The Archaeology of McHenry County
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Introduction

McHenry County Conservation District (MCCD or the District) has a longstanding commitment to understanding and preserving archaeological resources. In 1973 and 1974 the Foundation for Illinois Archaeology requested the District's Board of Trustees with information on possible archaeological sites in McHenry County, thereby enabling the Board to consider these sites in planning land acquisition and utilization.

The results of that survey are found in three volumes of text, photographs, and artifacts. Archaeologists searched historical records, interviewed artifact collectors and photographed their collections, and walked over identified sites whenever possible. All of the artifacts photographed or collected during fieldwalks were described in detail, and sites were placed in rough chronological sequence based on artifact analysis (primarily projectile points). The surveys did not engage in any excavations. Their purpose was to provide an inventory of archaeological information in McHenry County, not an in-depth exploration of a given site. Thirty-nine sites were filed with the Illinois Archaeological Survey (IAS). These, along with the 20 sites already recorded by the IAS, brought the total of reported McHenry County sites to 59.

A second purpose of the survey was to increase the historical awareness on the part of present day residents of McHenry County. Archaeological surveys shared their interpretations with individuals who provided information on artifacts for study and who provided detailed site locations. The first edition of Prehistoric People in McHenry County communicated the results of that survey to the population at large. Since 1973, MCCD has continued to make available records and field experiences in a number of ways. The District has conducted updates of the original survey. Residents of McHenry County are encouraged to notify the District if they have unrecorded collections or site information so the staff may make additions to previously recorded collections. Materials found by private individuals remain the property of those individuals. The District is interested in photographing such materials and in recording them in detail.

An additional 34 sites have been added to the IAS by 1988, at which time MCCD published the second edition of Prehistoric People in McHenry County. This book has been in print for over a decade and has been made available to residents, individuals, and land developers who work in McHenry County.

Since 1988, numerous archaeological surveys have been conducted within the county due to local, state, and federal regulations. These surveys have identified over 250 more archaeological sites, including Historic Period sites (since about 1500 years ago), which have been represented in the archaeological record of McHenry County. As of December 31, 2003, 379 archaeological sites have been recorded in the county.

In addition to collector surveys, the District supports systematic archaeological survey on District property. Although the 1973-74 countywide survey by the Illinois Department of Conservation is unique within Illinois, collector surveys provide only part of the information needed to document where sites can be found. For example, collectors usually search in plowed fields and in areas where sites are known to occur; sites in wooded areas are seldom found. Many collectors pick up only materials that are easily recognized as tools (primarily "arrowheads"). Sites represented by stone chopping debris or small pieces of pottery are easily overlooked. Collector surveys generally do not provide the information necessary to interpret or date most sites. Although such information is necessary for both archaeological research and land management. Systematic surveys conducted under the supervision of qualified archaeologists can help correct these biases and give a more complete picture of prehistoric and historic lifeways.

An excellent example of systematic survey is the work done at Coral Woods Conservation Area, near Marengo. In 1982, archaeologists and volunteers from the Sauk Trail Chapter of the Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology (IAA), a statewide organization for avocational and professional archaeologists from the Center for American Archeology, have conducted extensive excavations over 300 acres of forest-covered glacial moraines. Twelve prehistoric and one historic archaeological site were discovered during the course of this survey. Although an Indian village prominently mentioned in early historic documents was not located, the survey has provided detailed information on upland prehistoric and historic occupations. In addition, the District has conducted surveys of other recently purchased lands prior to planting prairies or reclaiming wetlands; for example, surveys at Glacial Park and at the Prattview Education Center.

The District also provides educational information to schools, private corporations, organizations, and the public concerning the history and historic sites in the county. An important focus of its educational program is an emphasis on site preservation. Too often the public believes that any site discovered should be excavated. That is not true. Archaeological sites are dynamic processes reflected in our landscapes. If they are destroyed, archaeologists do not excavate a site unless there is a need to do so. For example, a site may be required by modern construction or may be the subject of a test excavation to solve a particular question about how people lived in the past.

When archaeologists excavate a site for information about past lifeways, they usually excavate only a sample of the site. This ensures that scientists in the future will have the resources to answer new questions with improved techniques. Responsible archaeology is truly a conservation effort. Archaeological sites have developed and matured, and archaeology has become increasingly oriented toward maximizing the information and understanding gathered from cultural materials while preserving such materials as much as possible. Excavating sites without a good reason and permission is referred to as pothunting or looting.

Whenever possible, archaeologists excavate sites in very precise ways, using special techniques designed to recover information on a wide range of materials. These include very small plant and animal remains such as charred debris, and bone fragments in addition to the more familiar stone tools and pottery sherds. Archaeologists pay particular attention to the contrast in which cultural materials are recovered. Often the position of artifacts within soil layers provides clues about the time of site occupation, and the spatial relationship among different kinds of artifacts provides clues to human activities. Every step in the excavation process is documented with detailed notes, maps, and photographs. In most cases an archaeologist spends more time writing than digging.

Excavation is only one step in doing archaeology. Archaeologists are responsible for properly washing, sorting, cataloging, analyzing, and publishing the results of their work. Most importantly, an archaeologist does not work alone, but in cooperation with other scientists and other disciplines. Other discoveries can help clarify the meaning of archaeological sites. Rarely can a single person do justice to the large amounts of information which can be gained from even a small excavation.

McHenry County Conservation District informs the public about the necessary rigors of excavation and discourages individuals from excavating archaeological sites without qualified supervision. After all, excavating a site with a trowel and a shovel destroys it as completely as removing a building with a bulldozer.

Collecting artifacts from the surface of the ground also removes evidence of archaeological sites. However, archaeologists and collectors usually find surface materials in situations where artifacts have already been disturbed—in plowed fields and eroding out of stream banks or road cuts. Even then, it is important to record information, draw sketch maps, and take photographs of a site to document the circumstances of artifact recovery. The finds should be brought to the attention of McHenry County Conservation District. The District, in turn, will contact archaeologists to gather information needed to record, evaluate, and conserve the site. Sites cannot be protected if they are not recorded.

