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DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY  
MACHMER HALL

Nov. 30, 1971

Mr. Donald Crabtree  
Dr. Francois Bordes  
c/o Dr. Charles J. Bareis  
Dept. of Anthropology  
109 Davenport Hall  
Univ. of Illinois,  
Urbana

Dear Mr. Crabtree and Dr. Bordes:

Enclosed are copies of a tentative table of contents for my book, Experimental Archaeology. All authors down for original articles have not yet been asked to contribute, so please do not regard this outline as any more than a general plan at this point. The contract has been signed, however, with Columbia University Press, and the book is slated for publication in September 1972.

John Speth, a recent Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, has agreed to write an article about laboratory experiments with the properties of fracturable materials, using his own data, but also discussing experiments carried out by others. He will not be treating any of the attempts at replication of stone tools, except where he feels his results are relevant.

In the chapter with Speth's article I would very much like to have one, or better yet, two, articles dealing with actual replication experiments. One would treat New World studies (Crabtree: Folsom points, Meso-American blades, etc) and the other Old World studies (Bordes: handaxes, Levallois flakes, etc.). However, if either of you have more specialized and recent work you would like to report in respect to tool replication, I would be quite willing to alter my scheme. In my telephone conversation with Mr. Crabtree, for example, Mr. Crabtree mentioned some Southwestern material, I think it was, which sounded appropriate. It had been submitted to American Antiquity, but word had not yet been received concerning publication. I hope the two of you will talk over possibilities. Should you want to talk to me again, please feel free to telephone collect. My office is 413-545-2897 (9-5 P.M.) and home is 413-253-7646 (after 6 P.M.).

If you are interested, I shall be glad to write you in more detail concerning the project later. I just wanted to get off this letter in time to reach both of you in Illinois.

Sincerely,

*Daniel W. Ingersoll*

Daniel W. Ingersoll  
Assistant Professor

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Experimental Archaeology would be a collection of published and unpublished articles dealing with experimental prehistoric and historic archaeology, directed at an audience of professionals, graduate students, and undergraduates in the field of anthropology and archaeology. Experimental archaeology is not regarded now as a sub-discipline or separate topic within archaeology but it is my guess that in a few years many universities will be offering courses in experimental archaeology. "Experimentation" in archaeology is not new, but it is certainly on the increase. More and more archaeologists are setting up controlled situations to test methods and theories, to replicate or rediscover manufacturing techniques, to test the efficiency of primitive tools, or to find out how natural forces affect a site after its deposition. There is no end to what can be tested -- only the imagination and curiosity of the investigator are the limits. It is my prediction that as time passes, more and more interpretations and inferences made by archaeologists will be based in experiment. Therefore, I think the time is here for a book about experimental archaeology -- a book which will present a record of progress so far. This book would serve as an introduction for students as well as a reference and teaching aid to professionals.

I have below a possible table of contents for Experimental Archaeology. It can be seen that many of the entries do not exist now. I would like to attempt to enlist new articles from several men who have made significant contributions. At present, I have not asked any of these men for articles (except for Martin Wobst who has agreed to write Chapter III); I would prefer to secure a publisher's support beforehand. Of course, the number of original articles would vary depending on how successful I would be in efforts with the individuals. I would hope that at least 20-30% of the articles would be original. In most cases, it would be possible to obtain suitable articles or abstracts of books or articles to represent the authors from whom requests for new articles would be made.



✓ = author has agreed to write article

+ = reprint will probably be used

Outline for the Publication of

Experimental Archaeology

editor, Daniel W. Ingersoll,  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Preface

The significance of experimental archaeology for the future. D. W. Ingersoll.

Introduction

"The History of Experimental Archaeology During the 19th and Early 20th Centuries." D. W. Ingersoll. An account of several early experiments and their significance. A new, unpublished article.

Chapter I

Replication of Technology and Discovery of Function

1. A summary article on Crabtree's experiments with stone tool manufacture, to date.

OR

"A Stonemaker's approach to analyzing and replicating the Lindenmeier Folsom", Tebiwa, vol. 9, pp. 3-39 (abridge) 1966

and

"Meso-american Polyhedral Cores and Prismatic Blades", American Antiquity, vol. 33, no. 4, pp. 446-478, 1968.

2. A summary article by Bordes on his experiments with stone tool manufacture.

OR a translation of

"Etude comparative des differentes techniques de taille du silex et des roches dures", L'Anthropologie, t. 51, pp. 1-29 (abridge) 1947.

+

3. "Monument Building: Some Field Experiments", Southwestern Journal of Anthropology, vol. 21, pp. 196-206 (1965), C. J. Erasmus.

+

4. "An Experimental Approach to the Function of Classic Maya Chultuns", American Antiquity, vol. 36, no. 3, pp. 322-335 (1971), D. E. Puleston.

5. A new summary article by S. A. Semenov

OR

→ abstracts from Prehistoric Technology, by S. A. Semenov, Cory, Adams and Mackay, London (1964).

✓ an article by John D. Speck to be substituted here.



- + 6. "The Firing of a second pottery kiln of Romano-British type at Boston, Lincs", Archaeometry, vol. 5, pp. 80-107 (1962), P. Mayes et al.

Chapter II

Quantitative Methods

- ✓ 7. A new article by Norman Barka on vessel reconstruction and ceramic seriation.
8. "Late Man in North America: Archaeology of European Americans", pp. 121-130 in Anthropological Archaeology in the Americas (B. J. Meggers, ed.) (1968), J. Deetz.
9. "The Doppler Effect and Archaeology: A Consideration of the Spatial Aspects of Seriation", Southwestern Journal of Anthropology, vol. 21, pp. 196-206 (1965), J. Deetz and E. Dethlefsen.
- ✓ 10. "The Use of the Cumulative Graph in Archaeology", a new article, D. W. Ingersoll.
- ✓ 11. "The Shape of an Archaeological Moment in Time", a new article, D. W. Ingersoll

✓ a new article by Deetz on gravestones & seriation

Chapter III

Computer Simulations

- ✓ 12. A new article by Martin Wobst on computer simulations.

Chapter IV

The Site: After

- + 13. "Times Arrow and the Archaeology of a Contemporary Community", pp. 43-52 in Settlement Archaeology (K. C. Chang, ed.) (1968), R. Ascher.

- + 14. "The Construction and Uses of a Laboratory Archaeological Site", American Antiquity, vol. 29, no. 3, pp. 328-337 (1964), J. H. Chilcott and J. Deetz.

- see next page + 15. A new article by B. F. Fontana on his recent experiments with site destruction. (drop)

16. A new article by P. A. Jewell

OR

- + abstracts from The Experimental Earthwork on Overton Down, Wiltshire, Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society, vol. 32, pp. 313-342 (1966), P. A. Jewell and G. W. Dimbleby.



Chapter V

The Site: Before "Living Archaeology"

would like  
new article  
here

+ 17. "Ethnology for Archaeology: A Case from the  
Seri Indians", Ethnology, vol. 1, no. 3,  
pp. 360-369, R. Ascher.

— 18. "Living Archaeology: the Ngatatjara of  
Western Australia", Southwestern Journal  
of Anthropology, vol. 24, no. 2, pp. 101-  
122, R. A. Gould.

✓ 19. Fontana - ~~a new article on ceramic studies  
among living people.~~ an article on

Conclusion

cultural bias in interpretation  
of artifacts.