

Archaeology

in Indiana—the Early Years

The Indiana Historian

A Magazine Exploring Indiana History



Agate Basin projectile point
Date: circa 8,500 B.C to 7,500 B.C.
Approximate size: 4 inches by 1.25 inches

Focus

Front cover illustration: Pictured is an Agate Basin projectile point found in the Falls of the Ohio area. The point type was named from the Agate Basin site in Wyoming; the points have been found from New Mexico into the Great Lakes region. The points date from circa 8,500 B.C. to 7,500 B.C. (Justice, 33-34). This point is approximately 4 inches by 1.25 inches in size. It is made from Wyandotte chert and is light to dark blue-grey in color. Courtesy IDNR, DHPA collections. The photograph is by James R. Jones III.

This issue is the first collaboration on archaeology with the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DHPA, IDNR). James R. Jones III, Ph.D. and Amy L. Johnson are guest editors; they are profiled on page 14.

Below are some useful tips for "Responsible artifact collecting."

On page 3 is a glossary for reference.

A very brief overview of the development of the science of archaeology is presented on page 4. More contextual information is in the timeline.

On pages 5-8, there is an introduction to archaeological work in Indiana.

On pages 9-13, some highlights from the 1928-1929 survey

and excavation in the Whitewater River Valley are presented to introduce some techniques of early modern archaeological investigation.

Archaeologists must assign standard soil colors so that comparisons can be made. The ink color used in this issue matches a standard dark red soil color. For those who want more, it is 10R, 3/6 in the *Munsell Soil Color Charts* (rev. ed., New York, 1992).

Please explore the Web site of the Indiana Historical Bureau (www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/ihb/ihb.html) for more information about the content of this issue.

The June 2000 issue will delve into more current history and archaeological investigations in Indiana.

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The Indiana Historian provides resources and models for the study of local history to encourage Indiana's citizens of all ages to become engaged with the history of their communities and the state of Indiana.

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Responsible artifact collecting

Archaeological artifacts are unique and irreplaceable pieces of the prehistoric puzzle. Because of this, it is very important that artifacts be properly collected and recorded. The real value of artifacts lies in the information they provide on where, how, and when people lived in the past. Responsible artifact collecting recovers information, not just artifacts.

For responsible artifact collecting, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (IDNR, DHPA) recommends the following steps:

1. Always have landowners' permission to be on their property and to collect artifacts.

2. When you find artifacts, record the location of the archaeological site on a map.

Standard U.S.G.S. 7.5' (minute) topographic quadrangle maps work well for this purpose, and may be obtained from the United States Geological Survey, the IDNR Map Sales office, and other map dealers.

3. Keep records on the location of artifacts.

A good way to do this is to assign each archaeological site a specific letter or number, and to mark the appropriate number on each artifact collected. For lithic artifacts, for example, wash the artifact, mark each piece using a

fine-tipped pen and permanent ink. Write clearly and keep the markings small, so as to obscure as little of the artifact as possible. After the ink has dried, cover the markings with clear fingernail polish. This will keep the markings from rubbing off if the artifact is handled.

4. Don't DIG for artifacts, only collect artifacts from the surface.

The excavation of artifacts should only be done by professionals or avocationalists who have been trained in proper, systematic excavation techniques. Improper digging for artifacts destroys irreplaceable information about the past.

Indiana law (Indiana Code 14-21-1) requires that any excavation for artifacts dating before December 11, 1816 must be done in accordance with a plan that has been reviewed and accepted by the DHPA. Any discovery of human remains, or possible human remains, should be left undisturbed, and should be reported immediately to the DHPA or to an IDNR Conservation Officer.

5. To learn more about archaeological resources and artifacts contact the IDNR, DHPA, 402 W. Washington Street, Room W274, Indianapolis, IN 46204; 317-232-1646, Web site (www.ai.org/dnr).

Source: James A. Mohow, *Poster of projectile point types* (1997) available from IDNR, DHPA.

Glossary for Indiana Archaeology

Anthropology: The study of humankind, with particular emphasis on its cultural and biological adaptations.

Archaeology: The anthropological study of past lifeways, cultures, and cultural processes through the investigation of material remains left behind by humans.

Artifacts: Any portable object made, used, and/or modified by humans.

Common **prehistoric artifacts** found archaeologically include spear points, arrowheads, knives, chipped or broken stone debris, ground stone axes, grinding stones, mortars and pestles, awls, adzes, gouges, pottery, clothing and ornamental pins, decorative items and ornaments, scraping tools, hammerstones, bone fishhooks, stone drills, and beads.

Common **historic artifacts** include glass (window and container); iron and other metal items and tools; nails; bricks; European and American ceramics or china; metal utensils; clothing items such as buttons, buckles, and leather footwear; worked wood; horse equipage; gun parts; household items such as pins, scissors, and thimbles; furniture hardware; copper/brass and iron kettle fragments; beads and ornaments; farm equipment; etc.

Associations: The relationships of artifacts and features at a site, based on provenience and context.

Context: The position of an artifact or feature in its soil matrix and horizontal and vertical location, and its relationship with other artifacts and features, related to the behavioral activities which placed it there.

CRM (cultural resource management): The protection, preservation, and recovery of information from archaeological sites, under federal and state laws.

Culture: A system of shared, learned, and symbolic human behavior for adaptation to the natural and social environment.

Culture may be thought of as a system composed of interrelated parts or subsystems, in which a change in one part affects or influences the other parts. Subsystems interrelated with culture include technology, communication (and language), demography, psychology, economics, sociocultural organization, beliefs and values, subsistence, settlement, environment, etc.

DHPA: The Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Excavation: The systematic recovery of archaeological deposits through the removal and screening of soil.

Features: Non-portable evidence of past human behavior, activity, and technology, found on or in the ground.

Common **prehistoric features** include fire pits and hearths, burned earth and clay, trash and garbage pits, post molds, evidence of house floors or basins, storage pits, clusters of artifacts (e.g., chipped and broken stones, caches of projectile points, ceramic or pottery sherds), human and animal burials, clusters of animal bone, earthworks (such as mounds and circular enclosures), petroglyphs (symbols carved or pecked into stone), pictographs (painting or drawings on stone), and middens (cultural refuse buildup).

Common **historic features** include evidence of fires and fire pits, ash and charcoal lenses and stains, trash and garbage pits and dumps, middens, postholes, house foundations and other structural remains (e.g., wells, cisterns, fence lines, ditches, canals, landscapes, embankments, mill races, dams, old trails, and roads), cemeteries, human burials, and clusters of historic artifacts.

Historical archaeology: The study of past human lifeways, cultures, and cultural processes after written records occur for human groups. Historical archaeology studies past humans through the use of written records and the investigation of their material culture.

IDNR: The Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Mitigation: The large-scale recovery, by excavation, of enough archaeological information from a site so that the entire range of materials present and information on past activities and behavior there may be retrieved. Called Phase III in CRM investigations.

National Register of Historic Places: The list of sites, structures, buildings, districts, and objects important in U.S. history, established by the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act.

Prehistory: Human activities, events, and occupations before written records. In North America, prehistory primarily includes Native American

prehistoric cultures, but does not imply that these cultures did not have long, rich, and varied cultural and oral histories and traditions.

Provenience: The horizontal and vertical location of an artifact at a site.

Seriation: The placement of artifacts into a relative chronology or time sequence, based upon similarity of characteristics, their frequency of occurrence, and their relative stratigraphic location.

