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Ave Claudius

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Figure 1. Claude delivering Joan Schneider to the 1998 archaeology field school at the Desert Queen Ranch, Joshua Tree National Park. Courtesy Joan S. Schneider.

rod, and he almost always was able to place the base of that rod on exactly the contour line we wanted to map no GPS or laser transit here!

Then there was "the return" to Lake Mojave! Along about 2000, unbelievably, Claude wanted to go back to his old excavations at Lake Mojave and look for a single mussel shell that he left in situ in one of his long-ago pits! I won't go into why he wanted to find it, but he persuaded some unsuspecting colleagues to launch a new project in the Silver Lake basin. We did find mountains of mussels at Benchmark Bay, and maybe even the one he was looking for! We learned a lot and recorded many Lake Mojave artifacts on the surface. Claude also called attention to more recent features extending above the playa silt and close to the very lowest shorelines. The feature data we collected, as well as the geological mapping carried out by students from U.C. Riverside, all combined to produce some interdisciplinary publications (Owen et al. 2007; Schneider et al. 2017; Warren and Schneider 2003).

My final Claude comment relates to the fact that he is still excavating from the present back into the past—but this time in his files and on his desk—to complete and publish some of his earlier work (e.g., at the Harris Site, Atlatl Rock Shelter, the Mormon settlement in the Las Vegas-Muddy River area), since much of his recent work, at least the work that we did together, has been published. Am I imagining that? Perhaps our relationship should have started earlier...

* * *

AVE CLAUDIUS

Max G. Pavesic Portland, Oregon

I first met Claude Nelson Warren upon my return from U.C.L.A's summer field school in Cedar City, Utah. Claude was a doctoral candidate at the time, and Research Archaeologist in the U.C.L.A archaeological survey office. It was a busy time in U.C.L.A's graduate program and several of the students went on to important careers in California and Great Basin archaeology and anthropology, including D. L. True, Emma Lou Davis, and Tom Blackburn. In 1958 Claude was assigned to relocate and investigate the C. W. Harris site (CA-SDi-149). This led to the refinement of the San Dieguito complex, which suggested the existence of an early lithic tradition coequal with or earlier than recognized by the standard Clovis model (Warren and True 1961).

Claude next moved on to a major excavation at Batiquitos Lagoon (CA-SDi-211) in coastal San Diego county. The Batiquitos project provided a stage for important pioneering interpretations on regional prehistory (Crabtree et al. 1963). The report was notable for its ecological approach, and was particularly focused on the changing nature of the lagoon and the human exploitation of local resources. A major innovation was the marine shell microanalysis, which subsequently became a standard procedure in coastal archaeology (Warren and Pavesic 1963). The shift from rock-dwelling to sand-dwelling species was well documented there and corresponded with a decline in the aboriginal population along the coast. The Batiquitos Lagoon and Harris site research provided a new understanding of regional prehistory, and it was all finalized while Claude was still a graduate student.

In 1962 Claude accepted a position at what was then Idaho State College in Pocatello. Long before cultural resource management developed, Claude was the first

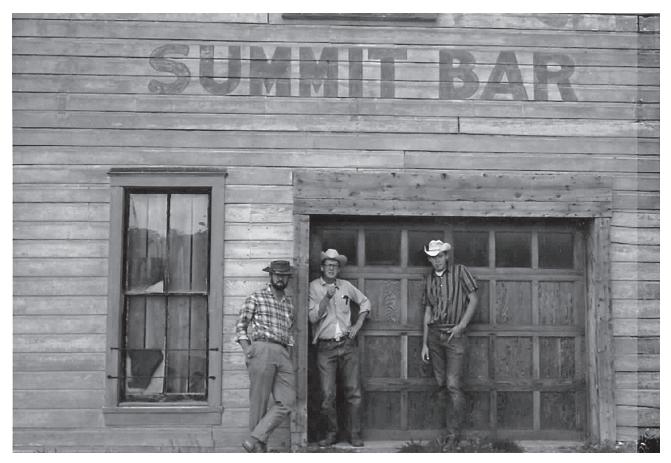


Figure 2. Day off. Highway survey 1962. Monida, Montana. Left to right: Claude N. Warren, Roger Nance, and Max G. Pavesic. Courtesy Max G. Pavesic.

Idaho State Highway Archaeologist in only the second (after New Mexico) formalized highway archaeology program in the western United States. An adventurous trip relocating from Venice, California to Pocatello was noteworthy. Claude owned a ca. 1956 Volkswagen bus, which was loaded to the gills with camping equipment and household items, including a large 4×4 -foot box with protruding antique bar stools attached to the roof of the bus. The load for the long trip was rounded out by Claude, Roger Nance, myself, and Lady, a large and very pregnant Weimaraner. As we pulled in for lunch in Mesquite, Nevada, Claude forgot about the load on top and proceeded to rip the awning off the front of the restaurant. He was a bit red-faced to say the least!

Once in Idaho, we set right to it, and two teams surveyed approximately 400 miles of right-of-way in the first three months of the program (Fig. 2). The survey discovered a related series of important sites in western Idaho (Warren et al. 1971). I've had the privilege of working alongside and learning from Claude since early in my career, and as a mentor, he introduced me to the archaeology of the southern Columbia Plateau.

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SAND DUNES AND PLAYAS: MEMORIES OF CLAUDE NELSON WARREN

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Claude accepted a position at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1969. Located in the center of the Great Basin, Las Vegas was the ideal location in which to pursue his career-long love for the high desert and archaeology. That same year, fifty years ago, I arrived at U.N.L.V. and took my introductory anthropology class from Claude. Over the next five years, I took every class that Claude