

201 Highland Ave.  
Upper Montclair, N.J. 07043  
May 29, 1976

Dear Don,

Am writing a few lines just to say hello. I was at the SAA meeting in St. Louis a few weeks ago and met — for the first time since my summer at the Flintworking School — John Fagan! He said he is very happy with his job with the Corps of Engineers. Talking to him brought alive my memories of the wonderful summer in Idaho.

Also met Ruthann, Errett Callahan, Tony Ravere and some others working with lithics. Even Francois Bordes was there. I couldn't resist talking to Bordes for a few minutes (although I don't know him). Although I usually try to shy away from the well-known people, I somehow felt that I had to meet him after everything you and Evelyn had told us about him. Bordes told about meeting an Australian aborigine who was using heat-treatment, and about finding a reindeer antler in Solutrean context with tiny chalcedony

fragments embedded in it (from stoneworking).

I heard at the meeting that you and Jeff may be offering a flintworking school jointly the coming summer. I would like to wish the best of success for it! Please give my regards to Jeff when you see him.

More and more of the papers at these meetings are becoming so highly technical that it is increasingly difficult to understand them. I would guess that more and more specialization will be seen in archeology and lithic studies in the future.

Am slowly working on a problem related to some questions Tixier asked me at Calgary. Namely, I am trying to understand under what conditions it is more likely to get flakes that were formed by the fracture starting (near the proximal end of a flake yet) relatively far from the contact area between the flaking implement and the stone worked. Often I find no cone-like features or lulls on such flakes. J



think this question has some relevance to studies on manufacturing techniques as well as to problems of chipping from use of stone tools. I am trying to look at some relevant factors by using mechanics theory and by studying some such flakes that I occasionally get in knapping. Without taking your good advice of actually knapping as well, it would be more likely that I would produce irrelevant nonsense. So a summer in Idaho is even helpful for a "theoretician" in mechanics!

With best wishes to you and Evelyn,  
me

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