Site: The presence or occurrence of one or more artifacts or features indicates an archaeological site. An archaeological site is an instance of past human behavior or activity, where humans conducted some activity and left evidence of it behind, on or in the ground.

Some common site types include refuse heaps and/or dumps, old homesteads and farmsteads, artifact caches, villages and camps, cemeteries, family plots, burials, workshops (e.g., stone, metal, ceramic, etc. debris), quarries, garden and field plots, earthworks (mounds, embankments, dams, enclosures, fortifications, canals, etc.), old parks and cultural landscapes, old trails and transportation routes, mills, towns, mines and mining camps, and industrial and business sites.

Stratigraphy: Horizons, strata, or layers of soil deposited at a location, where the deepest strata were deposited the earliest, and the more recent layers deposited higher in the stratigraphic sequence.

Survey: The systematic recovery and recording of archaeological information such as site locations, artifacts, and features, by visually inspecting the surface of the ground. Called Phase I in CRM investigations.

Test Excavations: Systematic excavation of a representative portion of a site to evaluate and determine its nature and extent, what information is present, whether there are intact or in situ deposits present, and the degree of disturbance to the site, often to determine whether it is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Called Phase II in CRM.

Source: Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

The science of archaeology

The science of archaeology has developed as a result of the natural curiosity of humans about their past. Ancient ruins and artifacts have been viewed with wonder and appreciation as curiosities or art. Until relatively recently, there was little knowledge or understanding of the societies that created them. Folklore and myths often provided societies with answers to questions about the past.

In 1784, Thomas Jefferson conducted the first scientific excavation of an Indian mound on his Virginia farm. During the nineteenth century, excavations took place in prominent sites such as Pompeii, Italy. These excavations added little to knowledge about the past since analysis of evidence was still speculative and based on the idea that humanity's existence on earth had been only a few thousand years.

An important turning point came from the newly-developed science of geology in the mid-nineteenth century. In 1785, Scottish geologist, James Hutton had shown that stratification, or layers of earth and rock, was the result of natural processes over time on land and in bodies of water.

The work of other researchers applied this theory to the human past and found evidence to prove that humans had existed for a much longer time on earth. Prehistory as a term became commonly used after 1865.

The first breakthrough at classifying artifacts chronologically came in 1836: the Danish scholar C. J. Thomsen published a system based on three ages—Stone, Bronze, and Iron.

In the twentieth century, work moved forward in classification and interpretation of artifacts. New approaches—such as ecological—for investigating cultural change were begun.

After World War II, many scientific developments aided archaeological investigation. The most important was radiocarbon dating developed by American scientist Willard Libby in 1949.

Over the intervening years there has been increased use of scientific methods and technological advances in all facets of archaeology. The field continues to develop with further discoveries and more sophisticated means of interpreting and explaining the mysteries of the past.

Source: Renfrew and Bahn, 17-34.



The Archaeological Institute of America was founded in 1879. Its publications indicate some aspects of archaeology as a field of study and as a popular endeavor. Starting in 1897, it published the *American Journal of Archaeology*. Among other features, it included "Archaeological Papers of the Institute in the fields of American, Christian, Classical, and Oriental Archaeology." A magazine "primarily for its lay members" was started in 1914. The purpose of *Art and Archaeology* was "to give people, in an interesting and attractive way, accurate information in the wide realm of art and civilization, ancient and modern." Two of the series to be included were "Masterpieces of Aboriginal American Art" and "Archaeology and the Old Testament." The new 64-page format in 1916 was to be "a medium through which the specialist may most readily reach, by story and picture, the rapidly increasing number of cultivated people who desire to learn the best that is known and thought in the wide realm embraced by its name."

The new cover emphasized "the eight great subjects the magazine stands for."

Source: *Art and Archaeology*, 3:1 (January 1916), 2, 56, 61, 62.

Beginnings of Indiana archaeology

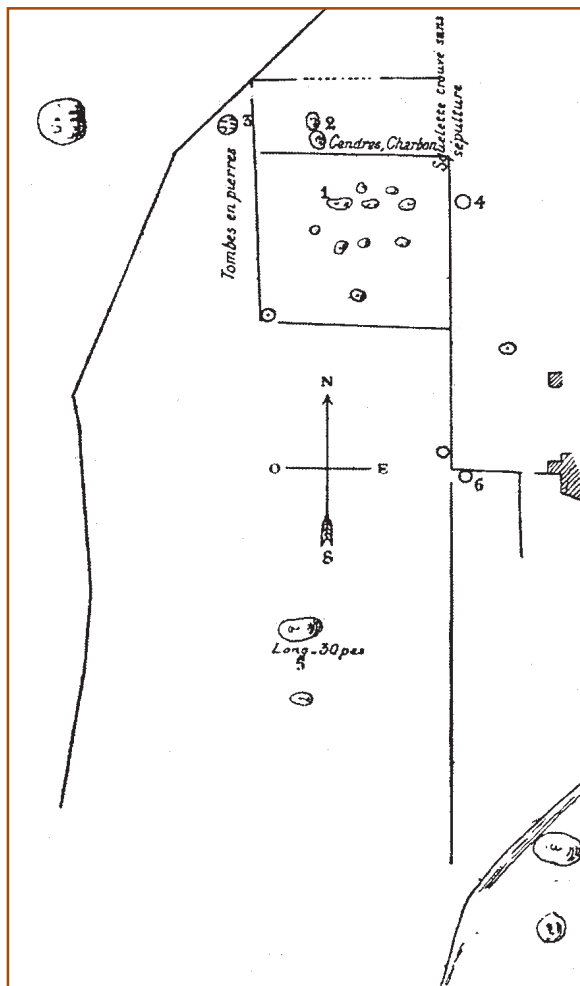
Recorded archaeological investigations in Indiana started more than 170 years ago. During most of this time, the work was under the auspices of national or state institutions. Only in the past few decades has archaeology here been conducted by professional, university-trained, full-time archaeologists at institutions or companies dedicated primarily or solely to archaeological research, investigations, and preservation.

Records and investigations of archaeological sites in Indiana begin in the early nineteenth century. For example, Henry Rowe Schoolcraft visited the landmark Bone Bank site on the Wabash River in southwestern Indiana in 1822.

Actual excavations at Bone Bank began in 1828 when Charles Alexander Lesueur collected artifacts and described and sketched the site. Lesueur also excavated mounds at New Harmony.

Beginning in the early nineteenth century, General Land Office surveyors recorded archaeological sites in Indiana.

