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DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

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Mr. Donald Crabtree  
Kimberley, Idaho

Dear Mr. Crabtree,

Just a brief note from us here on the East Coast. We were so pleased to have you and wife with us at Hell Gap last summer. I hope that your trip back to Idaho was a pleasant one and that the chert we gathered at Patten Creek proved to be useful.

You may remember our discussion of the heat treatment of chert and other materials prior to chipping. I had planned to get the Geology Department at Princeton University to do a laboratory analysis of heated vs. non heated materials (microscopic study of thin sections, X-ray, etc.). Well we have just gotten really going on this, and I wonder if you could help us out with suggestions on the treatment, drawn from your own experience. Any data concerning temperature, length of time, variation with different types of material, etc. would be much appreciated. Or if you have any comparative samples of treated and untreated specimens that you could spare, we would be most grateful. In any case I really believe this is a most important aspect of archaeology, and hope we will be able to shed some light on it. Meanwhile, I am sending under separate cover, casts of some of the material recovered at Hell Gap this summer.

Please give my very best to your wife.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Cynthia Irwin-Williams  
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