

Hafted Hawaiian Adz

Hi folks--

Well here it is HO HO HO time again, how time flies when... It seems like just the other day that I was in the great Palouse Empire. A lot has happened in the last few months.

My shipment of stone made the trip to Hawaii in good shape, I'm still amazed at what a small quantity 150 pounds of obsidian is. I augmented my supply of raw material by acquiring a lovely blue porcelain toilet, much to the amusement of many of the students on campus, as my workshop area is outside near a main thorough-fare. The porcelain works well, though it seems that it is fairly susceptible to perverse fracture and end shock. Also it is very tough for pressure flaking.

I've used up the majority of my material on the seven lithic demos that I have given. Its nice that people that don't know much about lithics are so easily impressed!!! All you have to do is remove a flake or two and they think that you know a lot about the field.

I've also been working on my adz making. I still have some problems to work out, but the more I work with the material, the more I learn. I've also found that the Mauna Kea basalt is much tougher than the material I was working with this past summer.

On the 31st I leave for the Solomon Islands for six months--I'm starting to get excited. They have both Tridacna shell and chert adzes there that I am interested in seeing and working with (yes Jeff I will send you some chert).

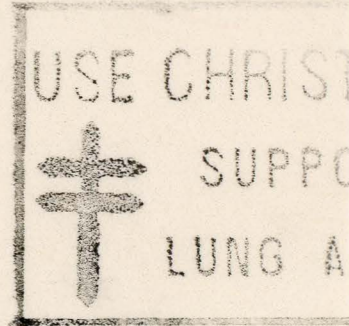
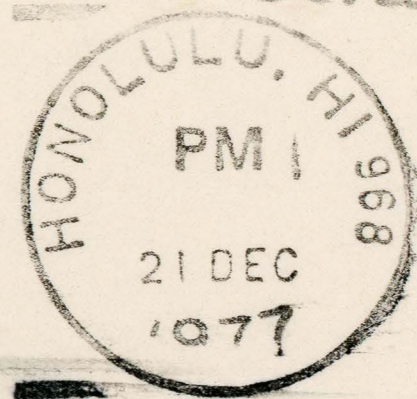
Paul--thanks for the photo, its great! Hope everything is going well for everyone and you are all still flintknapping.

Aloha,

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