

Call 0010

January 25, 1972

Mr. Errett Callahan
Department of Anthropology
Virginia Commonwealth University
913 Floyd Street
Richmond, Virginia 23220

Dear Errett:

Thank you so much for sending the paper on Experimental Archaeology. It is a most commendable project; you are to be congratulated. I am pleased that you have opened other fields than just the stoneworker's approach. There are so many facets to be considered for man's survival in a particular environment. It is indeed interesting how one will change their way of thinking after conducting experiments in function. It is for this reason your work will be invaluable. I, too, have been doing some functional experiments with stone tools for the past several years. There are so many things to learn and experiments to do that if there were a dozen of us working full time, we would never get them done. As you say, there is at least two million years of man's history represented by stone implements. While pottery and recorded history will doubtfully extend beyond ten thousand years, which amounts to one half of one percent, it is a bit appalling. Also, there is little doubt that there will be an exact duplication of experiments. If there should be, all the better; two approaches are better than one, and after all we can only imply function. I will send you a paper on The Use of the Obtuse Angle as a Functional Edge as soon as it is printed.

I would like you to send a copy of your paper to Guy Muto, Washington State University, Pullman Washington. He has worked with me on Lithic Technology and is now conducting two classes. Guy has a very inquiring mind, and you both have much in common. I feel that in the near future classes in Experimental Archaeology will be a required course, so keep up the good work. I would like to keep your paper, if you can spare it; if not, let me know and I will return it. If I can keep it, I thank you very much. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely yours,

Don E. Crabtree

DC:mj

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