

Dear Don,

How are you - I hope all is well and you are regaining your strength again.

Enclosed is my m/s (photocopy) on 'Heat and lithic technology in the Kimberleys'. Any comments you may want to make would be most appreciated. I hope to have it published in 'Archaeology and Physical Anthropology in Oceania', a journal edited by Ellen.

As well as recognizing that the annealing technique was independently discovered by our Aborigines up here, I have recorded the methods used for the first time I believe and also point out that it was a specialist craft intimately linked with the production and export of Non-functional (i.e. as spear tips) prestige points for external trade - putting it in a nice ethnographic context.

I am sending you under separate cover a small hunting tip, from the Worora tribe, a blank of grey-green chert from Kalumburu in the far north and one of the white chert points - heat treated I believe - this point was given to me ten years ago and collected at Hooker Creek about 180 Km East of the W.A./N.T. border. It had come originally from Nicholson Station - probably the centre for production some years earlier. While not as big (long) as some I have seen it is a fine specimen of the prestige point and

I have not seen any others in Aboriginal
hands since then. I only have 4 in
my own collection - one hafted as a
knife such as described by Tridale - and
it is a fine piece of work.

I look forward to hearing
your comments on both the r/s and the
large point.

Kind Regards
Kim Akerman