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CANADA

RECEIVED
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Dear Mr. Crabtree

I was not selected for Mr. Crabtree's flintworking school, but, following your advice, I would like to apply for the summer of 1975.

This year my interest in lithic technology has been increased. My view is that experimenting in stone working, added to a quantitative expression of the main characteristics of the different techniques, should enable us to go further in the search for the techniques of production of different stone tools and therefore to characterise assemblages. I hope through experiments to pinpoint some parameters characterising the individual variability between stone-workers. Almost all my archeological interests (techniques, fonctions, quantitative characterisation of different techniques, intrasite and intratype variability, ect...) require a good knowledge of stone working and an ability to reproduce stone tools.

Here my four years of interest and experiments in lithic technology have enabled me to be familiar with direct-free-hand percussion on glass and porcelain. Unfortunately I never had the opportunity to work with flint, chert, obsidian... These personal experiments supplemented by relevant readings, have not allowed me to overcome certain difficulties such as the production of flakes of the desired shape, the preparation of platform for the successive detachment of blades with a punch and the production of a regular pressure retouch. To illustrate my experiments in stone working I send you some pictures of artefacts made out of glass and porcelain.

During this year I have made a detailed laboratory study, under professor Philip Smith, of one of his late paleolithic collections from Kom Ombo (Egypt), analysing it from the perspectives of technique, blank form, retouch, fractures and the correlations between them. I have now submitted a report to professor Smith on this work.

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Though these results encourage me to go further into my experiments, I know very well that it is necessary to be guided in order to eliminate my shortcomings and to attain a certain skill in other techniques. This is why I hope to have the privilege of attending your summer school. I should mention that on January 1975 I shall be enrolled in the graduate faculty here, working on my M.A.

Very truly yours

