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Outdoor Research can be Fascinating

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MONTEZUMA VALLEY JOURNAL
Cortez, Colorado
Aug. 9, 1951

Outdoor Research Can Be Fascinating

Procuring a Ph. D degree from the university isn't all dig and grind as can be readily understood when some of the interesting slants are applied by post-graduates in quest of their upper degree. Witness the escapades of Mr. Carroll Riley, philanthropologist by trade.

Riley, whose home is in Albuquerque, New Mexico, is currently the summer custodian at Hovenweep National Monument located approximately 40 miles west of Cortez just inside the Utah border. The philanthropologist is delving into archeological work there as part of the requirements of his Ph. D. degree, which he expects to obtain from the University of New Mexico this fall.

The exciting twist in Riley's work came during the last half of 1950 and fore part of 1951

when he was in Venezuela, South America, on scientific research with an ethnological crew. There he found in the wilds of the jungle several geological figurines carved by pre-Columbian Indian tribes.

Riley's stay in the remote areas of the Orinoco river in Venezuela was promoted by the Venezuelan Natural Museum of Science and an American research organization. They were guided by a Guiana crew.

The fascinating Indian figurines, which are similar to rim decorations on a type of pottery known as ronquin, were found by Ripley within proximity of two different sites. One site was south of the Orinoco river near the town of Caicara; the second site was on the Orinoco river near the mouth of the Cuchivero river.

The two areas are in extremely primitive and sparsely populated territory and because of this, Riley explains, Venezuelan archeology is in its infant stages. Archeological knowledge there is not widespread and origin of the figurines found there is uncertain.

The study of archeology and ethnology has always held a fascination for the New Mexican philanthropologist and both his school and summer activities have revolved around the outdoor sciences. He has also spent a few summer months studying the Mesa Verde dwellings and served part time as park ranger.

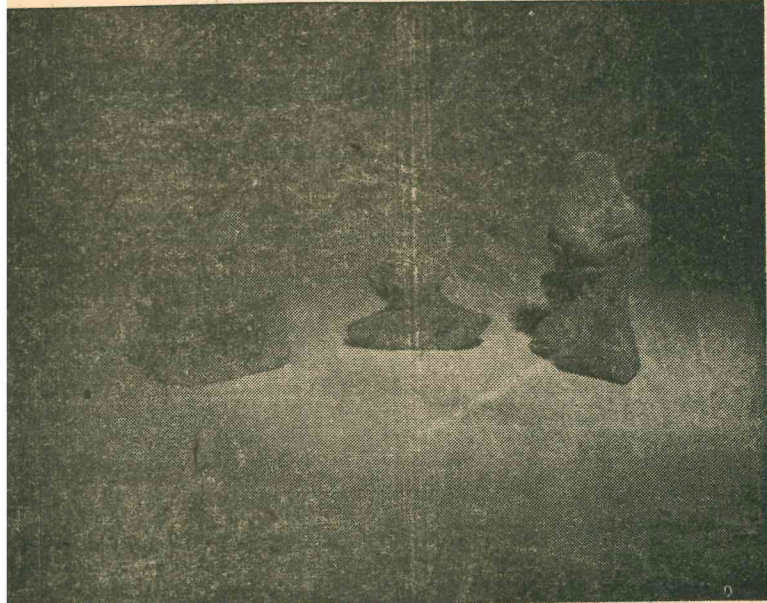
According to Riley, both Yucca House National Monument, located a few miles southwest of Cortez, and Hovenweep have had record number of visitors this summer. This indicates revival

of possible geological and archeological interest among Americans. Because of this, the outdoor science field would be an advisable one for profession-un-decided college students to follow.

Carroll Riley, philanthropologist gives his all to Hovenweep & Yucca House N. M.'s as seasonal ranger.

Nusbaum

Not Roman Plaything, Venezuelan Figurine



The three Venezuelan figurines shown above are believed to be rim decorations from a type of pre-Columbian Indian pottery which is similar to Ronquin. The figurines were found on the Orinoco river in the wilds of Venezuela by Carroll Riley.



The above photo shows one of the designed figurines found in the wilds of Venezuela, South America, by Carroll Riley, New Mexico philanthropologist. The figurine was found as part of a geological and archeological project toward the acquisition of Riley's Ph. degree from the University of New Mexico.