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, much of the documentation and investigation of archaeological sites was carried out or sponsored by institutions concerned with disciplines such as history or geology. Individuals working for the Indiana Geological Survey recorded archaeological sites as part of their investigations. Important contributions were also made by the Indiana Academy of Science

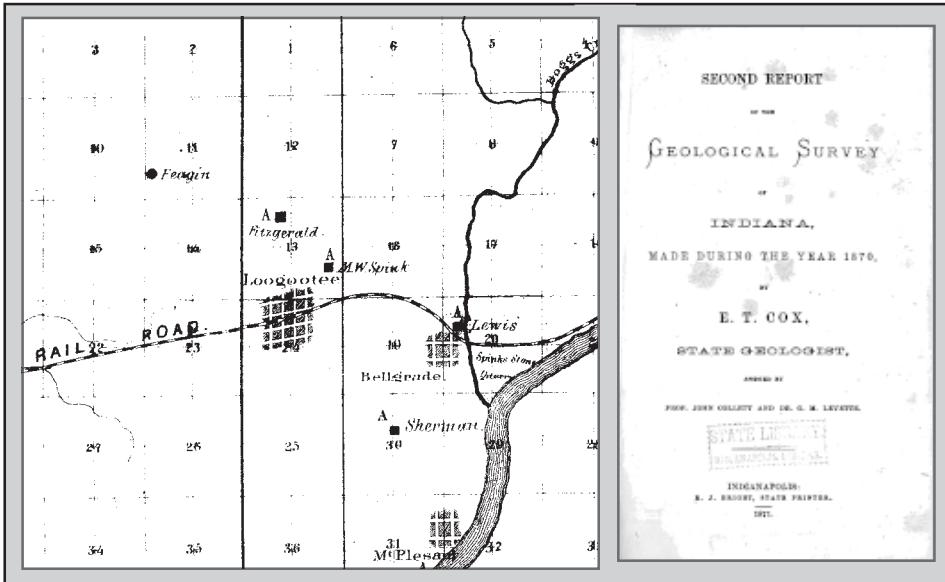


Sketches by Charles Alexander Lesueur, a naturalist, from his investigations in southern Indiana in the early nineteenth century. Above are drawings of receptacles and a terra cotta statuette from Bone Bank on the Wabash River. At left is a sketch of mounds in a cemetery at New Harmony. "The mounds at New Harmony formed a group of about twenty, hemispheric for the most part; several were egg-shaped." Many mounds had been excavated by treasure hunters. Hamy's biography of Lesueur was originally published in France in 1904.

Source: Hamy, 48, 49, 58.

E.-T. Hamy, *The Travels of the Naturalist Charles A. Lesueur in North America, 1815-1837* (Kent, Ohio, 1968), [49], 58. Illustrations published with permission of The Kent State University Press (out of print).

10,000-7,500 B.C.	8,000-6,000 B.C.	6,000-3,500 B.C.	4,000-1,500 B.C.	1,500-700 B.C.	1,000-200 B.C.	200 B.C.-600 A.D.	500-1,200 A.D.	1,000-1,700 A.D.
Paleoindians live in what is now Ind. (Outline, 1).	Early Archaic Indians live in what is now Ind. (Outline, 1).	Middle Archaic Indians live in what is now Ind. (Outline, 2).	Late Archaic Indians live in what is now Ind. (Outline, 2).	Terminal Late Archaic Indians live in what is now Ind. (Outline, 2).	Early Woodland Indians live in what is now Ind. (Outline, 3).	Middle Woodland Indians live in what is now Ind. (Outline, 3).	Late Woodland Indians live in what is now Ind. (Outline, 4).	Mississippian Indians live in what is now Ind. (Outline, 4).



In 1837, the first geological survey of Indiana was authorized by the General Assembly. The appointed geologist of the state, David Dale Owen, recommended a much more extensive survey.

In 1869, the Indiana Geological Survey was founded. Its main purpose was to assess mineral resources that were economically important in each county. The geologists who made these surveys also began to include cultural sites.

The second annual report, for 1870, includes the "Map of Daviess & Martin Counties, Indiana" (detail above). The map includes quarries (right side above between railroad and river), ochre beds, public buildings, businesses, etc.

Sources: E. T. Cox, *Second Report of the Geological Survey . . . 1870* (Indianapolis, 1871), 110-11; Kellar, 14; David Dale Owen, *Report of a Geological Reconnoissance of the State of Indiana . . . 1837* (reprint, Indianapolis, 1853), 12, 37.

(1885), the Indiana Historical Commission (1915, later the Indiana Historical Bureau); and the Indiana Historical Society (1830).

Also during this period, a number of national organizations concerned with the nation's heritage demonstrated interest in Indiana antiquities and archaeological sites.

The 1920s were a time of great activity and beginnings of more systematic approaches to archaeology in Indiana. Also during this time, the Indiana Historical Commission began publishing archaeological surveys of counties in the state.

Dr. Clark Wissler of the National Research Council visited Indianapolis in 1920 to encourage "an archaeological survey of Indiana." Describing this initiative in the Guernsey report in 1924, Harlow Lindley, director of the Indiana Historical Commission, noted:

INDIANA'S RELICS.

A Call For the First Meeting of the Indiana Archaeology Society.

Richmond, Ind., October 16.—L. D. Case, of Richmond, Secretary of the State Archaeology Association of Indiana, has issued a call for the first annual meeting of this society at the state house at Indianapolis for the 17th and 18th of October.* Prof. Cox, Prof. Richard Owen and President Joseph Moore will present papers of special interest. Other distinguished scientists will read papers. A large collection of prehistoric relics will be on exhibition. Arrangements are now completed guaranteeing the grand success of this society's first annual meeting.

Indianapolis Sentinel, October 17, 1876.

In September 1875, a meeting was called "in the rooms of the State Geologist in the State-house" to form an archaeological association. Attendees were urged to bring "relics of prehistoric man" to contribute "towards the formation of a State Archaeological Museum."

The notice pictured right invited people to the first annual meeting of the association. Papers were read, there was a debate about the origin of mounds, and a field trip to the mounds in Anderson.

Sources: Indianapolis Journal, September 15, 1875; Indianapolis Daily Sentinel, October 18, 20, 1876; Indianapolis Daily Journal, October 18, 1876.

1592	1641-1701	1679	1700	1700s	1717	1721	1732	1754	1763
Ruins of Roman city of Pompeii discovered (Grun, 263).	Iroquois wars with French and Huron tribes; at this time, historic Indian groups documented in what is now Ind. (Barnhart and Riker, 59-60).	La Salle travels across what is now northern Ind. (Barnhart and Riker, 62).	Wea settle on Wabash River (Barnhart and Riker, 66).	Early Miami establish settlement (now Fort Wayne) (Barnhart and Riker, 66).	Fort Ouiatenon established (near present Lafayette) (Barnhart and Riker, 71-72).	Fort Miamis established (now Fort Wayne) (Barnhart and Riker, 74-75).	Post Vincennes established (now Vincennes) (Barnhart and Riker, 80).	French and Indian War begins (Barnhart and Riker, 119-21).	Pontiac's War (Barnhart and Riker, 141-43).

it was thought that much help could be secured for local county historical societies Such a survey . . . requires the active co-operation of a local group of workers in every county in the state.

Lindley went on to say:

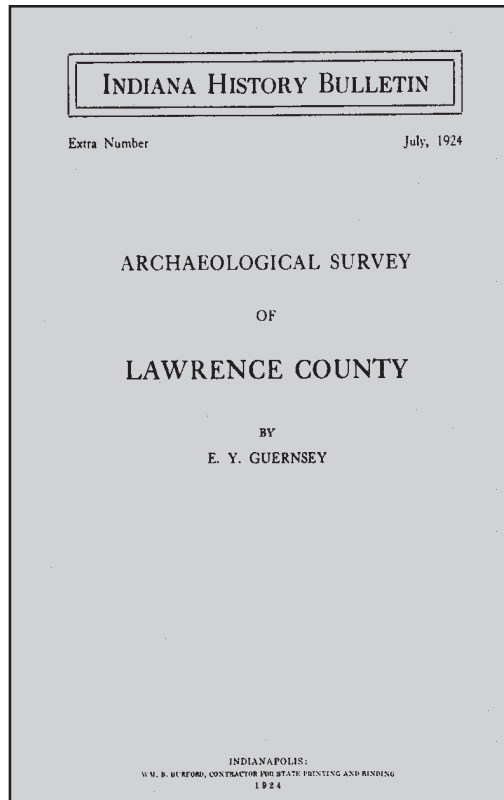
the archaeological phase of the work could be accomplished satisfactorily only under the direction of some one trained in this particular field.

