

Route 1 Box 210
Kimberly, Idaho 83341
February 25, 1978

Dr. V. N. Misra
University Dept. of Archaeology
Deccan College
Poona 411 006 India

Dear Dr. Misra:

I am delighted to receive the three microcores from our mutual friend, Richard Gould. We are both fortunate to be able to have him with his great knowledge and experiences. He is an exceptional man. The three cores are most valuable to my collection of pressure cores. One core is the smallest that I have ever seen. It is truly amazing how they were able to detach such minute blades. You wonder what sort of a pressure tool they'd used and how they had such remarkable eyesight to place the tip of the pressure tool on such an exacting platform. The tops are most unusual and unique because of the platform preparation ~~was~~ made by removing minute bladelets in order to seat the pressure tool. It will probably remain an enigma for some time to come before one could replicate the entire processes of manufacture. Generally the top is taken off in the form of a tablet like some of the Capsian from North Africa as described by Jacques Tixier in his book Typologie De L'Epipaleolithique Du Maghreb. I would recommend your obtaining this book if you don't already have it as many of your blade tool types are described in this publication. I am sure you are familiar with Jacques' work. By the way, I recently received a card from him telling of a find of fossil man in the Gulf of Arabia.

Too, one of the cores of chalcedony shows evidence of heat treatment allowing the blades to be detached with greater ease and also increased sharpness. We have similar material here in Idaho where the nodules are found in the vesicles of ancient lavas. It would appear that the knowledge of heat treating certain silicious rocks is universal as from evidence of this core and other materials from diverse geographic localities.

Again thank you so much for the specimens. They will indeed be treasured as a useful reference of core technology.

Respectfully yours,

Don E. Crabtree
Research Associate in
Prehistoric Technology

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