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VITA

I was born in Estonia in 1937. Near the end of the World War I moved with my family to Germany in order to escape from communism. During my seven-year stay in Germany, I obtained my elementary education in an Estonian school.

After immigrating to this country in 1951, I attended high school in Haverstraw, N.Y. In 1955 I enrolled in the School of Engineering and Science of New York University, obtaining a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree with a major in structural engineering in 1959. While working as a structural engineer, I obtained a Master of Civil Engineering degree in 1965. Meanwhile, I had also served about two years in the army.

In 1965 I returned to N.Y.U. as a full-time student with a research assistantship to study for a Ph.D. in structural mechanics. After receiving the degree in 1967, I returned to work as a research engineer to investigate problems of stress wave propagation in solid media.

After reading a number of semi-popular books on archeology, I participated in a mesolithic excavation on the Isle of Portland, England, in the summer of 1968. Thereafter, my interest in archeology has been growing continuously, and I have participated in excavations every summer since 1968. Realizing that I could contribute to the research in lithic technology as an engineer, in 1970 I decided to enroll in some courses at N.Y.U.'s Department of Anthropology to obtain a proper perspective for anthropology. My interest in archeology received a new stimulus, and I have been studying anthropology ever since on a part-time basis. I have presently completed all the courses for an M.A., and expect to take the comprehensive exams and to write the master's paper shortly, planning to continue for a Ph.D. in anthropology in the fall of this year.

Meanwhile, I have continued to work as an engineer, taking on a teaching position that allows more time for the summer excavations and the studies in archeology.

I started to experiment with knapping in 1970/1971, being plagued by the lack of material at first. After using artificial (bottle, plate) glass and poor (shaly) cherts at first, I discovered an excellent chert source at a modern quarry, obtained some Glass Mountain obsidian in 1972 and 1000 lbs. of Mexican obsidian this February. I have been knapping on a regular basis, averaging about an hour a day, since last summer. Recently, my brief commentary (on Speth's Amer. Ant., Jan. 1972, article) entitled "Mechanical Basis of Percussion Flaking: Some Comments" was accepted for publication in the Oct. 1973 Amer. Antiquity.

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