

Route 1, Box 39
Kimberly, Idaho
83341
Oct. 26, 1969

Mr. Eddie Henson
Box 159, Commonwealth Hall
Eastern Kentucky University
Richmond, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Henson:

Please excuse the tardy reply to your nice letter of Oct. 5th. Have been very busy at Idaho State University making flintknapping films and must be back this week to continue.

On the T.V. Special, I was using obsidian for we felt this showed up better on film than flint. One must choose his material to conform with the tool he is making. Obsidian leaves a very sharp edge and, therefore, is fine for blades, projectiles etc. However, it would be bad for a drill. Flint is also fine for projectiles, blades, etc, but does not leave as sharp an edge as obsidian. It would be impossible to explain in a letter about materials and techniques. However, if you will write to Dr. Earl Swanson, Idaho State University, the Museum, Pocatello, Idaho, he can send you what papers I have published in "Tebiwa", which include the making of a folsom and quite a coverage on materials.

Would also suggest that if you are interested in the lithics and intend to specialize in this that you apply now to Dr. Swanson to attend next years field school in flintknapping. We had a very successful session this year with five students and propose to enlarge the number next year.

Please thank Professor Eku for his confidence in me, but I think if you will get the proper publications from Swanson and can be selected to attend the field school that you will gain in a month what it took me years to learn.

Keep up your interest in the lithics for it is a field that has been sadly neglected for too long. There is a possibility that we will also be having a session in Idaho with Tixier and Bordes which students will be chosen to attend. Will see that you are advised if this materializes.

Yours very truly,

Don E. Crabtree

P.S. Your professor may be interested in busying or renting some of the flintknapping films from Dr. Swanson. Many of the the Universities are doing this which, in a sense, is better than seeing a demonstration live.

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