

MEMO

To: Dr. Richard Lieban
Program Director for
Anthropology
National Science Foundation

From: Dr. Earl H. Swanson, Jr.
Museum Director
Idaho State University

Re: 1969 Summer Flintknapping Workshop

I enclose a copy of Don Crabtree's report on the conduct of the flintworking session at Twin Falls, Idaho in July and early August 1969, under National Science Foundation grant GS-2644. Don's report is accompanied by a copy of a letter from each of the four graduate students who was granted a \$500 fellowship for the term of the workshop.

I visited the workshop while it was in session using the opportunity to talk with Don, Gene Titmus, and the student participants. I was impressed by the intensity of the work and the uniformly high degree of interest. Despite this, the session was relaxed and in good humor. I later had an opportunity to talk with three of the students: Barbara Purdy, Jeffrey Mauger, and Paul Sneed. Each was enthusiastic and had clearly learned a great deal.

Since this was our first effort at operating such a workshop we were pleasantly surprised that all of it went so well. The organization was left to Don Crabtree and he planned to spend each morning and the lunch hour demonstrating techniques and results and then discussing these techniques as students put them to work. As it turned out, Don was there through most of the afternoons as well and the students worked until night fall day in and day out.

Having five students officially supported by the National Science Foundation plus one volunteer was nearly ideal. A larger number would be cumbersome for one person to instruct because each student requires step by step instruction and assistance as the work goes along. Gene Titmus, who has worked with Don for twelve years, volunteered more than a week of his time away from his job with the Idaho Power Company and proved to be a valuable assistant. It might be possible to accept one faculty member from a university who would pay his own expenses to the workshop.

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An increase in the total size of the group by three to five persons might be made if two of the 1969 students could be paid to return and assist Don with the work. This would require supplemental funds but may be worth consideration.

The session was held outdoors in a secluded part of the Shoshone Falls Campgrounds owned by the city of Twin Falls. The city generously made special provisions for the one month use of the campground and local news media protected the operation from publicity until the last day. This allowed maximum privacy for 1969, but it is likely that the location will have to be changed in 1970. A great many people now know about the session and its 1969 location.

I think that the soundness of the workshop has been demonstrated and we are looking forward to the conduct of the 1970 session.

Richard W. Coover

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