

Route 1, Box 39
Kimberly, Idaho 83341

April 2, 1971

Mr. Bruce Bradley
Box 55 Redington Route
Benson, Arizona

Dear Bruce:

Thank you for your letter of March 17th bringing me up to date on your activities. Dixie told me of her visit with you while she was with Jacques Tixier. I will give her your regards.

This spring, Francois told me of your interest in working lithic materials. He said you were doing very well and that continued practice should make you even better. As you know, I have not seen you in action on any of your work but am interested in your success. I would like to spend sometime with you and the next time I am in Arizona we can get together for a session and discuss your proposed University and Museum visits and perhaps I can give you some suggestions about technology lectures. As you know, it is important that aboriginal techniques be used and that the flake scars and debitage flakes be replicas. Otherwise a demonstration serves little purpose except to teach others how to make pseudo artifacts. It is not important to just replicate the morphological outline of an artifact but to duplicate the techniques that produced the point. What is imperative is to be able to show all of the features and characteristics in flakes and flake scars that have diagnostic traits pertinent to certain people in time and space. One must learn why - as well as how - to control thickness, width, length, termination, undulations, curvature and all of the diverse features shown at the proximal end of the flake or blade. I feel that the surface character of a flaked stone implement is by far more important than the form and only experiments replicating that character will provide clues to the mode of manufacture. All of these features need to be explained during a demonstration.

I will enclose an example of parallel diagonal flaking which is characteristic of Western Mexico and you may like to try this technique. If you would like to send some broken non-returnable midsections of your work depicting Eden and some other well known examples, I would be pleased to see them.

Bruce, at this time I am cautious about recommending you until I know more about your work and interpretations. In the past, much has appeared in print by those who do not replicate or interpret the technological differences in techniques and their conclusions have been printed as fact without proof. I am sure you are aware of the widely quoted author who speaks of flat resolved and free flaking which can not be done by the methods described.

I will be happy to endorse you when I become more acquainted with your work.

Sincerely yours,

Don E. Crabtree

Co. 7.2.12