

16 April 1973

Mr. Bruce Bradley
37 Grange Road
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Dear Bruce:

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness in sending the copy of the Gunflint Makers. I was delighted for they too bore out the differences in working cold material and that which was warmed. I have found it true of obsidian that the elastic qualities were improved on warm days and it was not so brittle.

Thanks to Marie for her assistance in setting up your lecture series. It will be great to be able to examine collections on your tour. You are doing a much needed series of experiments on the Levallois techniques and their sequences. I appreciate the drawings of the Egyptian Levallois, it is indeed most interesting and only you would be able to note the uniqueness of this approach. Bruce, you may agree or disagree with a proposed theory. Without the actual material and no context, it looks as if the core were modified after the flake was removed. 1. On the flake scar side it appears that on each lateral margin two burin blades were removed to leave a sharp edge. 2. At the base an additional two flakes were removed to thin the original platform. 3. On the opposite side there appears to be a sharpening retouch. I enclose a lousy sketch of the flake removed which is much like the former drawings of the Egyptian knives with the dove tails only this is for a projectile point, a sophistication of the North African transverse arrowhead made on a blade section. If the core were used as a projectile and the Levallois flake then they were able to make two projectiles with much the same operation. Just a thought until you find the associated Levallois flakes. Anyhow, very interesting.

I am glad to hear that you are working on the Brandon techniques. I, too, have a hammer and it will work on obsidian but I still have a lot of experimenting to do. I only wish it would be possible for you to F.O.B. a lot of the flint to SMU. Congratulations on the possibility of your working with Joel Shiner and Fred Wendorf, also Sollberger is nearby. Bruce, I am not making any long range commitments for now but it is so kind of you to ask us to Colorado. I have submitted a paper for the Chicago congress that is very general on Experimental Archaeology. Will look forward to seeing you if everything works out. Thanks again for the reprint.

With kindest personal regards,

Don

DC/kat

Ca. 2.2.29