



Michigan Archaeological Society

# W. L. COFFINBERRY CHAPTER

November 2019 Meeting

Credit: Jonathan C. Lothrop, Darrin L. Lowery, Arthur E. Spiess & Christopher J. Ellis  
 (2016) Early Human Settlement of Northeastern North America, *PaleoAmerica*, 2:3, 192-251



Thursday, November

14<sup>th</sup>

7:00 p.m.

Lake Michigan Hall

Room 249

GVSU

## November Meeting

Dr. Dillon Carr will present

*Pioneers of the Pleistocene:  
 The Archaeology of Michigan's  
 First Peoples*



The first inhabitants of Michigan began colonizing a recently de-glaciated landscape just prior to the end of the last Ice Age. These pioneering Michiganders, referred to by archaeologists as Paleoindians, encountered a vastly different landscape than is currently present in the state today. This lecture will accomplish two goals. First, it will provide an overview of what the archaeological record informs us about Paleoindian lifeways and the dynamic late glacial environments they inhabited. Secondly, we will also explore some of the key areas of ongoing research involving the Paleoindian period in Michigan, such as the impact of environmental change on human behavior and the role of social networking.

Photo and text credit: Tim Bennett - MAS 2015 Calendar

Gainey Paleo-Indian Points; c.a. 12,00-11,400ya

Gainey fluted points are named after artifacts recovered from the type site in Genesee County. They represent the earliest cultural period in the Great Lakes region, the Paleo-Indians, who were nomadic big game hunters. It's theorized that the bifaces were used primarily to tip thrusting spears.

Dr. Carr is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Grand Rapids Community College. Current research interests include understanding forager adaptations to the late Pleistocene environments including economic adaptations, mobility strategies, and the size and structure of social networks.