

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Harriett Blitzer

College of Letters and Science 108 Mathematics-Geology Building Duluth, Minnesota 55812 (218) 726-7201

16 November 1976

Don E. Crabtree Route 1, Box 210 Kimberly, IDAHO 83341

Dear Don.

It was good to talk to you on the phone. I hope that you don't mind my calling, but I felt badly that I learned about all these things so late. I guess I should have written to you more often, but I hate to think of all the letters you must get and the volume of answering it requires.

I will pray for you in your upcoming surgery and I hope that you will get well enough to come to the Oriental Institute and visit with the Braidwoods. They speak of you often and always send best regards. Their collections would be such fun for you, as they have such a variety, from Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iraq and Iran. If I can manage to go to this conference in British Columbia in March it would be so good to see you then.

I am almost finished with my dissertation and have done a lot of work every summer in trying to replicate the Greek collections which I have studied. I've enclosed here a sample of the obsidian blade industry in Bronze Age Greece (about 3000 to about 1600 B.C.). It is very interesting that the platforms of the cores are NEVER ground for purchase, and the blades have all of the characteristics of pressure blades except for the really large platforms. You can see in the drawings here that the platforms are not tiny dots like the ones we made at the flintknapping school, but are facetted and as wide as the blade itself on some occasions. The platforms of the cores are flaked too. It is very odd, and not what I would do to create a stable surface from which to remove pressure blades. Hard to figure out, as I have tried to replicate this and found it difficult.

I will keep in better touch with you and here send you deepest sympathies. There are so many people everywhere one goes who look to you with greatest respect and affection, Don, that I hope you will get well in this knowledge.

Yours sincerely,

Harrist

Harriett Blitzer