Of course, it is illegal to collect on other people's property, including public parks. Public permission. McHenry County Conservation District encourages responsible activities sponsored by avocational archaeological societies. These activities include lectures on various aspects of archaeology, field trips to archaeological sites, and field experiences under adequate supervision by qualified archaeologists. In a field situation volunteers are expected to abide by the ethics and standards of the IAA.

What are Cultural Resources?

Cultural resources, both human-made and natural physical features, are represented by surveys and other studies of our past. They are in most cases finite, unique, fragile, and non-renewable. Tangible remnants of our past tie us to our biological and human histories. In a sense of who we are and where we have gone, and where we are going. Yet in the rapid urban expansion of the modern world, these cultural resources are disappearing at an ever-increasing rate.

Recognizing the human need for knowing the past, both the United States Congress and the Illinois Legislature have passed laws requiring that cultural resources be represented in our past. They are in most cases finite, unique, fragile, and non-renewable. Tangible remnants of our past tie us to our biological and human histories. In a sense of who we are and where we have gone, and where we are going. Yet in the rapid urban expansion of the modern world, these cultural resources are disappearing at an ever-increasing rate.

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The earliest United States law protecting cultural resources is the Antiques Act of 1906, which states that it is the responsibility of the federal government (Secretaries of Interior, Agriculture, and War) to protect American Antiquities on federal land. Over the years, a number of acts, such as the Historic Sites Act of 1935, the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA) have protected and preserved cultural resources on federal lands and on federally sponsored projects. Since 1989, new federal and state laws have been passed that strengthen the protection of known cultural resources, but encourage the identification of previously unrecognized cultural resources as well. Among these are the Illinois Archaeological and Palaeontological Resources Protection Act and the Illinois Historic Preservation and Protection Reclamation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990, the Revised Illinois State Agency Historic Preservation Act of 1992, and the Illinois Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act. In Illinois, most projects requiring state licenses, approvals, or permits are reviewed by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency (IHPA). An archaeological reconnaissance survey is often part of this review. Since 1992, the number of archaeological surveys in McHenry County, as well as across the entire state of Illinois has increased dramatically. As the number of surveys increase, so do the number of archaeological sites discovered and recorded.

As of December 31, 2003, 26,457 acres (6.7%) of McHenry County have been surveyed during projects reviewed by the IHPA; another 6,624 acres (2.0%) were surveyed without review (Figure 1). Although the number of archaeological sites within the county has increased due to the mandatory review of projects by the IHPA, the number of identified sites and the settlement patterns in the county has not been established. Collectors, who usually search in plowed fields and in areas where sites are known to occur, identified the earliest recorded sites within the community as early as the 1830s. The current maps show the locations of wetlands. Sites were found where people thought they should be. Currently, most newly recorded sites within the county are found during professional archaeological surveys. Most of these surveys have been conducted in the uplands to assess cultural resources along narrow corridors of land prior to road and pipeline construction and for large and small tracts of land prior to industrial and residential development. Surveys have been performed in the eastern half of the county as well as in the Harwood and Marengo areas (Chenng and Marengo Townships). It is not surprising to note that few sites have been recorded within the west-central portion of McHenry County, an area where development has been slower and where fewer systematic surveys have been done. Therefore, the settlement pattern of prehistoric and historic people in McHenry County, best represented by site locations from a prehistoric survey, is represented more rather than on the actual distribution of sites across the landscape.

In addition sites occupied for only brief periods of time are more apt to escape detection and are often completely disturbed by agricultural practices, erosion, and unregulated land modifications. As the years passed and the sites were discovered throughout prehistoric, their loss is especially vexing in early prehistory when small groups of nomadic hunter-gatherers moved frequently across the landscape, leaving few traces of their activities. It is not surprising then that these sites have been found and that archaeologists have limited knowledge about their lifeways.
McHenry County Environment

The McHenry County landscape greatly influenced how and where people lived. Over the past 12,000 years, that landscape has varied greatly. It is essential to have a basic understanding of the geology, landscape, and climate found in McHenry County to understand how people interacted with and adapted to their surroundings. The term "B.P." stands for Before the Present and is used before dates in July for archeologists, geologists, and other scientists who measure time, the present is conventionally set at A.D. 1950.

McHenry County, located approximately 20 miles west of Lake Michigan, incorporates 611 square miles. The county is divided into two waterways: the Fox River to the west and the Fox River in the east. The elevation across the county varies between 730 ft. within the Fox River basin and 1,190 ft. northeast of Harvard near the Wisconsin border. The present landscape has been shaped principally by continental glaciers during the Pleistocene, especially during the recent glacial recession, the Wisconsinan. Deposits from this glacier buried older bedrock deposits and filled in large portions of the river valleys.

Bedrock in McHenry County includes Silurian dolomite deposited 400 million years ago and Ordovician limestone and dolomite deposited 450 million years ago. Both types of bedrock were formed when shallow seas covered the interior of the United States. These seas were not stable; at times northern Illinois was near the seashore and at other times far out to sea.

Starting 1.65 million years ago, continental glaciers began to form from central Canada. The rate of Glacial advance was rapid, and the annual temperature was lower than today (4 to 7 degrees Celsius or 7 to 13 degrees Fahrenheit), and winter snows did not completely melt during the summers. Over time, the weight of ice and snow forced the glaciers to flow southward into the northern reaches of the United States. There were four major advancements of continental glaciers during the Pleistocene: Nebraskan, Illinoian, Wisconsinan, and Illinoisan. Each advance was marked by the farthest extent of its advance. Between glacial advances, periods of warmer weather occurred in which the continental glaciers dissipated. The last glacial maximum in eastern North America was during the Wisconsinan, 18,000 years ago. At this time, 15,000 B.P. the ice began to melt. We do not know at this time whether we are currently in the middle of an interglacial following the Wisconsinan glaciation or if the Ice Age is actually over.