These statements indicate the nature of early archaeology. It was conducted by individuals with interests in history, archaeology, or antiquities, or by those who developed avocational experience. The studies were generally descriptive, not systematic.

At the end of the 1920s, however, two individuals, J. Arthur MacLean and Frank M. Setzler, began archaeological excavations in Indiana, which were more along the lines of precise and systematic investigations now conducted in archaeology. MacLean conducted excavations in 1926 and 1927 at the Albee Mound, Sullivan County. Setzler carried out surveys and excavations in the Whitewater River Valley in 1928 and 1929.

In the 1920s and 1930s, two of the most recognized names in Indiana archaeology—Glenn A. Black and Eli Lilly—appear in the history of Indiana archaeology.

During the 1930s, Black became the first full-time professional archaeologist in Indiana. He later taught at Indiana University. In 1937, Lilly published his landmark study *Prehistoric Antiquities of Indiana*.



This publication in 1924 was the first archaeological survey published by the Indiana Historical Commission (later the Indiana Historical Bureau). Harlow Lindley, director of the Historical Commission, “hoped this bulletin will . . . give to its readers an idea of what there is to be done in each county” for the statewide survey program. E. Y. Guernsey, the surveyor and author of the report, hoped that “an inspiration may be afforded for the study of other Indiana localities, or an interest be awakened in the most fascinating study of primitive man’s part in Indiana’s history.”

Source: E. Y. Guernsey, *Archaeological Survey of Lawrence County* (Indianapolis, 1924), 5, 9.

Eli Lilly and archaeology in Indiana

Eli Lilly and Company Archives.



Eli Lilly, circa 1926.

In addition to his other accomplishments and contributions, Eli Lilly has been described as “The individual primarily responsible for the creation and maintenance of the modern program in state archaeology.”

A visit with an artifact collector sparked Lilly’s interest in the prehistoric peoples of Indiana, and the evidence that they left behind. “Increasingly it was the mystery and the intellectual challenge of understanding prehistoric civilizations . . . that sparked Lilly’s imagination and energy.” Lilly wrote important archaeological publications and supported archaeological and historic preservation projects for decades.

His legacy to archaeology remains in many ways, including the continued support of the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology at Indiana University by an endowment.

Sources: Kellar, 16; Madison, 122.

1763	1776	1783	1787	1800-1816	1808-1815	1816	1820s	1820s-1830s
Treaty of Paris; ends French and Indian War; British control area now Ind. (Barnhart and Riker, 126-27).	Declaration of Independence; American Revolution begins (Grun, 360).	Treaty of Paris ends American Revolution (Grun, 362).	Congress establishes Northwest Territory with Northwest Ordinance (Barnhart and Riker, 266-68).	Ohio River settlements and towns develop in Ind. Territory (Chronology, 2).	Extensive excavations at ancient Roman city of Pompeii (Grun, 379).	Ind. becomes a state; first constitution; capital at Corydon (Barnhart and Riker, 444, 462).	Early archaeological interest in Ind. prehistory begins with Charles Alexander Lesueur, Posey Co. (Michael, 67).	Ind. road construction begins (Chronology, 2).



Black, 263.

View of WPA workers at Mound F, the temple mound, at Angel Site on November 17, 1941 from the photographic tower.

The WPA and archaeology

Archaeological work at Angel Mounds, near Evansville in Vanderburgh County, benefitted from relief funds through the federal Works Progress Administration (WPA). The Indiana Historical Bureau was official sponsor for the application to the WPA for the Indiana Archaeological Project—money to support people for archaeological project work. The sponsor’s contribution was provided by the Indiana Historical Society, which also became the depository for materials recovered and produced by the project.

From April 27, 1939 to May 22, 1942, a total of 277 WPA men were employed. The WPA program ended as America’s involvement in World War II provided much-needed work for America’s citizens. Excavations by WPA workers involved a total of 119,800 square feet; in the laboratory they processed 2,379,637 items.

Glenn A. Black, the archaeologist employed by the Indiana Historical Society to direct the Angel Site excavations, wrote, “As would be expected under the economic circumstances existing during the thirties and early forties, the available labor pool was made up of men of many backgrounds, talents, and abilities. On this project . . . were completely illiterate [men] working alongside men with some college education. There were men from farms, factories, and offices. . . . we made it a point to ignore backgrounds and concentrate on the tasks at hand. We considered one of these tasks to relate to the men themselves—to explore their personal potential and get as much out of them as possible. In so doing our admiration and respect for inherent ability, ‘native’ honesty, and ingenuity increased tremendously.”

Source: Black, 20-26, 263, 282.

In 1938, the Indiana Historical Society, with the help of Lilly, acquired the Angel Mounds site, which was transferred to the state in 1945. Long-term excavations at Angel Mounds began in 1939 and continued relatively uninterrupted for more than two decades.

Over the past fifty years, archaeology in Indiana has become increasingly professionalized. Archaeologists trained in universities have conducted investigations throughout the state. Many Indiana universities now have full-time archaeological staff and laboratory facilities, and conduct archaeological projects year round.

Since 1966 especially, there has been increasing federal and state legislation protecting state and national historic properties and cultural resources, including archaeological sites. According to Kellar,

These developments . . . made them [archaeologists] consultants and professional participants in a host of construction-related activities. . . . archaeologists . . . have been engaged in structuring field activities that respond to industrial developments or public works projects in an effort to conserve and preserve historic sites and the information they contain.

The future of archaeology in Indiana is promising as institutions, governments, and the public gain a better understanding of its role and contributions to historical and scientific knowledge.

Sources: Black, vii; E. Y. Guernsey, *Archaeological Survey of Lawrence County* (Indianapolis, 1924), 5; Hamy, 48-57; Kellar, 13-22; Michael, 67.

1822	1822	1830s	1837	1839	1843	1845	1846	1850
Mexican archaeological ruins explored (Hellemans and Bunch, 282).	Rosetta stone translated; 1st time Egyptian hieroglyphics deciphered (Hellemans and Bunch, 282).	Ind. canal and railroad construction begins (Chronology, 2).	First Ind. state geologist, David Dale Owen, appointed by governor; geological survey ordered (<i>Acts</i> , 1837, p. 108; Owen, <i>Report of A Geological Reconnaissance of Indiana</i> , 1837).	Mayan archaeological ruins discovered in Central America (Hellemans and Bunch, 304).	Ancient Assyrian sculpture near Khorsabad, Iraq excavated (Hellemans and Bunch, 310).	Nineveh, ancient capital of Assyria, excavated (Hellemans and Bunch, 312).	Prehistoric Indian mounds explored in the Mississippi River Valley (Hellemans and Bunch, 314).	Program of surveying and excavations begins in Egypt (Hellemans and Bunch, 318).

