

Route 1  
Kimberly, Idaho

July 5, 1965

Dr. Francois Bordes  
Universite de Bordeaux  
Laboratoire de Prehistoire  
73 Chemin Roul  
Talence( Gironde) France

Dear Francois:

Thank you so much for your letter of June 1st and please pardon the delay I have shown in not writing sooner. After I returned from Berkeley, I became involved - together with other businessmen - in some legal action with the City of Twin Falls who were trying to move a street in front of my business property, which would have ruined my building. This took all of my time, but, fortunately, we have now resolved this matter and the street will remain where it is.

We did so enjoy our visit with you and Denise and I cannot tell you what a joy it was to again see you and have the opportunity to learn from you. However, the visit was too brief and now I can think of so many things I wanted to ask you. It is a delight to watch you work for your control and percussion methods are perfect.

Since I returned home, I have been trying to do some indirect percussion with a punch. I find that if the artifact is supported between the point of impact and the distal end of the flake to be removed, the indirect method will feather out the flake and lessen the shock to the artifact. If we could work together, I am sure that we could perfect this method and make some very fine bifacial tools.

Also, I have been working on the Egyptian technique. I have had no luck with the inertia method, but am doing quite well with hand-held pressure. In the past, I have been placing the platforms above the ridge of the previous flake scar. Now to change the style of flake, I use a wider spacing and set the tool ahead of the ridge and the flake scar is very similar to the Egyptian flake. I apply a downward and outward pressure to produce the wide and slightly curved scars as shown on the Egyptian blades.

We hope to be able to go to Glass Butte Oregon for more obsidian and, if you have a way to get it cut, I will send you some pieces of the red material that you like.

This week, we are going up to the Primitive Lost River country of Idaho to joint Dr. Swanson on a dig. It will be most interesting to see what he has found and also good practice to lecture and demonstrate to the students.

We are so looking forward to your visit to our home in April next year and we do hope that you and Denise will not disappoint us. This would give us a chance for an uninterrupted visit and we could spend many hours working together and, I am sure, resolve many things. We do hope you can come and Also Dr. Swanson and Butler have expressed their keen desire to meet and talk with you.

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Thank you again for requesting my visit to Berkeley and for the many kind things you did for me while I was there. Perhaps I can repay you when you visit us next year.

Received some beautiful Danish pieces from Meldgaard in Copenhagen which will mean much to me for study and demonstrations. I hope you know this man, for he is a keen observor and has much knowledge of stone techniques.

Let me know if there is anything I can send you from this side of the pond or any information to help you in your pressure work. You are coming along so fast and so well that I doubt if you need my help, but I will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Please give our regards to Denise and your lovely family.

Sincerely,

Don E. Crabtree