

Copy 3  
Route 1, Box 39  
Kimberly, Idaho 83341  
March 1, 1972

Mr. G.F. Willi  
Felsenhofstr 7  
8134 Adliswil, Switzerland

Dear George:

I can not thank you enough for the valuable collection of specimens. They represent a variety of techniques which will be invaluable to my work. Indeed, I shall try replication of them. The very flat saw cuts on the ax and chisel do, indeed, present a problem in defining the applied technique. Most of the cuts on jade axes from Mesoamerica are curved rather than flat and it has been suggested that string sawing and abrasives were used. I will attempt to replicate the cuts on jade using flint and other materials and let you know the results. The break appears to be accomplished by striking the piece on a flat beam of resistant material at a point opposite the saw indentation. This is sometimes called "block on block" technique.

The blade and micro blade No. 11 show an interesting color and luster change, apparently due to heating the core before the blades were removed. The thermal treatment produces a pronounced luster and yellows often turn red from the heat. The bladelet has the characteristics of being detached by pressure but the platform is missing so there is still a little doubt. I hope you have found some small cores that match the blade. This would be a great help in defining the technique.

I find the use polish on some of the artifacts most interesting and also could see evidence of wear on the obtuse angles on some of the pieces. The bone pieces are beautiful - the color and polish is so rich - they are, indeed, gems.

I am working on a package of specimens for you which I hope to finish soon and get in the mail. My wife and I have just returned from a trip to the Southwest part of the States where it was a little warmer and where we were able to visit friends in the universities. Upon our return, your package was waiting and what a wonderful surprise.

Francois is due here on April 9th and we shall work together and discuss some of your problems. Am sure you will enjoy your visit with him this summer.

With kindest personal regards,

Don E. Crabtree

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