

WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

Lithic Raw Materials Used by Native Americans: Ordovician Normanskill Cherts

October 24, 2015, 9 AM - 5 PM

A third annual workshop focused on the geology and archaeology of lithic resources used by Native Americans in New York will be held on Saturday, October 24, from 9 AM to 5 PM at the New York State Museum and field locations in Greene and Columbia Counties. We will again bring together archaeologists and geologists interested in geologic sources of prehistoric toolstone to continue collaborations that will benefit both. This year's meeting will feature morning lectures on Ordovician Normanskill cherts in the Hudson Valley and geologic sourcing methods, followed by a field trip to examine locations of archaeologically-significant Normanskill chert outcrops in eastern New York's middle Hudson Valley.

The workshop will begin 9 AM at the NYSM (Basement, Meeting Rooms A & B) with coffee and displays of archaeological assemblages of Normanskill chert, including the West Athens Hill site (Paleoindian component). Presentations will follow by Dr. Adrian Burke, Department of Anthropology, Université de Montréal, and other speakers. Adrian's presentation will focus on his recent Normanskill sourcing research. Participants are welcome to bring their own specimens to add to the discussion.

During the afternoon field trip, Dr. Burke and Dr. Jon Lothrop will act as field leaders, guiding participants to several Normanskill outcrop locations. The first stop will be at a modern quarry. At this location, Dr. Philip LaPorta will discuss diagenesis of Normanskill cherts, after which participants can collect limited hand samples of Normanskill chert. We will then visit the archaeological site of West Athens Hill. At this stop, Dr. Lothrop will briefly describe the 1960s NYSM archaeological excavations by Dr. Robert Funk, and current perspectives on the Paleoindian component. Additional stops at other Normanskill outcrops in the mid-Hudson Valley will follow.

Please note: Participants should bring a lunch and provide their *own transportation* to the field trip locations (for roadside safety, carpooling is strongly encouraged to minimize the number of vehicles at each stop).

For questions or requests for additional information, please contact Chuck Ver Straeten (Charles.VerStraeten@nysed.gov) or Jon Lothrop (Jonathan.Lothrop@nysed.gov).

Space is limited to 35 participants. If you are interested in attending, please *RSVP* to Christina Rieth (Christina.Rieth@nysed.gov) by October 12, 2015.

We hope you will find this workshop to be of interest and we look forward to seeing you in Albany in October!