Whitewater River Valley survey



Mound Camp

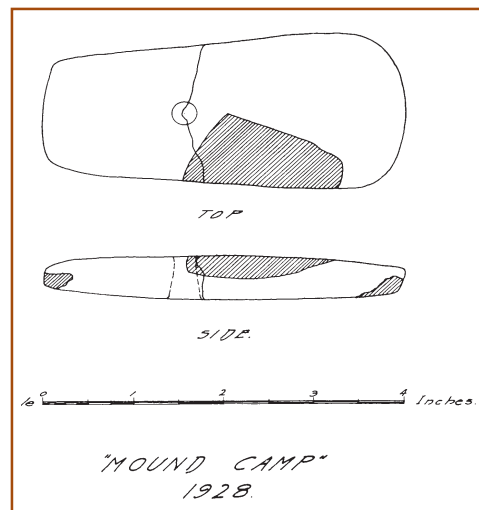
Mound Camp was located between the Whitewater River and State Road 52. Setzler excavated Mound Camp because it was in the path of the new concrete road and was about to be destroyed: "steam shovels had scraped over what later proved to be the actual floor of the mound, revealing numerous pottery fragments." From the evidence, Setzler was unable to determine with certainty the culture of the people who built the mound (467, 500).

Above is Mound Camp before excavation showing the side damaged by Highway Department steam shovels. The high hill in the background is on the opposite side of Whitewater River. Harry M. Stoops, shown here examining the mound, is given much credit by Setzler: "I am deeply indebted . . . for his cooperation in directing me to the mounds and giving me access to his records." He adds that "Stoops . . . for the last fifty years . . . has been locating and mapping all reported mounds. His map and record he turned over to me" (363, 392, 515).

Setzler diagramed a probable (far right) reconstruction of the original mound, now Mound Camp. "According to records made in 1884, this mound measured 83 feet in diameter and over 12 feet in height. Since that time erosion of the river bank, the building of the railroad, and the construction of the highway had destroyed

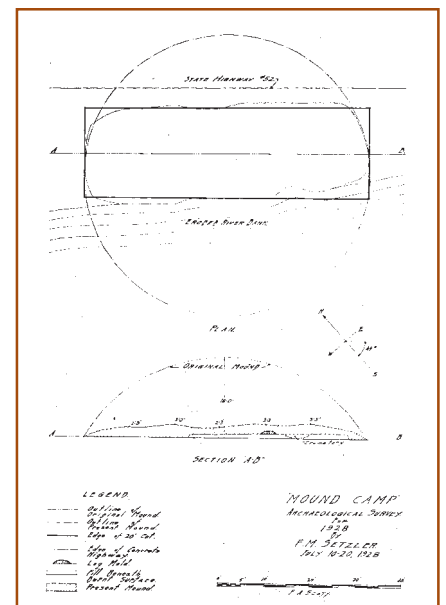
over half of the mound. At the time of our visit it measured only 20 feet wide, 63 feet long, and 3 feet in height" (467, 468).

Below is a drawing of one of the slate gorgets found in Mound Camp. The shaded areas indicate missing pieces. Note the scale at the bottom. Setzler describes the find: "we found two broken slate gorgets. These had been broken before they had been placed on the floor of the mound, for we found the corresponding halves which fitted with them, precisely, in the next 5 feet of excavation" (478, 479, 480).



Frank M. Setzler surveyed and excavated in the Whitewater River Valley in 1928 and 1929. This was one of the first surveys in Indiana along the lines of modern archaeological investigations. It covered all or parts of the counties of Fayette, Franklin, Randolph, Union, and Wayne. Setzler's report in 1930 was the third archaeology report published by the Indiana Historical Bureau.

Three earth mounds in Franklin County were excavated: Mound Camp, Stoops Mound, and Whitehead Mound. The following pages present highlights of the three excavations to illustrate some aspects of the process. Many images and all quotations are in Setzler's report; images are reproduced from original items in the Indiana Historical Bureau files in the Indiana State Archives.



1850	1850-1851	1859	1860	1861-1865	1862	1865	1873	1874
Mysterious statues discovered in Central America (Hellemans and Bunch, 318).	Indiana's 2nd constitution written and adopted (Carmony, 403-51).	Ind. General Assembly authorizes State Board of Agriculture to make geological survey of state (Acts, 1859, p. 112).	Mammoth tooth found with engraved sketch of mammoth (Hellemans and Bunch, 330).	U.S. Civil War (Grun, 424, 428).	Papyrus dating circa 1,550 B.C. summarizes surgical practices written in 2,500 B.C. (Hellemans and Bunch, 332).	Edward Burnett Taylor, England, publishes <i>Early History of Mankind</i> (Hellemans and Bunch, 336).	Ancient city of Troy discovered in Turkey (Hellemans and Bunch, 346).	American, William Henry Jackson, 1st known non-Native American to explore cliff homes, Mesa Verde, Colo. (Hellemans and Bunch, 346).

Stoops Mound

“Stoops Mound was chosen for excavation, as it was nearest the center of the group and one of the most typical as to size and formation.” It was “on a high ridge . . . west of . . . Brookville.” It had been excavated briefly in 1890 “by Mr. Quick and Mr. Fogel,” according to Harry M. Stoops, the landowner. The Setzler excavation removed the whole mound. From the evidence, Setzler was unable to determine with certainty the culture of the people who built the mound (482, 500).

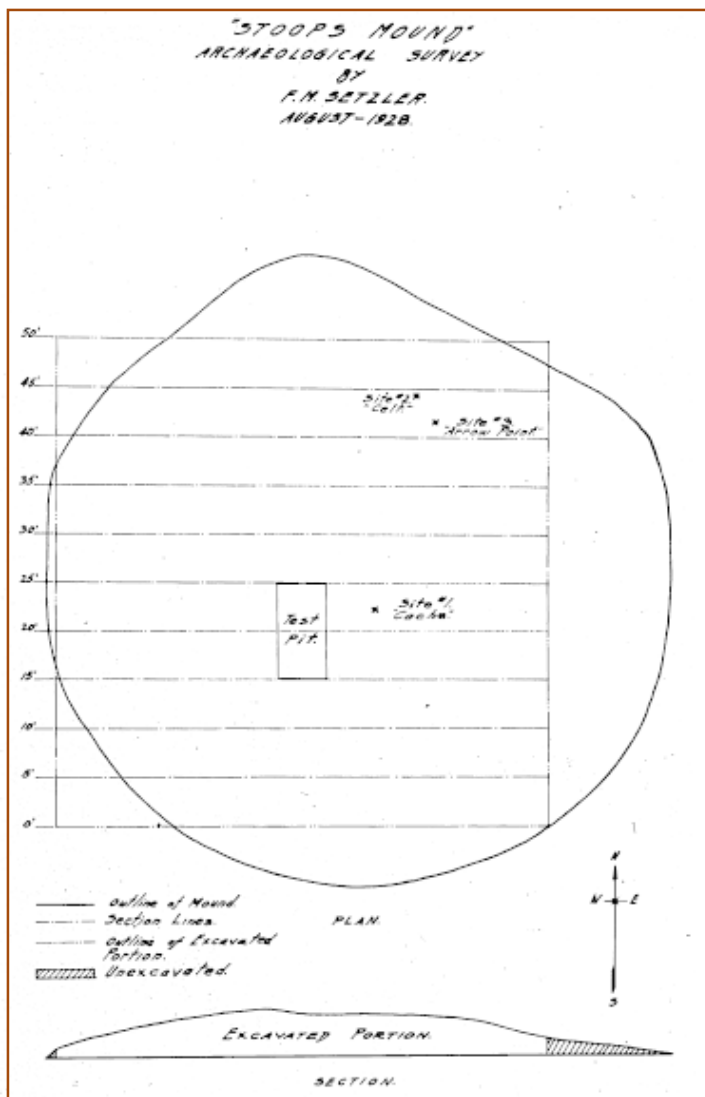


Workers are staking off the 5-foot section of Stoops Mound. “The mound was staked off in sections 12 1/2 feet east and west and 5 feet north and south as shown Excavation was begun on the south side and the entire mound removed. Every 5-foot section was carefully troweled, measured, and photographed” (482).



