

Rt. 1, Box 210
Kimberly, Idaho 83341

Nov. 9, 1974

Ms. Harriett Blitzer
Dept. of Classics
547 Ballantine Hall
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana 47401

Dear Harriett:

Thank you for your most interesting letter and the superb drawings. The unifacial retouch would appear to be the result of resharpening many time and a suggested function would be some sort of a draw knife. Examine the ventral side for any use attrition.

Before I had my heart attack I was able to make blades of this dimension by pressure but I do not try this any more. But it can be done. Many from Guatamala are even larger than this and I am sure they are pressure blades. When one coordinates the outward force from the knees and the downward thrust of the chest, a very large blade can be detached. The amount of applied force depends on the width of the blade rather than the length. Blades removed by percussion techniques invariably exhibit compression rings and undulations on the ventral side. The drawing of the distorted blade must have been exposed to intense heat for it takes considerably more heat to fuse obsidian than glass.

I am disappointed that we will not be able to visit the Braidwoods next Spring. I had hoped to stop on our return from the meetings in Montreal for a visit but now that we go to Dallas - this is out.

We are leaving the 12th for Calgary and hope to see many of the field students and also Jacques Tixier. He will be in Chicago but I do not have the dates. Do wish you could meet with him.

Do keep in touch and let me know of your progress. Am hearing from many of the students and they are teaching me a great deal. I am really proud of all my students and this last year we had a particularly fine crew.

In haste,

kindest personal regards,

Don E. Crabtree

CE.1.4.28