

Susan McINTYRE, ANTHRO 3908, Aug. 3/79

This flintknapping course has been a success. Mr. Crabtree has been able to show a relatively large group a number of techniques within a short period of time. The audiovisual aids helped a good deal. Videotape made observance of close techniques possible when it would have been difficult because of the size of the group. He was a very helpful instructor and personal instruction was possible at almost any time one desired because of the informal atmosphere of the sessions.

The course itself has given me a greater concept of the complexity of flintknapping and of the technical skills needed to do this type of work. It has given a greater appreciation of prehistoric technology.

The shortcoming of the course, is, of course, time. One week is only a taste of what can be learned and experienced. Although we have been taught basic techniques, should problems arise while working alone, there is no one close by to consult. We have not been able to experience and conquer many of the more complex techniques.

For the future, I think that regular coursework of this type would be helpful. However, while audiovisual aids are helpful, I believe that one to one personal instruction is necessary. I hope that other universities, as well as our own, take an interest in this type of experimental archaeology and offer instruction in it.

ce. 29.7.17