

Cep 38-8

Route 1
Kimberly, Idaho 83341

April 18, 1966

Dr. Norman B. Tinsdale
South Australian Museum
North Terrace
Adelaide, Australia

Dear Dr. Tinsdale:

Dr. Marie Wormington has been kind enough to let me borrow your paper on "Stone Implements Making Among the Nakako", and I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation of your keen observation of Australian stone flaking techniques. I would be most grateful if you would send me a copy of this publication and also any other papers you may have on knapping techniques.

I was delighted to learn that you could identify certain techniques by a flake scar study. I feel you have made a great contribution to typology by your first hand observations of methods and relating them to the artifacts. Your contribution is the first based on facts and not on theory. You have proven what I have long contended that the flake scars and flakes show definite human behavior patterns that could be traced through time and space. I have always felt that prehistoric man could change the form at will, but the rhythms of his technique would remain the same.

I have spent the greater part of my life endeavoring to replicate and interpret the many methods the aboriginal people employed in their tool making. At present, I am working as a Research Associate in Prehistoric Technology with Dr. Earl Swanson at Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho. Starting this month, we will publish a few papers on the results of my experiments. I will be happy to send you copies as they are completed. We are also recording the actual making of implements by the use of a video camera and also by using a high-speed camera (4 to 44,000 frames per second). When this is played back in slow motion, it is most revealing to see the bending of blades when they are removed from a polyhedral core. This work is under the sponsorship of National Science Foundation and the films will be for the archives as well as for sale and rent to archaeologists.

I would like very much to exchange publications with you and to hear further of your very fine work.

Sincerely,

Don E. Crabtree

Ce. 11.1.48