Although the northern Illinois landscape was modified by both the Illinoisan and Wisconsinan glaciers, the effects of the Wisconsinan glaciation, starting approximately 75,000 years ago, are the most apparent in McHenry County. Glaciers scoured the land they traversed and transported rock debris and soil scraped from the surface to new locations. These deposits were released where glaciers melted or where they were carried by glacial meltwater. Erosion and deposition created by the glacier reshaped the land creating moraines, drumlins, eskers, kames, and kettle holes. Kames (often fans, marshes, and bogs before filling with sediment); many of these features can be found at Glacial Park. End moraines, such as the north-south trending Marengo Moraine (part of which can be seen in the Marengo Ridge Conservation Area), are places where glaciers stopped their forward movement, began to melt, and dropped their load of boulders, silts, and sands. Some sediments were carried away from the moraines by glacial meltwater, creating outwash deposits. Occasionally glacial meltwater became dammed forming lakes, such as Glacial Lake Illinois, a larger body of water than the current man-made lake. The preponderance of glacial landforms across the county places McHenry County in the Northeastern Morainal Division of Illinois.

Climate in McHenry County has varied greatly in the past 15,000 years. Average temperature adjacent to a glacier's edge was approximately 20 degrees Celsius (68 degrees Fahrenheit) lower than it is today in McHenry County. As glaciers melted, summer temperature began to increase. By about 6,000 years ago, it was about 2 degrees Celsius (4 degrees Fahrenheit) higher than it is today in the west-central United States. Precipitation decreased throughout the Great Plains and Midwest; after 9,000 B.P. drought conditions were common across the Great Plains. This period of dryness is often referred to as the hypothermal. Chemical analysis of stalactites in the caves of northeastern Iowa and southwestern Wisconsin indicate that drought conditions reached their maximum intensity by 5,000 B.P. Present day climatic conditions were established over eastern North America including McHenry County by 3,000 B.P. and have remained consistent, but not static, since. Small changes in climate occurred over the millennia leaving no long-lasting physical impressions. For example, dendrochronological studies across eastern North America have identified periods of drought as well as periods of greater warmth and cold, the most famous example recorded being the "Little Ice Age" beginning around A.D. 1300.

As climate shifted in McHenry County following the retreat of the glaciers, so did the vegetation. The best clues to the climate and vegetation in the county come from pollen cores taken from Volo Bog in Lake County and Nelson Lake in Kane County. When the glaciers first retreated from McHenry County, tundra vegetation—shrubs, mosses, and lichens—covered the county. As the climate warmed and tree species declined, the tundra was replaced by spruce forest (by 10,000 B.P. or perhaps earlier) and then briefly (for about 1,000 years) by a pine-ashe forest which in turn was replaced by a mixed deciduous forest, and later, hickory-sycamore-hickory forest and prairie developed. This patchwork remained in place into the Little Ice Age.

McHenry County General Land Office (GLO) plats drawn from notes written by surveyors between 1832 and 1838 prior to federal land sales indicate that land use occurred in a few isolated areas of prairie and timber. GLO notes describing neighboring Kane and Lake Counties suggest that some areas marked as timber on the GLO plats were likely savannas with stands of trees, primarily oaks, and duff. These forested areas were isolated and primarily oaks with few open areas, were found along rivers and larger streams. GLO plats also show many of the larger wetlands in the county.

Resources available to the inhabitants of McHenry County varied with changes in climate. Tundra would have provided few plant materials for human consumption, but would have provided food for herds of caribou and for now extinct elephants. Mc组装 like, a larger body of water than the current man-made lake. The preponderance of glacial landforms across the county places McHenry County in the Northeastern Morainal Division of Illinois. Climate in McHenry County has varied greatly in the past 15,000 years. Average temperature adjacent to a glacier's edge was approximately 20 degrees Celsius (68 degrees Fahrenheit) lower than it is today in McHenry County. As glaciers melted, summer temperature began to increase. By about 6,000 years ago, it was about 2 degrees Celsius (4 degrees Fahrenheit) higher than it is today in the west-central United States. Precipitation decreased throughout the Great Plains and Midwest; after 9,000 B.P. drought conditions were common across the Great Plains. This period of dryness is often referred to as the hypothermal. Chemical analysis of stalactites in the caves of northeastern Iowa and southwestern Wisconsin indicate that drought conditions reached their maximum intensity by 5,000 B.P. Present day climatic conditions were established over eastern North America including McHenry County by 3,000 B.P. and have remained consistent, but not static, since. Small changes in climate occurred over the millennia leaving no long-lasting physical impressions. For example, dendrochronological studies across eastern North America have identified periods of drought as well as periods of greater warmth and cold, the most famous example recorded being the "Little Ice Age" beginning around A.D. 1300.

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Cultural History of McHenry County

The following is a brief cultural history of McHenry County, from the first documented evidence of human presence until the mid-twentieth century. It is based on a review of archaeological literature, information derived from the original collector survey, yearly updates to the survey, systematic survey and excavation within the county, and recent archaeological studies from surrounding counties. The discussion follows a historical and for the preceding discussion of McHenry County environment are listed in the References section at the end of the booklet.

As of December 31, 2003, 379 sites were recorded with the Illinois State Museum (ISM), the institution that now manages the state archaeological program. Many of these sites were occupied many times throughout prehistory and some have both prehistoric and historic occupations. Some contain only a few artifacts (fewer than five) and some hundreds or even thousands. Those containing few artifacts are often called isolated sites and usually contain little information about past lifeways. Some sites from the historic period appear to be dumps; items brought into the site from some unknown location. The isolated finds (32 prehistoric and 14 historic) and historic dumps (10) have not been included in this summary. In this summary, all sites can be assigned to a specific time period; they can only be characterized as general prehistoric or historic (Figure 2). The rest of the sites have been placed in this summary by time period because of the characteristics of the artifact tool types present. Similar types of tools have been recovered from archaeological contexts which have been dated using radiometric techniques. Prehistory

Although people probably entered North America from Asia at least 20,000 years ago, evidence for their presence in the Midwest is from 13,000 B.P. dating back. From the time of the initial entry into the county until the arrival of the Europeans in the seventeenth century, the archaeological record shows evidence for continuous population growth and changing social adaptations to new developments in both the natural and social landscape. Paleolodien Period (12,000-3,000 B.P.)

The first inhabitants of northern Illinois and McHenry County arrived shortly after the southern border of the Wisconsinan sheet retreated into Wisconsin, some time before 12,000 years ago. These people, the Paleoindians, were nomadic bands of hunter/gatherers who lived in small groups and travelled over large areas. They were probably most often identified in the presence of fluted points like the Clovis point in Plate 1. These tools were very well made and were used as spear points and knives. Some examples of Clovis points have been found in the time period in northern Illinois have been dated by radiometric means. Two sites containing fluted points and four isolated fluted points have been found in McHenry County (Figure 3).