Stoops Mound at the 45-foot section line. On this section line Setzler found “one-half of a beautiful chisel-shaped celt, made of blue banded slate” (487).

Setzler’s floor plan of Stoops Mound which indicates the location of artifacts, features, section lines, etc. (484).



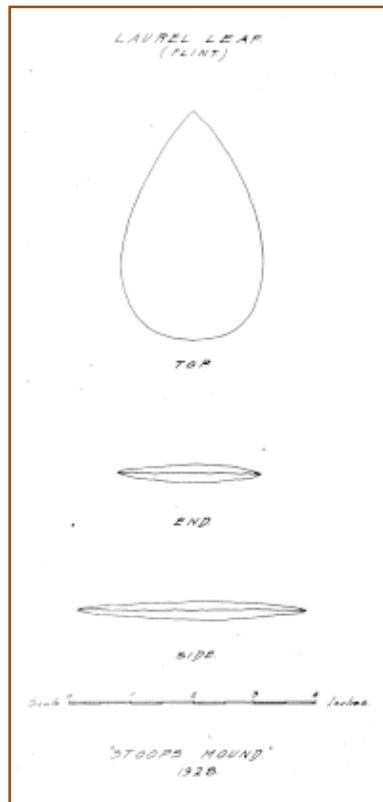
1877	1880	1881	1881	1883	1887	1888
<i>Peru Illustrated; Incidents of Travel and Exploration in the Land of the Incas</i> , published (Hellemans and Bunch, 350).	Wheeled toys found on Mount Popocatepetl, Mexico; 1st evidence of wheels in pre-Columbian New World (Hellemans and Bunch, 354).	Royal tomb near Luxor entered; contains mummies of famous rulers of Egypt (Hellemans and Bunch, 356).	Ind. General Assembly creates Department of Geology and Natural History to combine geological and scientific survey of state and develop its natural resources (Phillips, 182).	Flinders Petrie, England, publishes <i>The Pyramids and Temples of Gizeh</i> , revealing precision of Great Pyramid's alignment (Hellemans and Bunch, 358).	Egyptian pyramid of Senurset II excavation begins (Hellemans and Bunch, 366).	Cliff Palace, largest of Mesa Verde cliff dwellings, discovered; contains about 200 ruins and 23 kivas used for religious ceremonies (Hellemans and Bunch, 368).



Stoops Mound at the 25-foot section line is pictured at top left. Note the stakes at ground level dividing the mound into sections, the tent for the workers, a few of the tools used at left, and features such as the cache of artifacts on the right marked by the whisk broom.

Pictured below that on the left is a detail of the cache of artifacts marked by the whisk broom in the picture above. These "first artifacts were encountered in a small cache on the 22-foot 8-inch section line . . . It contained slate, and sandstone artifacts. . . A beautiful "laurel leaf" chalcedony blade 3 7/10 inches long, 2 3/10 inches wide, and 3/10 inches thick. . . Three slate gorgets [note the one on the extreme right of collection]. . . Four projectile points. . . Two slate celts. . . Throughout the next 5 feet of the mound we found the earth was made up of different colored lumps of clay which had been carried here in baskets or in aprons. These varied in color from a deep red to a light grey."

Pictured to the right of the cache is Setzler's scale drawing of the laurel leaf chalcedony blade from that cache of artifacts (485, 486, 487, 524).



Enlargement of artifact cache in photograph at far left.

1893	1898	1900	1902	1914-1918	1915	1919	1922	1924
Native American mummies (basketmakers) discovered in Utah (Hellemans and Bunch, 374).	Spanish-American War (Grun, 450).	Great palace of Knossos, central site of Minoan civilization, discovered in Crete; 2nd Minoan palace, Phaistos, discovered in Crete (Hellemans and Bunch, 394).	Tablets with 1st known set of laws discovered at Susa, ancient capital of Elam (now western Iran) (Hellemans and Bunch, 400).	World War I (Grun, 466, 472).	Third great Minoan palace, Mallia, excavated in Crete (Hellemans and Bunch, 426).	Ind. General Assembly creates Department of Conservation (Phillips, 185).	Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon discover tomb of Egyptian King Tutankhamen (Grun, 480 C).	Indiana Historical Commission (later Indiana Historical Bureau) publishes 1st archaeological survey on Lawrence Co.



A view of Whitehead Mound at the beginning of the excavation.

"WHITEHEAD MOUND"
 INDIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 BY
 F.M. SETZLER
 1928.

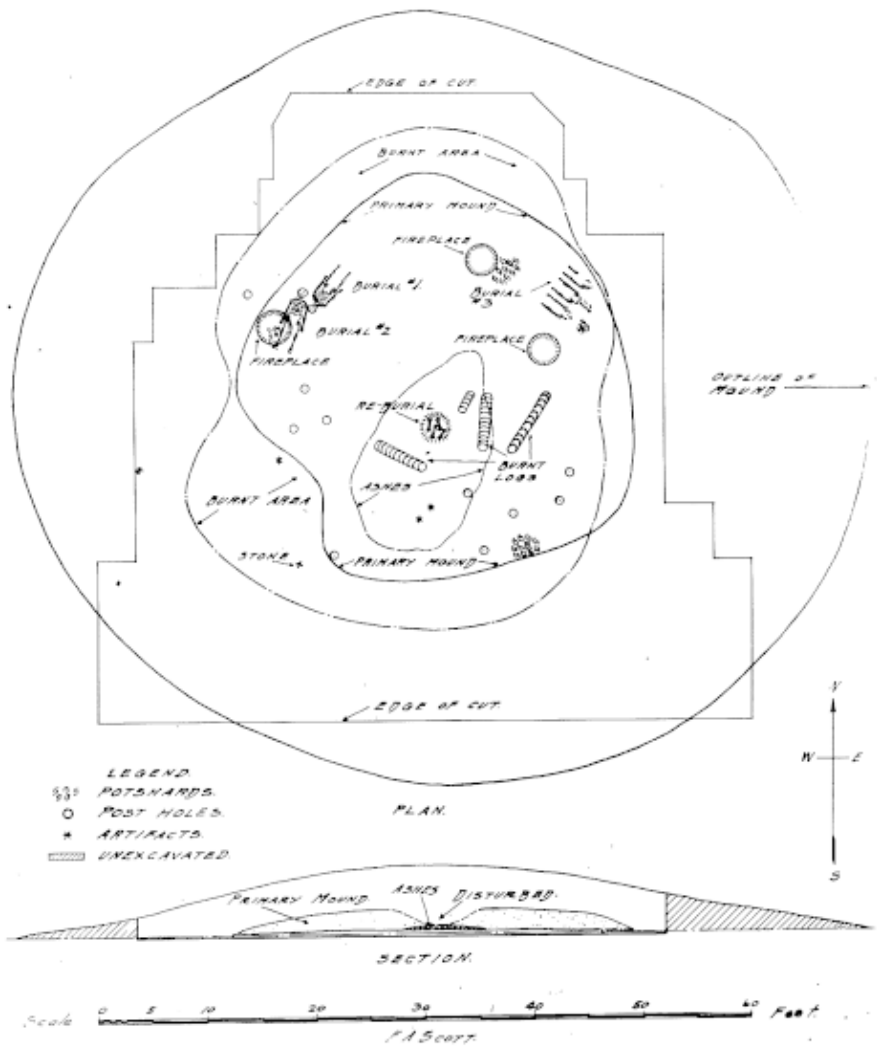
PLAT

Whitehead Mound

Whitehead Mound was excavated "Because of the conclusive evidence that this was a burial mound, and because the Stoops Mound had presented so little evidence for identification of culture Mr. Wooley, owner of the land, willingly permitted [excavation] We staked off a 60-foot square Running from north to south we divided the mound into 5-foot sections while from east to west we ran stakes 15 feet apart. Excavation was started on the south side and progressed to the north, so that we had the sun in the best position for photography at all hours of the day" (489).

