

726 International House
University of Chicago
1414 East 59th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637

24 November 1973

Mr. Donald Crabtree
c/o The Museum
Idaho State University
Pocatello, Idaho

Dear Mr. Crabtree:

I hope that this letter will reach you in due course. I've sent it to the Museum as hopefully the most likely place to find you. I am a third-year graduate student in Aegean prehistory at Indiana University (under the tutelage of Prof. T.W. Jacobsen) and I would like this letter to serve as a means to introduce myself.

This year I am an exchange student in the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. I've just begun to work on my dissertation which will concern Bronze Age chipped stone tools in the Peloponnesos, Greece. A Middle through Late Helladic site called Nichoria will provide the base collection for a study of all the chipped stone tools so far recovered in the Peloponnesos.

Very little work has been done on chipped stone technology in Greece (especially in the later prehistoric periods) - there is no accepted typology, no study of use, and very little reference to materials and techniques. Having made great use of your Tebiwa articles and others which deal with materials and techniques I've come to realize that there can be no truly useful chipped-stone tool typology forthcoming for the Peloponnesos unless I and the others who will work on the problem understand completely the methods of manufacture. With this in mind I've planned a series of experiments for this coming summer, which will include heating, testing of wear patterns, and attempts at manufacture. All of these experiments I am in the process of writing up into a proposal.

What I would like to ask of you is, do you think it would be possible for me, at my expense, to come to Idaho perhaps for one or two days, with the intent of working with you on flint knapping and general methods of treatment. I realize that this is indeed a forward request - I hope that you won't find it too forward. I certainly wouldn't take more of your time than a few hours a day, or perhaps only one day. I know that you travel around to many schools and conventions, and demonstrate knapping, and that your time may indeed be limited and thus sparingly given.

I want very much to learn the art of knapping, and I know that a few limited hours wouldn't answer all the questions I have; the small bit of knapping I tried this summer on local Peloponnesian flints created rather than answered many questions. However, I can work fairly well with my hands, having done so with pottery and stone sculpture, and I would make sure to have all of my questions organized.

School terminates here on December 13 and does not begin again till January 6; during this time I will be in Minnesota. I am willing * to come any time that would be convenient for you, but equally I understand completely that it might not be convenient for you at all.

* Anytime outside of those dates
as well.

Respectfully yours,
Harriet Blitzer
(Miss) Harriet Blitzer

Ce 10/4. 21.1

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Mr. Donald Crabtree
~~c/o Mr. Earl Swanson~~
~~The Museum~~
~~Idaho State University~~
~~Pocatello, IDAHO~~

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