Although large game such as extinct forms of bison and elephant were hunted by Paleoindian groups on the eastern Plains, there were several documented kill sites east of the Mississippi River. Evidence for butchering and a few stone tools have been found in association with these kill sites from the Hebor and Schaefer sites in southern Wisconsin, but whether these animals were hunted or scavenged is unknown of the people. It is thought that Paleoindian groups followed a seasonal migratory cycle, relying on deer for most of their food supply. One consequence of this highly mobile lifestyle is that little trash accumulated in one spot. In this summary, the categorization of Paleoindian sites difficult. Sites are usually located on high river terraces or in upland areas on wetland 5.9cm × 2.5cm
land edges. These locations did not flood, offered easy access to aquatic plant and animal resources, and served as vantage points for locating larger game.

At this time very little is known regarding the actual distribution, subsistence pattern, and social organization of the Paleolithic peoples in northern Illinois. Our best information comes from the Hawk’s Nest site (11-L-344) in Barrington Hills, just east of McHenry County. Repeated surface collections and limited excavations at the 11,000 year old site have yielded close to 200 chipped stone tools, including fluted point preforms, end and side scrapers, and gravers along with stone tool making debris. These stone items are made from many different kinds of chert, some of which were collected up to 350 miles away. The distinctive kinds of tools found and their distribution across the site suggest that the site was repeatedly used as a transient camp during extended, seasonal hunting forays. Weaponry manufacture suggests the site was used to prepare for hunting. Large numbers of side and end scrapers recovered suggest that the site also functioned as a transient residential occupation occupied by a mixed group of foragers including women and children, where butchery and hide-working activities were also conducted.

**Archaic Period (10,000-3,500 B.P.)**

The long Archaic Period was a time of transition in the Midwest. After the final retreat of the glaciers, subsistence pursuits adjusted to the changing natural environment as coniferous forests were replaced by deciduous forests and as the prairie expanded.

Although the various changes mentioned above were probably gradual, archaeologists usually divide the Archaic Period into three parts. The Early Archaic (10,000-8,000 B.P.) is separated from the preceding Paleolithic period primarily by the conspicuous lack of fluted points. Large spear points or knives with corner notches or deep side notches and beveled edges are found at Early Archaic sites. Sites from this time period are fairly common, with the same general geographic distribution seen for Paleolithic sites. Eighteen sites with Early Archaic occupations are recorded in McHenry County (Figure 4). A small, Early Archaic campsite (11-M-124) was partially excavated in Algonquin Township. One Harvin Barbed projectile point, several point preforms broken during manufacture, and stone tool cutting debris were recovered from this site which overlooks a large wetland. Although no flora or fauna was recovered from the site, it is reasonable to believe that a small band of hunter-gatherers camped at the site to harvest wetland resources and make stone tools. Most of the site has been preserved within the Oak Grove Golf Course.

Until recently archaeologists knew very little about the Middle Archaic.

**Middle Archaic Point**

8.8cm x 5.5cm

**Plate 3: Middle Archaic Point**

Eastward from the Great Plains, human population densities gradually increased, mobility decreased, resource exploitation and technology became more diverse and localized, and social organization became more complex.

During the Archaic Period, hunting focused on whitetail deer as the primary source of meat. A variety of smaller animals and fish were also collected with increased emphasis on aquatic resources throughout the period. Plant foods including tubers, nuts, and seeds became increasingly important subsistence items. Some native plants, such as goosefoot, sunweed, and possibly native squash or gourd, may have been domesticated during the latter part of the Archaic. Domesticated dog has been identified archaeologically elsewhere in Illinois.

New tool types were developed including new forms of projectile points, the chipped stone adze, groundstone tools, copper tools, stone mortars for processing plants, and ornaments from bone, shell, and copper. The first cemeteries in Illinois appear during the middle of this long period and later graves were occasionally covered with low earth mounds. Toward the end of the Archaic Period, groups had established particular territories within which camps were moved to exploit the seasonally available natural resources. Networks for the exchange of resources within and between regions also developed by the end of the Archaic.

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**Plate 4: Archaic T-shaped Drill**

10.0cm x 11.3cm

**Plate 5: Archaic Pestle**

(8,000-5,000 B.P.) in northern Illinois. Characteristic point types for this period have not been well established so that in the absence of radiometric dating assigning sites to this period has been somewhat inconsistent. Based on data from other areas of the Midwest, typical points from the early part of the Middle Archaic are medium-sized with deep side notches. T-shaped drills are also common (Plates 3 and 4). In addition, a wide variety of groundstone tools such as milling stones, pestles, and grooved axes are found from this period (Plates 5 and 6). Ground and polished stone artifacts called bannenateles also are found during the Middle Archaic. These items were used as atlatl weights. The winged bannenstone (Plate 7) found in Hebron Township is made of banded slate from the Ohio River Valley. The birdstone shown in Plate 8 is a rare form of bannenate found throughout the Great Lakes and major Midwestern river valleys. Only one of these has been found in McHenry County. It is particularly valuable since it comes from an authenticated, precisely located site.

During the Middle Archaic the hypsothermal reached its peak. Previously resource-rich areas such as upland forests and wetlands were replaced throughout much of Illinois by dry prairie which is not very productive for human needs. Some researchers suggest that this drying of the upland environment (at least in central and southern Illinois) triggered the movement of people to the main river valleys. Because of the rich resources available on the river floodplains, people settled into larger, more permanent villages. Sites such as Koster and Modoc in west-central and southern Illinois appear to support this scenario for increasing sedentism during the Middle Archaic. Foods utilized during the Middle Archaic included deer, small mammals, fish, migratory waterfowl, a wide variety of nuts, and some domesticated plants such as squash (Cucurbita pepo). There is some question though about the severity of the hypsothermal in northern Illinois especially in Lake and parts of McHenry Counties. Wetlands may have become smaller at this time, but still would have provided adequate food resources so that uplands continued to be attractive subsistence areas.

