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Petalidhi, Messenias
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3 November 1975

Dear Don and Evelyn,

It has been a long time since I have heard from anyone in Idaho, and then today came a newsletter from Ruthann with all sorts of things I had no idea about at all.

Don, I hope that you are feeling fit and will feel even better as time goes on. And I hope you will accept my sympathies about Dr. Swanson. I am glad that Ruthann has written that it will be offered (the festschrift) in his memory. I feel very far out of things, secluded down here in the lowest part of Greece, but the memory of being at your school is a really strong one, and I will never forget it. Everyone I meet here who is interested in lithics knows about you and your work, and without you, I wouldn't be able to do any of what I'm doing now. I wrote to Ruthann twice since I got here, but it's possible that the letters got lost (they often do from these climes). I had presumed that she was really busy, and I didn't want to bother you with letters as I know how many you get. Now I wish I had sent a few more.

The chipped stone industry I am working with here is from the middle and late Helladic periods in Greek history (about 2000 BC to 1200 B.C.) The components are very different from any American industries, and the materials used here are really odd. The chert is crazed, fractured, and still most of the tools at this site are made of such materials. It is only rarely that one finds a good fine grain chert which would react to pressure flaking in a reasonable way. The other materials which they utilized here are siliceous limestones, metamorphosed limestones, and obsidian. The obsidian industry is a very odd one as well. Originally I had thought that it was quite similar to the MesoAmerican polyhedral core types with similar techniques. The results look much the same - long parallel sided blades with shallow bulbs of force and no undulations on the ventral surface. But lately I have had a chance to study some cores from another site (we have none here), and found that there is no grinding whatsoever on these polyhedral core platforms. Instead they platforms are pressure flaked (such as you would do on arrowheads) and on the ridges created by the pressure flaking they place their point and remove the parallel sided blade. Seems really impractical but they do it somehow. I wrote all of this Don, simply for your interest, and also to say, many many thanks for all that you gave me in time and effort. I will write to Ruthann now and keep up to date on the festschrift.

The Braidwood's wrote and asked of you, and I send their regards here. I wish you both the best. It's because of people like you that good things happen and I feel very lucky to have ever met you.

Warmest regards

HARRIETT

Ce 10.4.75