

FEATURES OF LAVA TUBE CAVES OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST:
A Photographic Presentation

Beth Wolff
Oregon Grotto of the National Speleological Society

EXPANDED ABSTRACT

Many lava tubes formed in the Pacific Northwest during the recent volcanic activity. The resulting caves have been found to have a wide variety of speleothems and distinctive markings. This photographic presentation is based on visits to many lava tube caves in the Pacific Northwest, with specific observation and compilation of the features thereof. In addition to features described in the Convention guidebook intrusive lava dripstone speleothems are seen in one Klickitat County cave (Fig. 2-1), and deeply buried lava tube caves are present in southern Oregon.

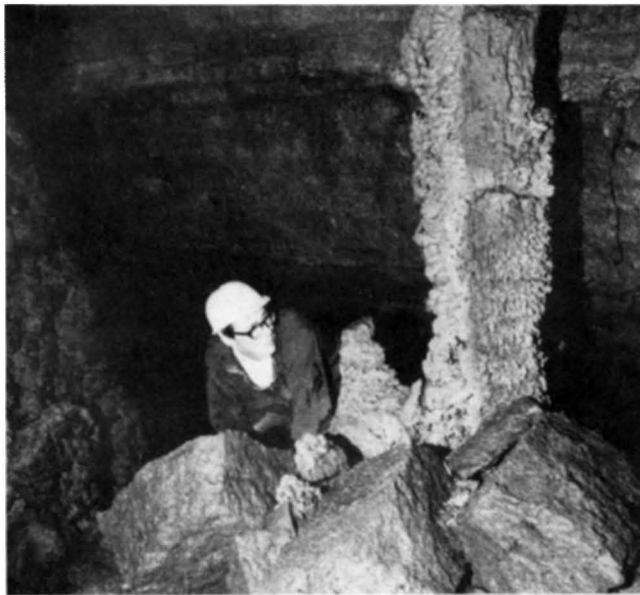


Figure 2-1: Intruding lava dripstone speleothems in a Killickitat Co. lava tube. Halliday photo.

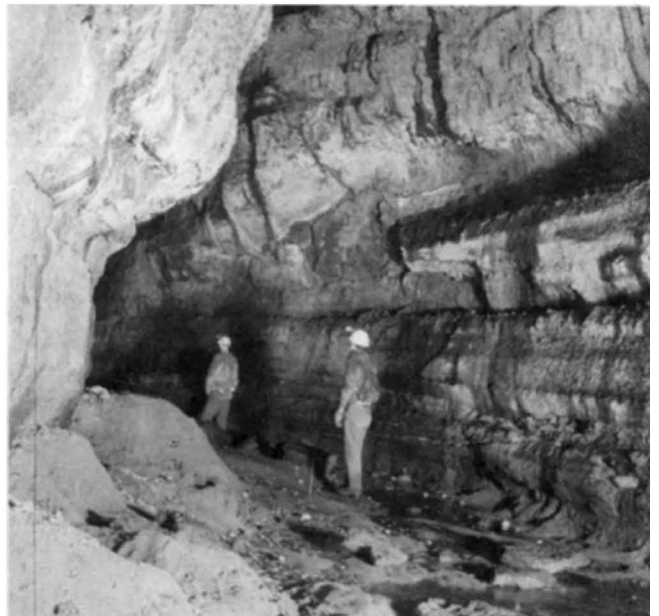


Figure 2-3: Main passage, Ape Cave, southwest Washington. Halliday photo.



Figure 2-2: Entrance to Mowich Creek Cave, Oregon. Wolff photo.



Figure 2-4: Big Room, Dynamited Cave, southwest Washington. Halliday photo.

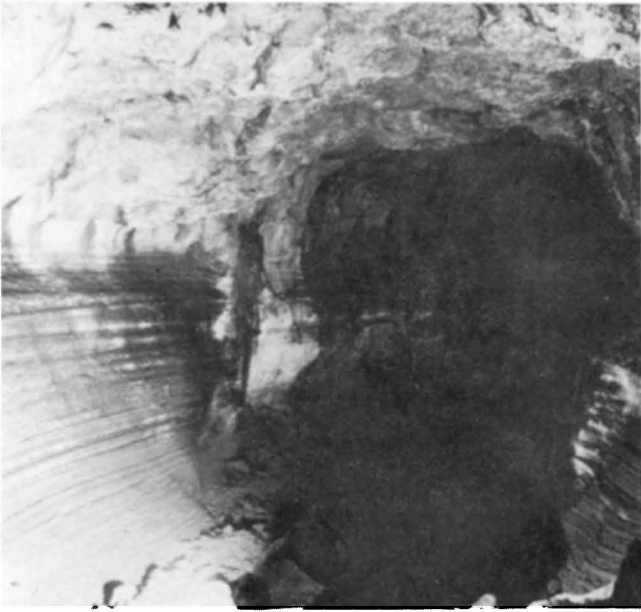


Figure 2-5: Multiple lateral grooves in a southwest Washington lava tube. Halliday photo.



Figure 2-6: Levees in a side passage of Ape Cave, southwest Washington. Halliday photo.



Figure 2-8: Multiple levees and tube-in-tube in Prince Albert Cave, southwest Washington. Larson photo.



Figure 2-9: Lateral coatings in Dynamited Cave, southwest Washington. Halliday photo.



Figure 2-10: Lava stalagmites in a southwest Washington lava tube. Halliday photo.



Figure 2-7: Lava stalactite in a southwest Washington lava tube. Halliday photo.