Four radiocarbon dated Middle Archaic sites have been excavated in northern Illinois, two in Lake County, one in DuPage County, and one in Cook County. The Gazebo site (11-Do-38), a partially unloved site on what would have been a low, forested rise at the edge of a seasonally wet upland depression, contains a substantial Middle Archaic occupation with at least eight deep side-notched points. The site, at the middle of the Fermilab accelerator ring, was partially excavated in 1971 and in 1988. During the latter testing project less than 2.0 grams of charred wood and nutshell fragments were recovered from near a concentration of fire-cracked rock. In 2002 an AMS radiocarbon date of 5,800 B.P. was obtained for the nut shell fragments. The majority of the site is preserved. The multicomponent occupation at the site (11-L-337) in Lake County is also located on a low rise adjacent to what would have been a marsh or slough in the past. It is perhaps the most extensively excavated and reported unplowed site in northeast-
The late Archaic (5,000-5,300 B.P.) is a period in which a number of trends seen earlier (i.e., increased population, decreased mobility, domestication of plants) continue. In addition, several technological innovations were introduced—most notably the manufacture of pottery. Typical projectile point styles in the Late Archaic were often smaller than those in the Middle Archaic and had stemmed bases (Plate 11). A trade network was developed during the Late Archaic, along which artifacts and raw materials such as galena and copper were exchanged. These traded materials often were deposited in burial sites. Resources utilized during the Late Archaic include all those mentioned for the Middle Archaic, with an increasing trend towards the domestication of seed plants such as goosefoot (Lamb's quarters, Chenopodium sp.) and sunflower (Iva annua). The Late Archaic is well represented in northern Illinois, with numerous habitation and a few burial sites reported in Lake, Cook, and Will Counties. At one likely Late Archaic burial site in Will County, ground and charred goosefoot seeds were deposited in a grass container with the burial of an elderly man.

A relatively large number of Late Archaic sites have been located in McHenry County (see Figure 4). Late Archaic sites tend to be larger and contain more tools and debris than sites from any preceding time period. Late Archaic sites are often found in upland areas near wetlands and creeks as well as in the main river valleys.

Woodland Period (3,500-1,000 B.P.)

The Woodland Period was a time of major changes in food choices and social organization in the Midwest. Like the Archaic, the Woodland is divided into three parts. Formerly the Early Woodland (3,500-2,100 B.P.) was separated from the Archaic by the use of pottery. However, in the southern Midwest pottery was manufactured as late as 550 B.P., well within the Late Archaic. Late Archaic/Early Woodland pottery tends to be thick and porous with fiber or coarse grit temper (Plate 12). Other than the increasingly common use of pottery, there is little difference between the Early Woodland and Late Archaic in terms of tools, types of settlement, base camps, small seasonal camps, and mortuary sites. Subsistence activities changed with horriticulture becoming a major supplement to the hunting/gathering lifestyle. Goosefoot, sunflower, and sunflower were important domesticated plants. Corn, a tropical import, was not an important part of the diet at this time. Northern Illinois, while not a central focus of the Hopewell phenomenon, has a large number of Middle Woodland village and mortuary sites along major rivers. In addition to exotic goods, Middle Woodland sites are often identified by the presence of Snyder and Kramer points, grooved axes or celts (Plates 14 and 15), and grit tempered pottery that was better made and more often decorated than Early Woodland varieties. Fourteen sites in McHenry County have occupations that date from the Early Woodland (see Figure 5).

PLATE 14: Middle Woodland Points

5.9cm x 2.5cm

The lower Illinois River, Middle Woodland settlement systems consisted of a number of functionally differentiated site types including villages, large hunting camps, small seasonal camps, and mortuary sites. Subsistence activities changed with horriticulture becoming a major supplement to the hunting/gathering lifestyle. Goosefoot, sunflower, and sunflower were important domesticated plants. Corn, a tropical import, was not an important part of the diet at this time. Northern Illinois, while not a central focus of the Hopewell phe- notype, has a large number of Middle Woodland village and mortuary sites along major rivers. In addition to exotic goods, Middle Woodland sites are often identified by the presence of Snyder and Kramer points, grooved axes or celts (Plates 14 and 15), and grit tempered pottery that was better made and more often decorated than Early Woodland varieties. Fourteen sites in McHenry County have occupations that date from the Early Woodland (see Figure 5). None of these sites have been excavated by professional archaeologists.

During the late Middle Woodland and early Late Woodland, trade routes of long distance and end, mortuary practices became less complex, and settlement patterns changed. There appears to have been a radical reorganization of social and economic systems in the Midwest, the impetus for which is currently unclear. Thin-walled, combed decorated ceramics and Steuben plates mark this transitional time. One site (11-Mb-125) from the Late Woodland Period was partially excavated in Aiden Township. The site is an undisturbed habitation in which ceramics and a Steuben point were found with wood charcoal radiocarbon dated to about 1,640 B.P. or A.D. 419. A variety of stone tools (including tubuli- nal scrapers associated with hide processing and a denticulate which may have been used for shedding plant fibers), dense concentrations of stone chipping debris, and fire-crack-rocked were also recovered from the site. The site is on a knoll overlooking what would have been a wetland when the site was occupied. Most of the site has been preserved within the Oak Grove Golf Course.

The Late Woodland (1,600-1,000 B.P.) in southern and central Illinois was a period of increasing dependence on corn as a dietary supplement. However, Late Woodland groups in northern Illinois, Wisconsin, and groups in Wisconsin, relied on corn to a lesser extent. The uncertain number of frost-free days for growing the strains of corn available during this period, and the presence of plentiful wetland resources probably made corn less important to the occupants of the area than to people farther south. Late Woodland groups in northern Illinois remained basically hunter/gatherers with some use of domestica-

ted plants.

Throughout the region, Late Woodland appears to have been a period of population growth and expansion with settlements to
PLATE 15: Middle Woodland Ungrooved Axe

Mississippian Period (1,000-450 B.P. or A.D. 1000-1600)

Two types of Mississippian occupations have been identified in Illinois: Middle Mississippian and Upper Mississippian. Middle Mississippian sites tend to occur along well-established rivers with wide, fertile floodplains, and reliance on cultivated plants appears to have been greater on Upper Mississippian sites, on the other hand, tend to occur along young creeks and rivers without broad floodplains and near wetlands where reliance on cultivation may have been less intense.

