

towards physical structures rather than the organization and social structure and so on or the history. We were targeting in on a specific period which we hoped was the pre White Man period. Those of you who are familiar with Indian history are well aware of the fact that pre-historic period with respect to Indians isn't like anybody else. This is because Indians weren't discovered until 1492 or some such figure. Possibly, the Norsemen were ahead of that, but at least they didn't write much about them. Consequently, the historic period, in so far as the Indians are concerned, relates pretty much to the White Man's first contact with them. There are some legends, stories, wampums, and things like this that have grown up from various tribes. These are very limited. Consequently, for practical purposes, I hold, and it's a personal opinion, that the historic period in so far as the Indians are concerned, starts with the White Man's coming to these shores. And to set the stage, particularly for the Cherokees, Grace Steele Woodward starts off her book of the Cherokees with what I consider to be a very pertinent quote here: "The emergence of any primitive Indian tribe or a Nation of dark savagery into the sunlight of civilization is a significant advantage, but in the case of the Cherokees, the event is both significant and phenomenal. Between 1540 and 1906, the Cherokee tribe of Indians reached a higher peak of civilization than any other North American Indian tribe." And, of course, the process by which they reach this is what we're exploring here. Now, just to sort of focus in on the Cherokees here, the question is often asked: "Where did the Indians come from? How did they get here? Did they just spring up out of the earth? Or what have you." Actually, I read not too long ago a theory that the Indians just generated over here just like the other people generated over in supposedly Babylonia or wherever it was, and were entirely distinct and separate and developed at