



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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INSTITUTE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

Sept 19, 1975

Dear Don,

I saw this in the Explorer which a friend showed to me and thought perhaps you might be interested in seeing it. The color photos were really neat of the honey-colored chalcedony.

I learned from Ruthann that your operation turned out fine. Sure glad to learn that your going to be alright. I finally wrote to Quentin Bass about a problem on determing various types of flakes of bifacial retouch from the big Savannah River "points'" (knives!!) We're trying to work up a model whereby you can tell whether a camp was used ~~x~~primarily to make bifaces or to resharpening them based on the morphological variability of the retouch flakes. It seems logical that the shape ~~ix~~ or morphology of the bifacial flakes will "settle down" once people just simply rejuventate the cutting edge e margins, whereas while their removing mass and shaping the piece the flakes will be of much more variable size. While this seems obvious and somewhat trivial, we are having a tough time around here saying which sites are basecamps ~~px~~ or dwelling communities versus simple extraction sites since these sites all contain about the same kinds of mateials. We think that important differences are masked by simply presence-absence approaches and that real activity differences may be subtle such as in mere debitage shape. If you have any fantastic ideas about what changes in debitage morphology you'd expect from primary reduction to resharpening we're all ears.

Take care. Sure hope you come out to St. Loius for the SAA meetings.

Sincerely,

*al*