Middle Mississippian peoples achieved the greatest level of cultural complexity in the United States. The river valleys were densely occupied, and the settlement systems included permanent towns surrounded by smaller villages and farmsteads. Exchange networks and new systems of political control extended throughout much of the eastern United States. Mississippian subsistence was characterized by an increasing reliance on cultivated plants, particularly maize and squash. Beans enter the archaeological record for the first time in the Middle late in the period. Deer was the most important animal resource although migratory waterfowl, elk, bison, fish, and raccoon also made varying contributions to the diet. In the St. Louis area at the site of Cahokia this Mississippian development may have reached urban proportions. Larger Middle Mississippian sites can be recognized by burial mounds with ritually slain and processed individuals, burials with substantial amounts of grave goods, substructures or mounds, astronomical features (such as the Woodhenge at Cahokia), craft specialization, a variety of house forms, pottery styles, arrow point types, and stone hoes. Smaller sites included simpler house forms, pottery, and stone tools. Although many Middle Mississippian sites are located along the middle and lower segments of the Illinois River Valley, as well as at Aztlán and several other sites in southern Wisconsin, there is no evidence for Middle Mississippian occupation in northern Illinois.

Upper Mississippian peoples were more dispersed across the landscape than the Middle Mississippian peoples and apparently lived in smaller villages and farmsteads along rivers in the regions west, north, and east of the Middle Mississippian concentrations. In northeastern Illinois, two types of Upper Mississippian sites known as Langford and Fisher/Onota have been identified primarily by their distinctive ceramics; both types of sites have been well documented and are known to overlap in time and space. Both Langford and Fisher/Onota are found along the Upper Illinois River. Fisher/Onota sites, identified by the presence of shell-tempered pottery, are also found in the Chicago Lake Plain area of Cook County and northeastern Indiana where similar sites tend to be very fertile but water-logged. In contrast Langford sites, identified by black grit tempered pottery, extend up the Des Plaines, DuPage, and Fox Rivers near prairie/forest boundaries. However, recent studies suggest political, rather than ecological considerations determined the distribution of Langford and Fisher/Onota sites. In addition, ongoing studies at the Hoxie site south of Chicago suggest that the relationship between Fisher ceramics and tabor ceramics is unclear. While many archaeologists feel that Huber ceramics are an outgrowth of Fisher, others now posit that the two are separate, and that Fisher ceramics are related to wares found further east in Indiana and perhaps Ohio.

Many Langford sites in lowland and upland settings within these young river drainages have been partially excavated. These sites represent different aspects of the Langford settlement system—small resource procurement sites, base camps or small villages with associated burial facilities, and a village with earth lodges. Four of the most extensively excavated sites from this period are the Washington Irving site in Kane County, the Robinson Reserve site in Cook County, the Cooke site also in Cook County, and the Reeves site in Will County.

Subsistence remains from these sites show that hunting whitetail deer, fishing, horticulture (primarily corn and squash and some native small grass seeds), and marsh resources were important subsistence items. Given the environmental setting of most Langford sites, one archaeologist suggests that the corn-hill technique of cultivating cleared forested plots was used and that the main agricultural tool was the digging stick; in contrast Fisher/Onota groups probably planted crops in raised beds or small hills using bison scapula hoes. Langford houses appear to have been small, single family structures while Onota groups lived in multifamily longhouses as well as smaller forms. Langford burials are usually flexed and placed in graves. Onota burials in contrast are often extended and placed in individual graves under their houses.

PLATE 16: Mississippian Points

18.0cm x 9.0cm

longer restricted to river valleys but found in a variety of topographic settings. The hierarchy of sites present during the Middle Woodland disappeared and Late Woodland settlement systems apparently consisted of small seaweed villages and associated support camps.

The Hopewell Interaction Sphere of the Middle Woodland Period was no longer a part of the social and economic lives of Midwesterners; there was a general return to the use of local resources for tool manufacture. Pottery was typically grit-tempered and harder and thinner than Middle Woodland pottery. The bowl and arrow was introduced during this time, and small, triangular, notched, arrow points were a common tool type (Plate 16).

Burials continued to be placed in mounds but these were generally less large, low, box-shaped mounds rather than the conical mounds of the Middle Woodland. In Wisconsin, eastern Iowa, and northern Illinois from A.D. 700 to about A.D. 1000, Late Woodland people created monumental complexes consisting of large conical mounds and horn-shaped earthen effigy mounds, as well as linear and small conical mounds along major river lakes and wetlands. Although most effigy mounds contain burials, these complexes have added meaning as maps of Native American ideological and social structure—the division of the universe into upper and lower worlds and division of social groups into clans. Several of these Effigy Mound sites close to McHenry County are the turtle mound groups on the Beloit College campus in Beloit, Wisconsin; the panther mounds near Jefferson, Wisconsin; and the turtle mound in Rockford, Illinois. Most of the few effigy mounds reported in northeastern Illinois have been destroyed.

The McGraw site mentioned above contained three Late Woodland burial features with the remains of at least 10 people; all of the burials were primary interments. The low incidence of infection and anemia compared to contemporaneous burial populations in west-central and southern Illinois suggests that the McGraw Late Woodland people ate a variety of foods; hunting and gathering as well as agriculture were part of their subsis-

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三角形的箭头指向那些在上述使用的土地中被挖掘的最近的九个与船形的点与上面的点是相关的。这些点在显示器中的不同颜色或形状。例如，在显示器中的红色或圆形可能是代表最近使用的点。而在显示器中的蓝色或矩形可能表示较早使用的点。
McHenry County History
Native Americans in the Historic Period (A.D. 1673-1832)
The Fox and Kickapoo Indians passed through the Fox Valley during the early eighteenth century, but did not establish villages. Members of other nations, for example Ottawa, Miami, Menomonee, and Winnebago, are noted within mixed villages during the historic period. The Fox River was the eastern boundary of the Mascouten between 1655 and 1679, and was the border between the eastern and western Mascouten bands between 1679 and 1735. The Mascouten were a semi-sedentary Algonquian-speaking tribe who had fled west from Michigan under Iroquois attack. In 1682 some Mascouten settled between the Fox and Des Plaines rivers, in the Round Lake area. They relied on a mixed economy of corn agriculture supplemented by a nomadic buffalo hunting and winter deer and bear hunts. Their settlement pattern consisted of a large summer village within lake shore or river floodplain forests and scattered fall-winter camps. Canoes were utilized after 1728 when the Mascouten became involved in the fur trade. Political and military troubles with the French, the Ottawa, and the Potawatomi resulted in upheaval. The Mascouten then shifted to the south and east, eventually consolidating with the Kickapoo, while the Potawatomi extended their territory from Wisconsin into northeastern Illinois.