The mound was located in Whitewater Township, Franklin County a few miles west of the Ohio border. It was "a perfectly circular cone-shaped clay mound standing in a cultivated field. The owner . . . has tried all methods to reduce it so that he could cultivate over it. At the time of our survey this mound measured 80 feet in diameter, and 6 feet 7 inches in height. Originally it stood 18 feet in height" (417).

The excavation of Whitehead Mound provided some evidence, but Setzler was unable to reach any "conclusions as to the classification of the culture of the Whitehead Mound." A few artifacts were found: "one small slate gorget, a broken stone celt blade, broken gorget drilled, one broken antler point, large quantities of potsherds scattered over the floor. The skeletal material consisted of a reburial of 3 skeletons, two groups of undisturbed skeletons" (496).



Setzler's 1928 plat—or floor plan—of Whitehead Mound. It provides an interesting visual description of the mound and location of artifacts and features found during excavation (491).

1926	1926-1927	1930	1931	1937	1937	1940	1940-1945	1947
Indiana Historical Society establishes archaeology section (Kellar, 16).	Albee Mound, Sullivan Co., 1st modern excavation in Ind. funded primarily by Indiana Historical Society (Kellar, 16).	Mounds State Park, Madison Co., established; 1st Ind. state park to preserve major archaeological site (Smith, 7, 20).	Indiana Historical Society hires Glenn A. Black, 1st full-time archaeologist employed in Ind. (Kellar, 17).	Indiana Historical Society publishes Eli Lilly's classic <i>Prehistoric Antiquities of Indiana</i> .	Indiana Historical Society begins publication of Prehistory Research Series.	Carbon-14 discovered; used in dating ancient sites (Hellemans and Bunch, 482).	World War II (Grun, 516, 522).	Dead Sea Scrolls discovered in cave, Khirbet Qumran (Hellemans and Bunch, 500).



Pieces of pottery found in Whitehead Mound. “Just past the 15-foot line we found, 15 feet east of the center line, a large group of broken potsherds—coarse

utilitarian ware, with large quartz crystals for tempering. Two small groups seemed to indicate two broken vessels but the parts did not fit together” (490, 530).



“At the 15-foot section line [of Whitehead Mound] the charcoal stratum became thicker and showed signs of being the true base line being composed of hard burnt clay. Interspersed with the charcoal and potsherds were numerous fire-cracked granite stones.” The many rodent holes are clearly visible (489, 526).

In the years since Setzler’s survey report, no further conclusions about the cultures of these three mounds have been reached.

1952	1953-1955	1954	1959	1965	1966	1966
Linear B, one of the ancient languages of Crete, deciphered (Hellemans and Bunch, 512).	McKinley site, Hamilton Co. excavated; reveals variety of cultural materials beginning with Early Archaic (Glenn A. Black Laboratory Web site).	Archaeologists discover 2 chambers at base of Great Pyramid of Khufu, Egypt (Hellemans and Bunch, 518).	Primitive computer found in Mediterranean Sea built circa 65 B.C.; used to calculate planet positions (Hellemans and Bunch, 532).	Ind. General Assembly creates Department of Natural Resources to succeed Department of Conservation (IDNR Web site, 2).	Congress passes National Historic Preservation Act.	Angel Mounds 1st Ind. archaeological site listed in National Register of Historic Places; also a National Historic Landmark (IDNR, DHPA).

What does an archaeologist do?

James R. Jones III, State Archaeologist



James R. (Rick) Jones III has been the State Archaeologist of Indiana since 1991 in the IDNR, DHPA. He has worked for the agency since 1987.

As an undergraduate at the University of New Mexico, Jones gained archaeological field experience at the Tijeras Pueblo site east of Albuquerque, and graduated with his B.A. degree with a double major in Anthropology and English. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Anthropology, with specialization in archaeology, at Indiana University. His dissertation research included work on French and Indian sites in northwest Indiana, specifically sites occupied by Weas, Kickapoos, and Mascoutens. He has conducted research and fieldwork at prehistoric and historic archaeological sites in the southwest, southeast, and midwest, ranging from Paleoindian to the early twentieth century in date.

His responsibilities include helping preserve and save information from the past by protecting and preserving information from archaeological sites. His duties include maintenance of the state database which contains information on nearly 47,000 archaeological sites. Jones insures that projects under federal or state laws avoid or recover information from archaeological sites in Indiana, promotes public education about the state's important archaeological sites and heritage, and conducts archaeological research in Indiana. He serves as Secretary of the Native American Council, an advisory council to Indiana government regarding issues and concerns of Native Americans.

Amy L. Johnson, Research Archaeologist



Amy L. Johnson is Research Archaeologist for the IDNR, DHPA. She has been with the DHPA since 1991.

Johnson received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees in anthropology with a specialization in archaeology from Ball State University. She took numerous college classes in archaeology, anthropology, history, Native American studies, and other sciences related to the study of the past. Her masters thesis study was about a type of prehistoric pottery which has so far only been discovered at two sites in Indiana. Her main research interests include Early and Middle Woodland cultures, ceramics studies, archaeological public outreach, and cemetery studies.

At the university, she worked in the archaeology lab in order to gain experience in excavation, laboratory work, and prehistoric and historic analyses. She has worked in the private sector as an archaeologist.

Johnson's main duty is to review proposed coal mining projects to make sure they will not damage archaeological sites. She conducts research, answers the public's questions about archaeology, and gives presentations to school groups. She also coordinates Indiana's annual Archaeology Week and works on other public education projects. She often helps investigate sites when someone accidentally discovers buried artifacts or human remains.

A Note Regarding Resources: Items are listed on this page that enhance work with the topic discussed. Some older items, especially, may include dated practices and ideas that are no longer generally accepted. Resources reflecting current practices are noted whenever possible.

Selected Resources

Bibliography

• Barnhart, John D., and Dorothy L. Riker. *Indiana to 1816: The Colonial Period*. Indianapolis, 1971.

Standard source for Indiana history during this period.

• Black, Glenn A. *Angel Site: An Archaeological, Historical, and Ethnological Study*. 2 vols. Indianapolis, 1967.

The classic work on Angel Mounds. Reading is technical and recommended for adults. Many illustrations.

• Carmony, Donald F. *Indiana, 1816-1850: The Pioneer Era*. Indianapolis, 1998.

Standard source for Indiana history during this period.

• Chronology of Selected Historical Events in Late 17th-19th Century Indiana. IDNR, DHPA.

• Grun, Bernard. *The Timetables of History*. Third ed. New York, 1991.

Comprehensive chronology of world history.

• Guernsey, E. Y. "Archaeological Survey of Lawrence County." *Indiana History Bulletin*, Extra No. (July 1924).

Excellent report on the archaeological survey by Guernsey.

