From: Sidney Ash <SIDASH@scinet.weber.edu>

Subject: REMINDER!

To: traverse@ems.psu.edu

Message-id: <MAILQUEUE-101.960302150038.448@scinet.weber.edu>

X-Mailer: Pegasus Mail v2.3 (R5).

Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Priority: normal

Content-Type: text

Al--

I guess you are back from California by now so here is the
reminder that you asked for about sample TH1 - you were going
to give me its age. The question is is it Late Jurassic or Early
Cretaceous in age?

Hope you and Betty enjoyed your trip west.

Best wishes ---Sid