

Route 1, Box 39
Kimberly, Idaho
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Jan. 31, 1969

Mr. Roger E. Kelly
822½ N. Forgeus Avenue
Tucson, Arizona
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Dear Roger:

Thank you so much for the copy of your excellent paper, "Imitative Experiment as Analogy in Archaeological Interpretation". Publish it by all means for it is an excellent paper.

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There is only one suggest I might make and that is: Experiment is the end result of hypothesis based on theory but now (because of the experiment) based on fact. However, experiment is still empirical until it is verified. In the case of stone tools this verification would mean that the workman must make an exact replica containing all the characteristics and technological traits of the aboriginal tool. In other fields it would means that function must be proved by actual use and functional scars replicated like those on the aboriginal piece. This is a little complex to explain in a letter, but if you will ask Emil Haury to let you have a look at the introduction to the Hohokam paper which I am sure Swanson has sent to him by this time you will find my thoughts on this subject there. I spent quite a bit of time going into hypothesis, theory, fact, and experiment for this very reason. So the only suggestion I can make to you is that you stress the fact that the experiment must be verified. For instance, in regard to the promontory pegs, it is quite possible that they may also have been used for staking green hides - for the peg is made off center to the long axis which could have been to prevent the green skins from slipping off the peg.

Also I would like you to get a copy of Francois Bordes' publication in Sonderdruck aus QUARTAR Bd. 18, 1967 "Considerations sur la Typologie et les techniques dans le Paleolithique". Francois points out some very important things relative to experimental archaeology and his comments on Semenov are well put. I am sure you will find it worth while. Art Jelinek may have a copy or maybe can get one for you.

Thanks so much for the fine paper and hope to see you this Spring.

Sincerely yours,

Don E. Crabtree