2018 Lithic Material Workshop
Friday, March 2 and Saturday, March 3, 2018
Historic Fort Snelling Visitor Center, 200 Tower Avenue, St. Paul, MN

The workshop is meant to be a relatively informal gathering with plenty of time for professional and avocational archaeologists to network, visit and share lithic samples and artifacts. The event is free to attend and open to all interested individuals.

Hosted by: The Minnesota Archaeological Society, Archaeology Department of the Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist

Participants are encouraged to bring samples of their own comparative collections to confirm identifications. Displays of common regional lithic materials will be available for examination. Bring along your unidentified lithic artifacts for some opinions on material types.

This will be an opportunity to view the ever-growing Minnesota Historical Society lithic comparative collection, which now includes many regional lithics.

Schedule

Friday, March 2

1:00 to 5:00 pm Paper and Poster Presentations and Displays

2:00 pm presentation of the Proposed MnDOT Lithic Sites Protocol by Connie Arzigian from the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center, followed by an opportunity to work with some sample collections to try out the protocols for lithic artifacts and raw materials, and provide feedback.

6:30 pm Reception Chili feed at Fort Snelling Visitor Center. The Minnesota Historical Society lithic comparative collection will be open for review. There are currently 3020 samples of 401 different raw materials.

Saturday, March 3

9:00 to 11:30 am Poster and Paper Presentations, Displays and Flint Knapping Demonstration

10:00 am presentation on Digital Lithic Reference Collections by Mark Anderson of the Iowa OSA.

10:30 am presentation on Old Cedar South: A Cobble Quarry in the Minnesota River Valley by Kent Bakken

11:30 am to 1:00 pm Lunch (chili may be available)

1:00 to 3:00 pm Lithic Materials Exchange
Lithic materials exchange. If you have material to share, you should bring flake size samples to share with others. You may also want to bring examples to display the range of variability, effects of heat-treatment or other information you may want to share.

Please provide information on the material name, variety (if any), location and the name or institution that collected the samples. It would be appreciated if you could prepare labels in advance with the information for the material you are sharing. We will have some bags and blank tags that people can use to collect and label samples.

Flintknapping Demonstration. On Saturday Rod Johnson will be demonstrating in the area near the MHS lithic comparative collection. We will have some supplies available if you would like to give it a try.

Parking is available free in the Historic Fort Snelling Visitor Center Parking lot.

On Friday morning, March 2 at 10 am the Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist will host an event introducing the new OSA Portal which will be providing professional archaeologists online access to archaeological data.

For additional information for either event contact Bruce Koenen at:

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