By 1820 the Potawatomi had achieved their greatest territorial expansion, with over 100 known villages within their tribal estate. Like the Mascouten, the Algonquian-speaking Potawatomi utilized a large summer village and scattered winter camps. Their lifestyle was a mixture of agriculture and hunting/gathering. Fishing was a major subsistence activity and villages were generally located on river or lake shores. As the southern Potawatomi gained access to horses and the prairies, they gradually shifted to a bison hunting economy. Shortly after the ill-fated (for the Indians) Black Hawk War of 1832, most of the Illinois-Southern Wisconsin Potawatomi, fully oriented to the prairie economy, relocated to western Iowa. The northeastern Illinois area was then settled by Euro-Americans with the few scattered remnants of Native American groups leaving the area by 1840.

A number of historic Indian sites and Indian trails were noted and recorded by early white settlers in McHenry County; several are noted in Albert Schramm's '40 mile' trails. Some of these trails became wagon routes, and eventually major roads. For example, Illinois Route 31 follows portions of the Lake Geneva trail and Illinois Route 176 follows the Belvidere-Waukegan trail (Figure 7).

Euro-American Settlement in the Historic Period
The Black Hawk War of 1832 was a pivotal event in the settlement history of northern Illinois. From April through August, Sauk and Fox, with the assistance of a few Potawatomi, Winnebago, and Kickapoo under the aged Sauk Indian Black Hawk, resorted to armed force to resist the federal policy of Indian removal. William J. McHenry, Albert Sidney Johnston, Winfield Scott, Zachary Taylor, Jefferson Davis, and Abraham Lincoln among the 5,240 American troops, 9,000 Illinois Militia, and volunteers engaged in putting down the resistances. The Black Hawk War officially closed with the Treaty of Fort Armstrong under which Native American settlement and local control within the region was eliminated. Land sales from the Public Domain in McHenry County (then part of Cook County), began after the close of the war. When McHenry County separated from Cook County on January 16, 1836, the new county honored the memory of the recently deceased Illinois pioneer, soldier, and legislator William J. McHenry.

Recollectors by the earliest settlers of Coastal Township allude to an aboriginal village consisting of 10 to 15 bark-covered wigwams, a conical council house some 14 ft. (4.3 m) in diameter, a 7.0 acre corn field planted in hills, and a mound of buried coverings on land held by Elijah and Mary Humphrey Dunham. The Native Americans returned in the spring of 1836 to find the bark from their homes salvaged for Euro-American "shanties," and although a Mr. Hamilton had ascended with their copper cooking pot, the corn stored within subterranean pits was safe. Various histories indicate that the settlers not only looted items from the village, but also opened graves containing beads, silver bracelets, pins, and pipes. The Stephen H. Long Expedition to the site of St. Peter's River visited on 13 June 1823 a small Native American village called "Wakesa" in the vicinity of Coastal township. The village of Kakekeshia (Crow) "which inhabited by Mennonites, with a few Potawatomi who have intermarried with them" consisted of four, bark-covered lodges with an estimated population of 60 and associated cornfields. One residence measured 20' long by 15' wide with a 12' clearance at the center. Beaches along the sides covered with skins are identical to those described by the settlers.

Eliah (b. 1784 in NY) and Mary Humphrey (b. 1791 in CT) Dunham settled with their children near Coastal Corners, a crossroads community, in the spring of 1836. Public Domain land purchased by Eliah purchased the W. 1/2 of the N. 1/2 of Section 1 in Coastal Township in 1839. By 1862 the Dunham family had purchased the rest of the section from a Mason Hicks and had built two residences—Eliah and Mary's home near the intersection of Dunham and Coastal Roads and that of their son Artemus farther north along Dunham Road (an extant Greek Revival residence, circa 1856, following the marriage of Artemus to Maria G. Benton). Review of the available information suggests that the burial ground mentioned by early settlers was west of Eliah and Mary's home, that is, west of Dunham Road and north of Coastal East Road and that remnants of the village could be on either side of the road in the vicinity of Eliah and Mary's home.

Shovel probe and pedestrian survey conducted by the Center for American Archaeology within a portion of the McHenry County Conservation District's 235-acre Coastal Woods failed to identify the historic Native American village, nor were any burial mounds identified. The area surrounding the Elijah and Mary Dunham homestead has not been investigated; the area west of Dunham Road is privately-held agricultural fields while the area west of the road is privately-held non-agricultural land.

The Gilliams may have been the first permanent Euro-American settlers in McHenry County. In 1834 Samuel (1792-1837) and Margaret (1793-1890) Gilliam staked a claim in Algonquin Township. They arrived with eight of their nine children as well as helper Edward Rutledge and bachelor brothers Alooo and Morris Cutler in November of 1834 (Table 1). John Gilliam (1811-1889) joined his brother the following year and settled nearby. The land was patented for sale by the government, widow Margaret Gilliam purchased land in Sections 22, 25, and 27 of the township.

As early as 1835, pioneers had established two settlements in what is now McHenry County, the Virginia Settlement (now Ridgehead) centered on Vienna and the Prairie in Townships 9 and 10, and Pleasant Grove (now Marengo) along the Chicago to Galena Road (now U.S. Rt. 20) in Section 36 of Marengo Township. By 1835 McHenry County included the following villages: Alden (Allen Town); Crystal Lake, Cary Station, and Algonquin (Algonquin Twp.); Bliven's Mills, Spring Grove, and English Prairie (Burton Township); Big Foot, Lawrence, Harvard, and Chemung (Chemung Township); Union, Coral, and Harmony (Coral Township), Woodstock and Ridgeville (Dorr Township); Huntley Grove, Huntley (Grafton Township); Greenwood (Greenwood Township); Kishwaukee Station (Hartland Township); Hebron (Hebron Township); Marengo (Marengo Township); Ostend, Ringwood, West McHenry, McHenry, and Johnsburg (McHenry Township); Crystal Lake Station, Nunda, and Barriere (Nunda Township); Richmond, Solomon, and Solon Mills (Richmond Township); South Riley (Riley Township); and Franklinville (Senecha Township).

