

~~PHILLIPS STREET~~ Box 169  
ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS 01810

January 20, 1970

Mr. Don Crabtree  
Rt. 1  
Kimberley  
Idaho

Dear Don:

I've enjoyed reading the piece by you and Bordes that we received in this morning's mail. It must have been a lot of fun working with Bordes on those experiments.

I'm back again to working with the Bull Brook pieces and have run into some puzzles for which I am turning to you for answers.

Scotty and I have been over the enclosed five chips very carefully, looking over the outside edge of the striking platform, but failing to come to any agreement. You will notice that the outer edge of the platform is abraded. The main question is whether this abrasion is part of the preparation of the piece for flaking. It does not appear to me to be abrasion by use, and Scotty is inclined to agree with me on this. If we had all the collection here at once we could determine whether abrasion is usual on all such flakes, but alas, I must get a small lot at a time and take back what I have before I get any more.

Of the more than 500 chips and flakes from this lot, these are the only ones that show any such scars. The rest are all pressure flakes, or if not pressure, they are flakes of indirect percussion, as most lack signs of a bulb.

We have fairly conclusive evidence that the material from which the Bull Brook artifacts were made came from the Normanskill flint outcrops, just west of the Hudson River. This is a matter of something over 200 miles. A paleo-Indian workshop is known near Athens, New York, and I suspect that they got out the preforms that were finished at Bull Brook

If it isn't too much trouble for you, would you look at the outer edges of these five flakes and let me know. Then I can send them back to Bill Eldridge, their owner, and I suppose they'll be lost along with the rest of the collection.

I hope you and Evelyn are enjoying the winter. Right now we are having just a hair more cold than we enjoy, but at least we have not yet had the five or six feet of snow that we had last year. February is yet to come, though!

With all good wishes to you and Evelyn, and if it's not too late, a very happy New Year. I doubt if I get to Mexico-- I have a date with a Doctor in a hospital in April.

All best, as always, *J. Byers*  
Douglas S. Byers

*I am very sorry you never sent a advance warning of your arrival here in 1968. I could have had a lot of the stuff on here for you to see. Next time, let me know and we'll have things ready -  
J. Byers.*

CEL 4/1/20