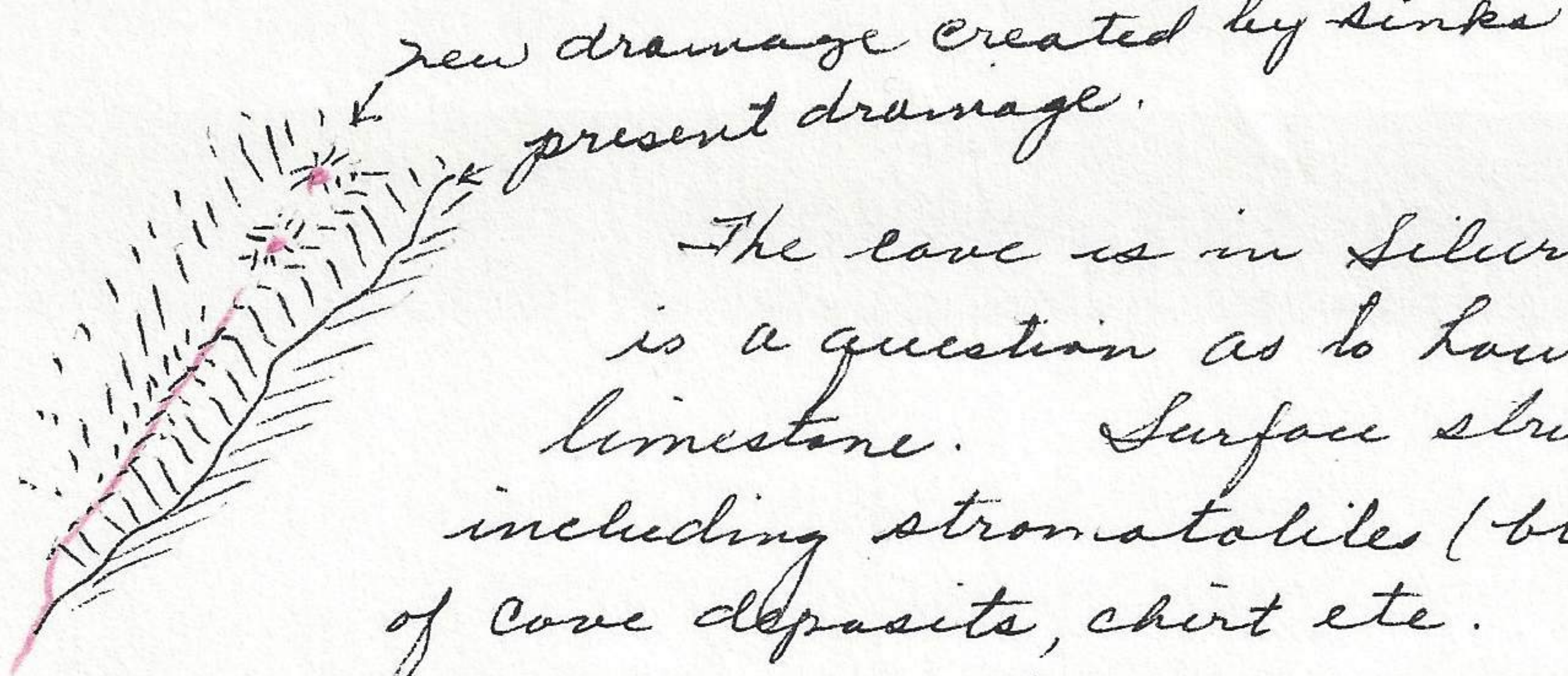
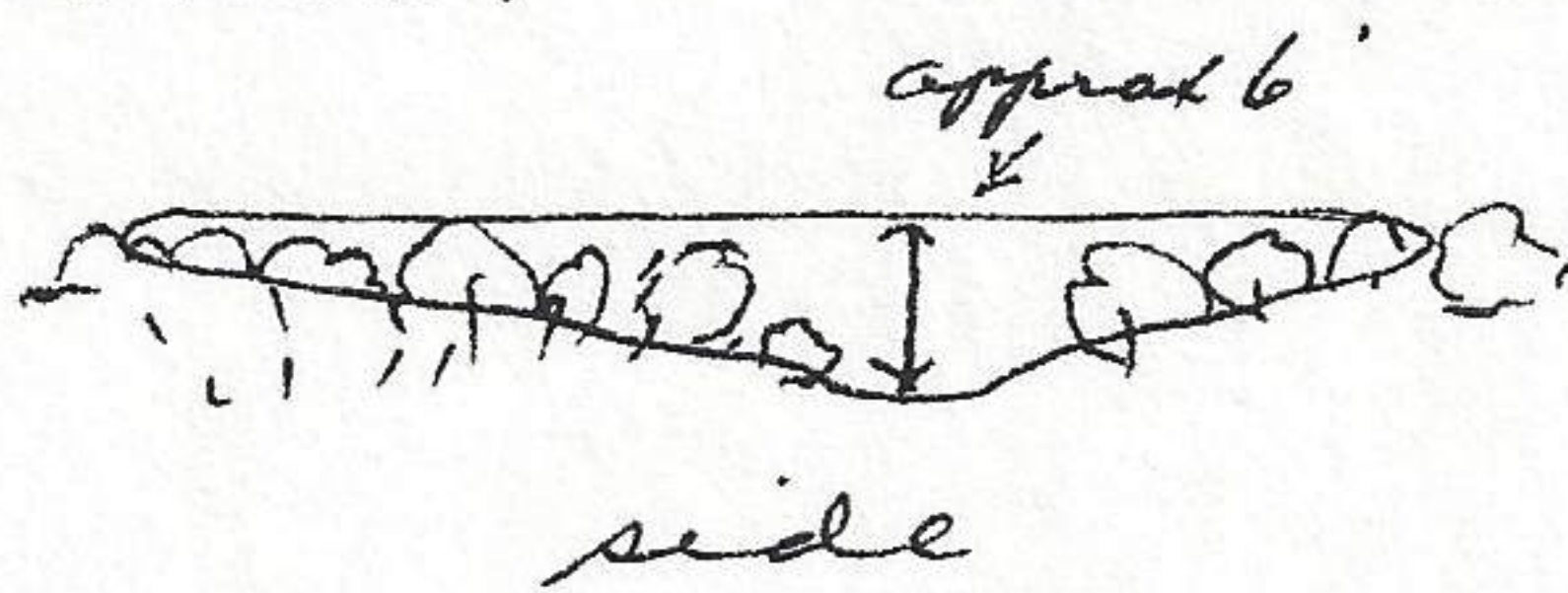
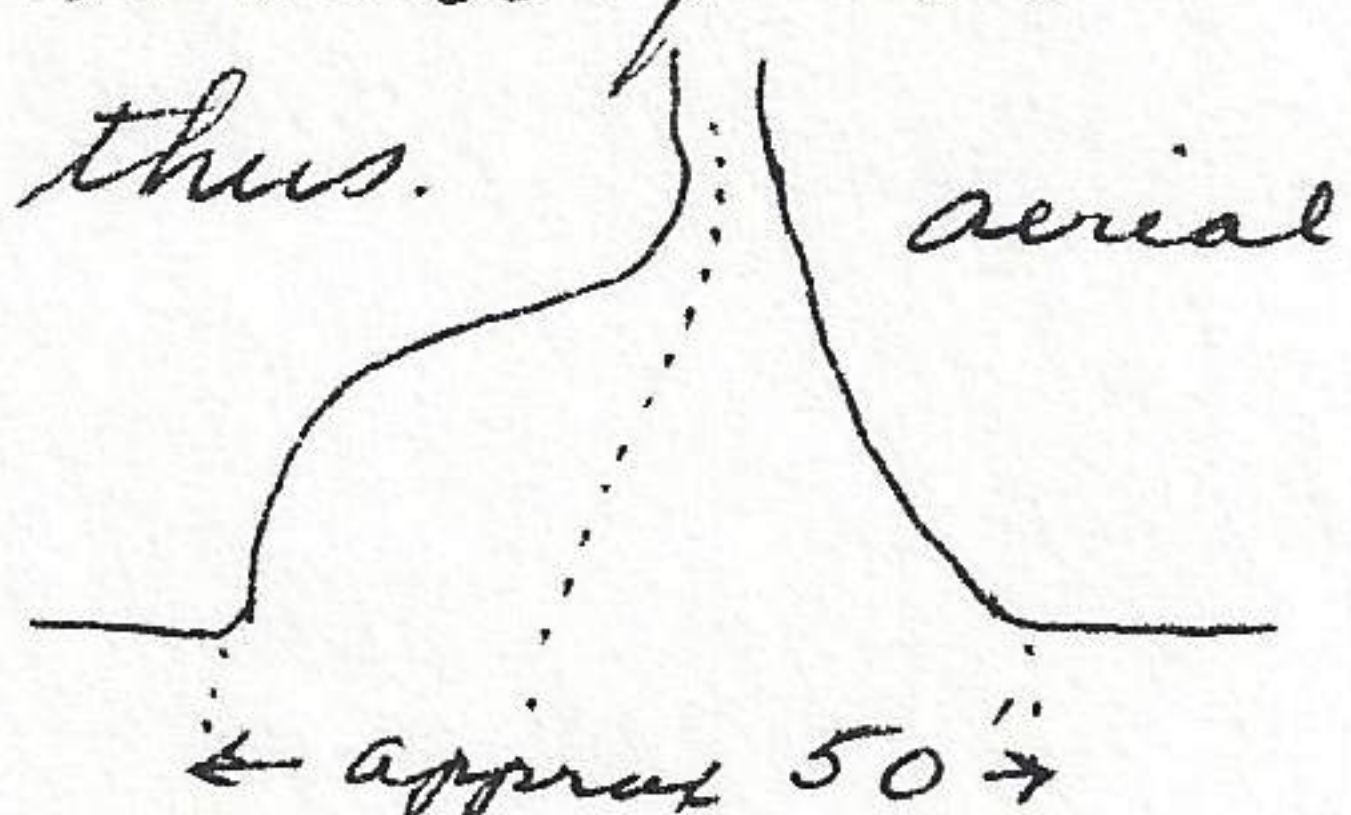




The cave is in Silurian dolomite and there is a question as to how it differs from regular limestone. Surface structures are abundant including stromatolites (blue-green algae), fragments of cave deposits, chert etc. The stromatolites were apparently formed in shallow seas not too deep to exclude light but deeper than the present barrier reef structures. At about 9:00 P.M. at late twilight we visited the entrance of the cave where the gray bat Myotis grisescens was already in process of emerging from the cave. Tuttle took several flash photos of these bats as well as one of the group sitting inside of cave at mouth. The cave expands at the entrance thus.



