

DON CRABTREE, D.Sc. -- Route 1, Box 210 -- Kimberly, Idaho 83341 -- U.S.A.

July 26, 1980

Mr. W. J. Webster  
Buaraba, Via Coominya, 4305  
Queensland, AUSTRALIA

Dear Mr. Webster:

I am pleased to know of your interest in Australian aboriginal tool technology. It has long been of interest to me through various associations with Dr. Richard Gould, Dr. Norman Tinsdale, Kim Akerman, and Tom Brown of Broken Hill.

There has been little done in actual replication - probably Kim Akerman has done the most to my knowledge up to date, so your contributions should be most welcome.

I don't understand your problem in blademaking as to how the blades would fly in the direction of the maker as the force is directed away from the person rather than toward the person.

Your proposed comments on pecking, grinding, knapping, and pressure flaking should be of interest to those interested in Australian artifactual materials. Your comments on the four ways of working stone, as you interpret them, will probably provide an insight into some of the technological aspects of aboriginal stoneworking. The slight differences in the interpretation of technological traits are most useful in archaeology in denoting cultural differences in time and space.

My only comment regarding your interesting paper is that there should be more detail given to the actual preparation, striking positions, holding positions, and sequences of flake removal.

I will be delighted to see the printed copy upon its completion and encourage you to continue on with your work regarding the Australian aboriginal material. Many of the technologies are different from other hemispheres in the world.

Respectfully yours,

Don Crabtree, D. Sc.  
Research Associate in Primitive  
Technology  
University of Idaho

Ca. 11.6.19