



Idaho State University

POCATELLO, IDAHO

83201

Museum

April 7, 1972

Dear Don and Evelyn,

It looks like down the home stretch now as I'm busily trying to make some sense out of the Glass Buttes rocks. At the suggestion of Dr. Swanson, here's what I'm doing: Starting with the pit that was totally collected, I'm going level by level washing and classifying each rock. I tried to pick simple but adequate classes which would represent what I think to be a logical manufacturing sequence. They are: 1) Unaltered nodules and naturefacts--so far more than half the items from every level make up this class 2) Primary decortication flakes 3) Thinning flakes (I left out secondary decortication flakes and put them into either Primary or Thinning categories) 4) Starch fractures 5) Blade like flakes (I can't really call them blades since I found no other evidence of a blade core industry there, though they obviously knew that technology) 6) Unclassifiable--mostly broken pieces which may or may not have been man altered, but there just isn't enough to go by--lots of broken flakes with missing platforms 7) Small rubble--thousands of minute gravel like bits which can't even be counted. After I washed these I put them through 1/4 inch mesh, and whatever falls through is discarded. The rest of the stuff is put in big coffee cans and measured that way by volume.

I'm trying as much as possible to stay away from all those jumbles of statistical inventories etc., but this will be a simple numerical count. I'll take the totals from the totally collected pit and compare them with the totals from the pit I collected selectively and see if I made a valid sampling.

The French exam is next week, so in my "spare" time I'm trying to relearn everything I forgot 5 years ago. When I get all the rocks classified I'd like to have you take a look and maybe give me some help. Will probably see you in the next few weeks.

Chris

CC 6.4.91