



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78285

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Division of Social Sciences

July 22, 1980

Mr. Don Crabtree  
Route 1, Box 210  
Kimberly, Idaho 83341

Dear Don,

Your letter of March 9, 1980, arrived in Belize after our field season had concluded! So much for the Central American mails. However, I have also been slow and am just now getting around to responding to that letter. Please accept my apologies. We were all very disappointed that you were unable to be with us in Belize this season and all of us very much regret the continuing health problems that you have had. I certainly hope that these have improved by now.

We had a very successful season at Colha this year. We got a lot of new data on the lithic industries, as well as new information on various facets of the ceremonial center. I think that you would be particularly interested in one of our excavation areas that we dubbed Operation 2007. Harry and I found this mound soon after the beginning of this season and on the surface we observed a number of chert blades as well as several blade cores. Erwin Roemer conducted the excavations at Operation 2007 for us. He was able to define a core blade industry dating to Late Classic times. This was most surprising! The midden contained thousands and thousands of chert blades and large numbers of both unifacial and polyhedral conical blade cores. Most of the blades were apparently designed to be made into small stemmed blade projectile points. Norman Hammond has this type of blade point in Late Classic deposits at Cuello. Later in the season in another excavation area, we found another one of these Late Classic core blade workshops. We had known, of course, that blade technology began in the Late Preclassic and that it did continue into the Late Classic. What is so very surprising to us is the magnitude and the sophistication of the core blade technology during the Late Classic. It's almost as if persons trained in making the beautiful obsidian blades of Guatemala and Mexico had somehow transferred their skills to the chert of Belize! Erwin will be writing up this excavation for his master's thesis.

Our other excavations allowed us to get more detail on Preclassic workshops, a problem we had started dealing with last year. Some of this information is contained in a brief article that appears in the recent issue of Lithic Technology, which I assume you have seen. We also got involved in terms of

CE.S.3.30.1

Mr. Don Crabtree  
Page two

July 22, 1980

a regional survey with the problem of preceramic lithics in Belize; there's also a brief note about this in the recent issue of the journal. Scotty MacNeish is now doing a lot of work in Belize on these preceramic sites.

All of the Colha folks here at UTSA join me in sending our very best regards.

Best regards,



Thomas R. Hester  
Professor of Anthropology

TRH/mg

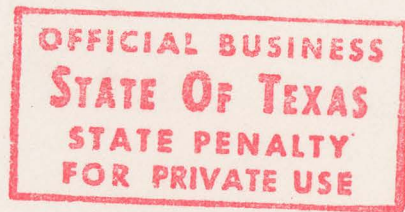


THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO  
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Division of Social Sciences  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78285

*Hester*

*Phone 7-30-80*

Mr. Don Crabtree  
Route 1, Box 210  
Kimberly, Idaho 83341



25,000 Sept 15 27,000

16,000 Aug 17,000

28,000 Nov 4 30,000

30,000 ~~Jan~~ 7 82 32,000

99,000

106,000 Jan 1981

3 Cheque

1 Savings

2 Cash

112,000

200  
12