



Old Stone Fort Archaeological Society

December 2010

The Old Stone Fort Archaeological Society will meet **Thursday, December 9th at 6:00 pm** at the Old Stone Fort Museum in Manchester, Tennessee. The purpose of this Society is to learn more about prehistoric Native American cultures and the early historic period of Tennessee. We meet on the second Thursday of each month and our meetings are **Free** and open to the public. Our program this month:

Mr. Scott Jones

who will present

Paleoindian Lithic Raw Material Use in the Tennessee River Valley

Excellent chert resources are found throughout much of Tennessee, northern Alabama and Kentucky due to the limestone deposits created from ancient seas. Millions of years of weathering have exposed the chert embedded within the parent limestone deposits, in layers or tabular form and in smaller nodules and cobbles. Native Americans utilized these cherts for stone tools throughout prehistory.

The first wave of people migrating from the Old World into the Americas is known as the Paleoindian period – ca. 13,000 – 10,000 years before present. The first Americans made stone tools and projectile points that are distinctly different from later cultures – making it possible to distinguish early sites from later. Numerous Paleoindian sites have been recorded throughout the Tennessee River Valley, leading some researchers to conclude that the excellent chert resources played an important part in this early settlement pattern.

Archaeologist Scott Jones will describe the Paleoindian exploitation of these chert resources and explain how he has found significant changes in raw material choices through time. This presentation will also include a selection of Paleoindian artifacts fashioned out of Tennessee cherts.

See you Thursday, *Mark*



Clovis Point



Uniface End Scraper

Information: Mark Norton – 615-741-1588, ext. 113 mark.norton@tn.gov

Old Stone Fort State Park 931-723-5073

<http://state.tn.us/environment/parks/OldStoneFort/>

Tennessee Archaeology Network

<http://www.mtsu.edu/~kesmith/TNARCH/>

Tennessee Archaeology E – Journal Volume 5, No. 1

<http://www.mtsu.edu/~kesmith/TNARCH/tennesseearchaeology.html>

What is Chert? – Geology.com

<http://geology.com/rocks/chert.shtml>

Tennessee Division of Geology

<http://www.state.tn.us/environment/tdg/>

Nashville Rock, Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show – December 11-12, 2010

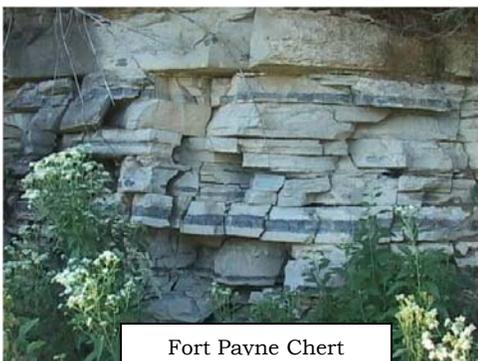
<http://www.mtgms.org/show.htm>



Blade Cores



Uniface Blade Tools



Fort Payne Chert



Dover Chert Outcrop in Stewart County, T