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POCATELLO, IDAHO

83201

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Anthropology

Dear Don,

A thought just came to me and I thought I had better get it down on paper before I forgot it. I've been looking over the meagre collection of hammerstones we brought back from Glass Buttes. Several are made of a coarse grained basalt, similar in appearance to the little cliff that outcrops just east of the quarry area. Why couldn't a cliff like this (and there are quite a few nearby) have yielded more hammerstones? Is the rock just too un-homogenous or soft or crumbly? If this were possible, how could pieces of the large cliff flow have been removed? That huge quartzite oval shaped hammerstone (?) we found on the quarry area north of where I dug is looking more and more like a chopper of some kind, since one end shows a series of flakes which just don't look accidental. It's definitely a two hander, and it seems to make sense that it could have been used to free large slabs of obsid. the way you and Gene tried. I was just thinking that it may also have been used to produce hammerstones from other rocks, such as the basalt outcrops. Anyway, it's just one more thing that crossed my mind and I wondered what you thought.

Chris

cc. 2/7/72