• Hamy, E.-T., Milton Haber, trans., H. F. Raup, ed. *The Travels of the Naturalist Charles A. Lesueur in North America, 1815-1837*. Kent, Ohio, 1968.

• Hellemans, Alexander, and Bryan Bunch. *The Timetables of Science*. New York, 1988.

Chronology of significant achievements in science history.

• Justice, Noel D. *Stone Age Spear and Arrow Points of the Midcontinental and Eastern United States: A Modern Survey and Reference*. Bloomington, Ind., 1987.

• Kellar, James H. *An Introduction to the Prehistory of Indiana*. Indianapolis, 1983.

Highly recommended for secondary level and adults.

• Lilly, Eli. *Prehistoric Antiquities of Indiana*. Indianapolis, 1937.

A classic on the subject. Adult reading.

• MacLean, J. Arthur. "Excavation of

Albee Mound" *Indiana History Bulletin*, 4:Extra No. 3 (May 1927).

• MacLean, J. Arthur. "Excavation of Albee Mound, 1926-1927" *Indiana History Bulletin*, 8:4 (January 1931), 89-176.

Excellent reports on the archaeological surveys by MacLean.

• Madison, James H. *Eli Lilly: A Life, 1885-1977*. Indianapolis, 1989.

Excellent chapter on Lilly and archaeology.

• Michael, Ronald L. "Indiana Archaeology: 1800-1930." *Indiana Archaeological Bulletin*, 1:4 (1976), 65-85.

General overview of early history.

• Outline of Selected Characteristics of Prehistoric Cultures in Indiana. IDNR, DHPA.

• Phillips, Clifton J. *Indiana in Transition: The Emergence of an Industrial Commonwealth, 1880-1920*. Indianapolis, 1968.

Standard source for Indiana history during this time.

• Renfrew, Colin, and Paul Bahn. *Archaeology: Theories, Methods, and Practice*. New York, 1991.

A comprehensive examination of the science of archaeology.

• Setzler, Frank M. "The Archaeology of the Whitewater Valley." *Indiana History Bulletin*, 7:12 (September 1930).

Excellent report on the archaeological survey by Setzler.

• Smith, Dudley. *The Mound Builders of Indiana and The Mounds State Park* [Indianapolis], 1932.

An Indiana Department of Conservation publication.

Additional resources

• Folsom, Franklin, and Mary Elting Folsom. *America's Ancient Treasures*. Fourth ed. Albuquerque, N.Mex., 1993.

Guide to North American museums and archaeological sites. Recommended for secondary level and adults.

• Jones, James R., III, and Amy L. Johnson. *Early Peoples of Indiana*. Indianapolis, 1999.

A useful overview from IDNR, DHPA.

Internet resources

• **Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology:**

<www.ai.org/dnr>

• **Indiana Historical Bureau:**

<www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/ihb/ihb.html>

• **Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology, Indiana University:**

<www.gbl.indiana.edu>

Selected student resources

• Avi-Yonah, Michael. *Dig This! How Archaeologists Uncover Our Past*. Minneapolis, 1993.

Includes methods, pioneers, and general history. Color photographs, index, glossary, and pronunciation glossary; intermediate students.

• Cork, Barbara, and Struan Reid. *Archaeology*. Tulsa, Okla., 1991.

Excellent overview. Part of the Usborne Young Scientist series.

• Finney, Susan, and Patricia Kindle. *American Indians: Pueblo to Potlatch, Totems to Tepees*. Parsippany, N.J., 1985.

An independent learning unit for grades 4-8.

• Hackwell, W. John. *Diving to the Past: Recovering Ancient Wrecks*. New York, 1988.

Explores marine archaeology—how scientists locate, explore, excavate, and preserve ancient shipwrecks; intermediate students.

• McIntosh, Jane. *Archeology*. New York, 1994.

Limited text but spectacular photographs; all students; Eyewitness Books series.

• Porell, Bruce. *Digging the Past: Archaeology in Your Own Backyard*. Reading, Mass., 1979.

Stories, activities, and games; intermediate students.

• Sterling, Mary Ellen. *Archaeology*. Huntington Beach, Calif., 1994.

A thematic unit at the "challenging" level.

• *Stones and Bones! How Archaeologists Trace Human Origins*. Minneapolis, 1994.

Prepared by Runestone Press Geography Department; describes how early humans may have lived and are studied; intermediate students.

A modern excavation

In late March 1993, a 150-160 foot portion of a timbered wharf associated with the nineteenth-century Wabash and Erie Canal was encountered in downtown Lafayette, Indiana. The wharf was discovered during construction activities for the Lafayette Railroad Relocation Project, a transportation-related activity regulated by the Federal Highway Administration. When this feature was partially unearthed, work stopped in the area, and archaeological investigations were conducted under section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

Archival research was first conducted to document the wharf and associated structures and features. Then test and mitigation excavations were conducted to recover information about this significant site. The entire length of the wharf was exposed. Much more had been preserved than was originally encountered. Excavation by heavy machinery and by hand was conducted.

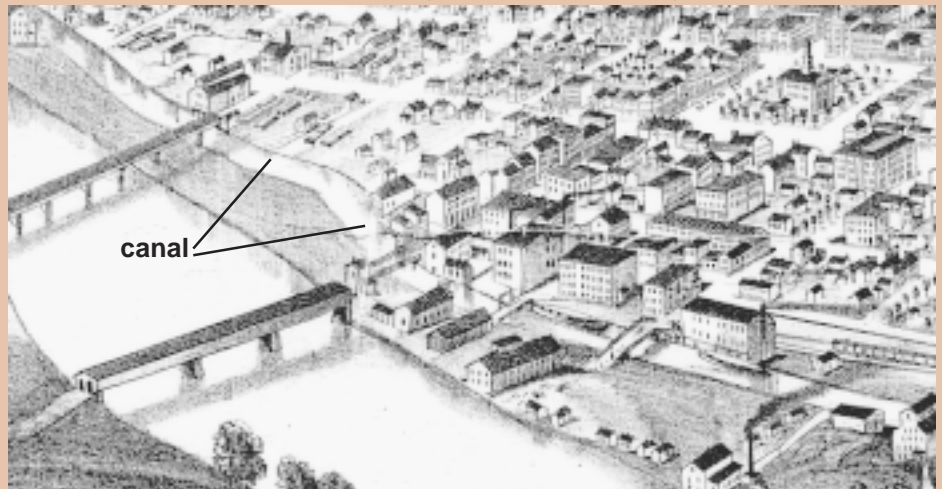
Archival research indicated that the wharf was associated with a number of structures and features, including the towpath for the Wabash and Erie canal, bridges, docks, sheds, stables, residences, a boarding house,

a lumberyard, and other businesses and buildings.

An agreement was reached with the City of Lafayette and many other agencies to leave a large section of the timbered wharf intact and buried, and to map and document the design and appearance of the wharf. Some portions of the timbered wharf were removed for a public display.

An extremely large number of artifacts were recovered, including nineteenth-century bottles, leather shoes, clay smoking pipes, and historic ceramics. Features associated with the wharf such as the remnants of docks and bridges, drainage gutters, joining features, and support beams (pictured below) were uncovered and documented.

Detail showing canal through downtown Lafayette from *Birds's Eye View of the City of Lafayette, Tippecanoe Co. Indiana, 1868* (label added).
Courtesy of Tippecanoe County Historical Association.



Amy L. Johnson, DHPA, IDNR.