



The nights of 8/18 & 19 were spent South of Ely at the excellent Ward Mt. Campground, again at cool high elevation. Sam has blown his 4p.m. assembly horn. (It sounds like a bad tummy rattle topped off with a sauerkraut burp!) Below, it was really cold the next morning at another excellent Howard prepared breakfast. Afterward we toured the many sights around Ely.



These ovens have been beautifully renovated. So many times we were so very proud of the excellent care the Nevada State Park System has given to our history and **free** campgrounds for us Seniors.



WARD CHARCOAL OVENS

THESE OVENS WERE CONSTRUCTED DURING THE MID 1870'S AND ARE LARGER AND OF FINER CONSTRUCTION THAN MOST OTHER OVENS FOUND IN NEVADA. THEY ARE 27 FEET IN DIAMETER AND 30 FEET HIGH WITH A CAPACITY OF ABOUT 35 CORDS OF WOOD WHICH WAS BURNED FOR A PERIOD OF 12 DAYS TO PRODUCE ABOUT 50 BUSHELS OF GOOD SOLID CHARCOAL PER CORD.

THE CHARCOAL WAS USED IN THE SMELTERS AT NEARBY WARD, ABOUT 30 TO 50 BUSHELS BEING REQUIRED TO REDUCE ONE TON OF ORE.

EACH FILLING OF ONE OF THESE OVENS REQUIRED THE TOTAL TREE CROP FROM 5 OR 6 ACRES OF LAND. DURING THE LATE 1870'S THE HILLS AND MOUNTAINS AROUND MANY MINING CAMPS WERE COMPLETELY STRIPPED OF ALL TIMBER FOR A RADIUS OF UP TO 35 MILES.

AS RAILROADS PENETRATED THE WEST CHARCOAL WAS REPLACED BY COKE MADE FROM COAL AND THE CHARCOAL INDUSTRY FADED.

"THE REAL WORTH OF THE OLD CHARCOAL OVENS IS THEIR HISTORICAL FUNCTION IN REMINDING PRESENT DAY AMERICANS OF A NOW-VANISHED INDUSTRY WITHOUT WHICH THE GREAT SILVER AND LEAD BONANZAS OF THE EARLY WEST COULD NOT HAVE BEEN HARVESTED." - NELL MURBARGER.





Above, the smelter at McGill, but we could not get permission for a tour. It runs at say half speed on imported slag from Utah, Colo. etc. Below, approaching Kennecott's huge Ely digs. Bottom, permission is granted for us to see the pit at top of the copper mine tailings.

NOTICE

— POSITIVELY —
NO SOLICITING
FROM EMPLOYEES
DURING
OFFICE HOURS



Above, the sign by the administration building at Ruth. Below, a most interesting sign at the top of the tailings. We men were confused, but the gals understood!





At the top of the tailings the vastness of the copper mining diggings may be appreciated. Above, is looking East; then South East; and just about due North. The colors are magnificent.



What a beautiful clear day. What a lovely view. What a swell gang to be with. You really did miss a great experience.





Old deserted shacks on top the tailings. What stories they could tell?? It is sad the mine is clo

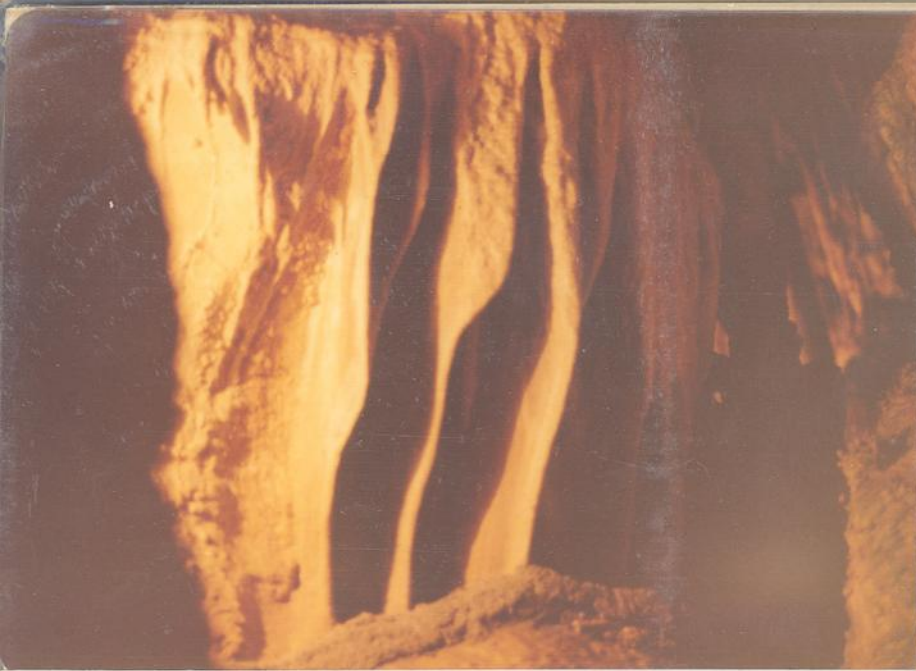


8-20 enroute to Lehman Caves from Ely, we just had to have lunch by the road atop Connors Pass. Then on to Baker and the Lehman Caves. The camps were all full and much fun was had high in the mountains on narrow roads to find a camp sight. CB answer: "Did you say: 'THE SUN WAS SHINING ON THE BEACH'? After seeing the caves we did go to commercial park in Baker. Don't think Lester got much sleep, because of thinking about the some 5 of sewer and other long lines all to be sorted out in the morning. The gals did get to vacuum!



LEHMAN

CAVES



Amongst renowned caves, Lehaman is small, but it is one of the more interesting of all such caves. Regret very much not taking the flash gun along. The hand held long exposures up to 45 seconds just does not give the lovely colors.

