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BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94720

January 4, 1972

Donald Crabtree
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Dear Don:

I was very glad to get your letter of December 28, and to hear of your improving health--and of your trip to Hawaii! I certainly hope you will be able to make it down for the core-blade symposium. However, if you have to go to London instead, I will certainly understand (and be filled with envy)! Let me know when your decision becomes clear.

And thanks for telling me of Alice Benfer's work. Alice and her husband, Bob (a professor at Missouri), were graduate students at the University of Texas when I started there. I got to be very good friends with them, and have seen them at SAA meetings in recent years. However, I didn't know that Alice was working with obsidian blade cores. So, I have written her for some details on her research.

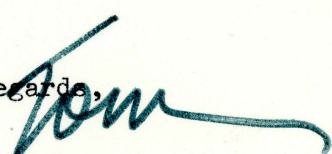
I appreciate your discussion of Mr. Langdon's materials. I am tempted to write him and request a loan of those blades. However, I am tremendously swamped with work these days. I just accepted a regular faculty position (Ass't. Professor) at the new University of Texas at San Antonio, beginning on the 1st of July. Thus, I have many projects (several of them with Bob Heizer) to get finished up before leaving here. As I may have told you, my faculty position here at Berkeley is/was a one-year thing...taking Bob's place while he was on a year's-leave. Berkeley is in dire financial straits, and they are not adding any new positions (in fact, they are doing away with positions when a professor retires, quits or dies). However, I am glad to get the Texas job, since I still have many research interests there and in NE Mexico.

Has Payson Sheets sent you his recent paper on obsidian technology published in Ceramica de la Cultura Maya? It is quite good, I think. However, I see several phases of his "model" which are not fully explored. After talking with him about this, I think I will write a brief note for that journal, adding my two-bits worth!

Has Vol.15,#2 of Tebiwa appeared yet? Dr. Butler indicated that my paper on the ethnographic evidence for heat-treating in the western U.S. would be in that issue, and I am eager to see it.

I hope all continues to go well.

Best regards,


T. R. Hester

Acting Assistant Professor

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