main flight of bats in area equivalent to drainage where the lack of vegetation maintained and opening of approx 8×6 feet and where most of the bats were leaving the cave. They flew outside, circled in area then highlined to S. When a flash from camera was made, the bats stopped immediately and either retracted in to cave or circled ^{inside} at cave entrance. Flight noise stopped immediately. In approx 20 seconds the main flow of bats was reestablished. I would judge that the opening used by bats for exit was approx 2×8 feet or 16 square feet. On the basis of one bat occupying 1 square foot of space as it left the cave and a line of 2 bats could pass by one particular point in one second there would be 32 bats leave the cave per second. In one minute there would be 1920 bats and in one hour 115200 bats. Realizing that there is ^{50 or} 60 feet of cave entrance and although covered with vegetation, some bats leave from other than the vegetation free area. The flight ended at 9:50 P.M. but undoubtedly started at least 10 minutes before our arrival so 1 hr is about right time for emergence. Our presence, especially flash shots, interrupted the flow of bats. The main corridor beyond funnel of cave entrance may be the best position for analysis of bat numbers and as I recall is on the order of 4×5 feet and is circular. Tuttle caught 5 bats at entrance, and 4 were ♂♂ & one a ♀. One was banded. Fireflies and whippoorwill were near mouth of cave. There were no insects ~~at~~ in cave at entrance.

aerial
side
approx 50 ft
approx 6 ft