

Dear Kim:

Thank you so very much for the magnificent specimens these are the first examples of aboriginal flaking in stone that I have seen. The chalcedony one is exquisite and it is a fine replica of your example that you did in glass. I must complement you on your work and particularly your skill in leaving the margins sharp. Do you know if the chalcedony point has been heated? It certainly appears to be or is a form of common opal. The heat treatment makes the edges much sharper than the untreated stone. I only wish that I had copies of some electron microphotos of the edges of glass as compared to a platinum plus razor blade, the glass is at least ten thousand times sharper than the metal blade as it is fractured to the last molecule of material and when cutting tissue the cells are severed and it promotes rapid healing because there is less cell damage, my surgeon is most impressed with the results. I just talked to Barbara Purdy, Univ. of Florida and told her of your observations of the heat treatment and yours is the first recorded information and factual knowledge of the process, she is looking forward to getting in touch with you.

I am sending some examples of obsidian, the flaking is done by holding in the left hand and pressing away from one, I will try to replicate the circumcision knife if that is what the white point is. I saw one so described in the British Museum of Natural history made of bottle glass but the belly was down and I couldn't see the flaking on the other side.

Again thanks so much for the beautiful points.

With kindest regards, Don Crabtree

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