

## TIMELINE OF EARLY OHIO PEOPLES

### **Paleo-Indian Era: 13,000 BCE – 7000 BCE**

- Lived in small mobile groups
- Hunted various animals with spears tipped with flint points
- May have collected plant food as deciduous forest replaced Ice Age coniferous forest.
- Occupied small temporary camps in response to seasonal availability of food.
- Made their distinctive tools in workshops located near outcrops of flint.

### **Archaic Era: 8000 BCE – 500 BCE**

- Depended on hunting, fishing, and collecting plant foods.
- Domesticated squash around 2300 BCE
- Established camps in different parts of territories according to seasonal availability of food.
- Some camps remained fairly permanent bases where sizeable groups of people gathered.
- Made a wide variety of spear points and knives by chipping flint.
- Made axes and various food processing tools by grinding and polishing hard stone (like granite).
- Growing emphasis on trade and ceremony in late Archaic culture.

### **Early Woodland Era: 800 BCE – CE 100**

- Depended on hunting, fishing, and collecting plant food.
- Began to plant seeds adjacent to their communities for crops such as sunflowers, goosefoot, and squash.
- Could remain longer in one location due to increase control over food supply.
- Used pottery vessels as an efficient way to store and cook food.
- Adena groups frequently built conical earthen mounds over graves of deceased relatives and circular earthworks that were probably used as public gathering areas for ceremonies or other events.

### **Middle Woodland Era: 100 BCE – CE 500**

- Depended on hunting, fishing, and collecting wild plant food as well as growing crops.
- Continue lifestyle of Early Woodland ancestors, living in small scattered communities.
- Flint tools are distinctive forms.
- Pottery is decorated, especially pieces used apparently for special occasions.
- Hopewell culture participated in a trade network that brought exotic materials (copper, mica, obsidian, and shells) to central Ohio and used them to create elaborate ornaments.
- Constructed earthen burials mounds and complex earthworks enclosing hundreds of acres of land that required considerable planning and organization of labor.

### **Late Woodland Era: CE 500 – CE 1200**

- Population increased, replacing the small scattered communities of the Middle Woodland culture with large villages
- Continued to grow crops of squash, goosefoot, maygrass, some communities began to grow corn around A.C.E. 800
- Developed a new hunting weapon – the bow and arrow which gradually supplanted their spears.



- Late Woodland descendants of the Hopewell culture stopped building large burial mounds and earthworks and abandoned their extensive trade network.

### **Late Prehistoric Era: CE 900 – CE 1600**

- Fort Ancient **Southern Ohio** Sandusky **Western Lake Erie Basin**
- Monogahela **Eastern Ohio** Whittlesy **Eastern Lake Erie Basin**
- Lived in villages located in areas of fertile soil that could support cultivation of corn, beans, and squash.
- Hunted game with bow and arrows, fished, and collected wild plant foods and nuts.
- Periodically relocated because of declining fertility of the cropland, decreasing supplies of wood and game and increase sanitation problems.
- Different groups had distinctive ways of making and decorating pottery.

### **Historic Era: CE 1700 – present**

- Mid 1600s most permanent Indian settlements in Ohio were abandoned because of hostilities and spread of disease introduced by Europeans on the East Coast.
- Early to Mid 1700s : Indian groups moved into the Ohio Area.
- Delaware (Lenape) **East Coast** Wyandot (Huron) **Canada** Shawnee **South**
- Mingo/Iroquois **New York** Miami **Indiana**
- Treaty of Greenville (1795) ended hostilities between Indians and Euro Americans settlers. Northwestern Ohio was designated as Indian lands with established reservations.
- 1800s : Efforts were begun to remove Indians to allow Euro American settlement in all parts of Ohio. The last organized tribal groups removed to reservations in Kansas and Oklahoma where their descendents still live.
- Census of 1990 identifies over 20,000 people represent many different tribes, who are living in Ohio.

Fort Ancient is operated by the Ohio Historical Society, a nonprofit organization that serves as the state's partner in preserving and interpreting Ohio's history, archaeology, and natural history.