Public transportation within rural Illinois in the first half of the nineteenth century included stage lines connecting Chicago with Galena (via U.S. Rts. 31 and 37) and Chicago with Rock River and Lake Koskong (U.S. Rt. 14), among others that traversed McHenry County. John A. Kennedy (b. 1821 in NY) established an inn for stage travelers along the north-west stage line from Chicago to Rockford in Section 2 in 1833 (Table 2). Early railroad service into McHenry County included the Galena and Chicago Union in 1855 and the McHenry and Chicago Railroad (1856) between Elgin and South Belvidere. The St. Paul and Fond du Lac (later part of the Chicago & Northwestern) to Woodstock in 1855 and Harvard in 1856, and the Fox River Valley road (later the Elgin & State Line Railroad) in 1855.

In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries McHenry County was situated within the "Greatest Dairy District on Earth." Centralized, factory-based cheese production flourished during the Civil War followed in time by butter production and transport of fluid milk to urban areas through about 1920. Research suggests that the first cheese factories in McHenry County were established in 1866 at Richmond, Hebron, and Huntley and followed in 1867 by factories at Marengo, Greenwood, Union, Woodstock, and Riley (see Stewart Brothers Cheese and Butter Factory [11-Mb-245] in Table 2); 53 factories were present in 1884. There were four butter and cheese factories in Dunham Township prior to the establishment of the Borden plant in neighboring Chemung at the turn of the twentieth century. Fred L. Hatch (b. 1 November 1848, d. 7 July 1929) in 1873 built the first also in the United States on his parents' Lewis and Mandana Cole Horse Farm near the present Bella Vista. Mormon Township. Farming remains an important industry in McHenry County as it was in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

To acknowledge and record examples of residential architecture in the county, MCCD and MARS, Inc. documented 30 of the "best" historical properties as identified by the McHenry County Historic Preservation Commission. Each property was photographed, architectural styles were identified, and sufficient background information was collected to complete and submit site forms to the ISM (Table 2). Of the fifteen sites noted in Table 2 for which lithographs are available, the best example of site integrity—where the lithograph appears to match the present site condition—is 11-Mb-238, the circa 1860 Carpenter Gothic residence of E. L. and Mary Pomery at 100 Pomery Avenue in Crystal Lake (Plates 17 and 18).
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<th>Table 1. Early settlers in McHenry County by township.</th>
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<td><strong>Arrival</strong></td>
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<td><strong>(Year, Month)</strong></td>
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<td>Algonquin Twp.</td>
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<td>Dunham Twp.</td>
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<td>1839, spring</td>
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<td>Hartland Twp.</td>
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<td>1836, December</td>
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<tr>
<td>1836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heron Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836, May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836, May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marengo Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1835, September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836, fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836, fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McHenry Twp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837 latest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Table 1. Early settlers in McHenry County by township.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arrival Year</th>
<th>Year, Month</th>
<th>Nativity State, Co.</th>
<th>Settler(s)</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>Henry W. &amp; Ursula McLean</td>
<td>12’ x 16’ log cabin with John McLean &amp; William L. Way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>John &amp; Susannah V. McLean</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>William L. Way</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td></td>
<td>VT</td>
<td>Dr. Luke Hale</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nunda Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1835</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>NH, Cheshire</td>
<td>George &amp; Sylvia Beckley Stickney</td>
<td>Sec. 20, farmer &amp; fruit grower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td>June</td>
<td>NY, Herkimer</td>
<td>Samuel &amp; Laura Terwilliger</td>
<td>Sec. 7, Ridgeville PO, farmer &amp; dairyman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td>RI</td>
<td>RI</td>
<td>Benjamin Macomber</td>
<td>Sec. 6, d. 1861 aged 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>William &amp; Minerva Holcomb</td>
<td>d. 1858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837</td>
<td>VT, Windsor</td>
<td>VT, Windsor</td>
<td>Isaac &amp; Anne Erwin Griswold</td>
<td>related to Holcomb?, d. Lake Co.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837</td>
<td>CT</td>
<td>CT</td>
<td>Charles &amp; Elizabeth Patterson</td>
<td>d. 27 July 1859, Sec. 26; 1872 lithograph of mill &amp; store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Richmond Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>PA, Lycoming</td>
<td>Wm. &amp; Eliz. Bodine McConnell</td>
<td>1836 to MI; Scottish descent; 1st cheese factory in twp.; state rep. 1870-72; postmaster; lithograph to Canada—DuPage—Richmond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>Alexander &amp; Sally Miller Gardner</td>
<td>1st sawmill &amp; grist mill in Co. with brothers Alex. &amp; Wm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>David Gardner</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>William &amp; Ann Brodie Gardner</td>
<td>carpenter, Civil War vet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1837</td>
<td></td>
<td>CT &amp; VT, Wash.</td>
<td>R. R. &amp; Louisa Johannot Crosby</td>
<td>dau. of Peter &amp; Sarah Wheaton Johnnot; father in household 1860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Riley Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1833</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>Allen &amp; Lorrain Sisson</td>
<td>Old Settlers' Assoc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td></td>
<td>NY, Cazenovia</td>
<td>T. Whitman Cobb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td></td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>F. B. &amp; Amy Foy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seneca Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1835</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>E. Petit</td>
<td>sold to Sponable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td></td>
<td>IN</td>
<td>John Belden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td></td>
<td>CT, New London</td>
<td>Jedediah &amp; Sarah Jones Rogers</td>
<td>d. 1853 McHenry Co.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

f-f-1 = father-in-law, Wash. = Washington; Note that West Virginia separated from Virginia in 1863 over the issue of slavery. Some birth nativity noted as “VA” may now be WV.

# Table 2. Thirty historic Euro-American architectural sites recorded during the MCCD historic sites project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site #</th>
<th>Age and Style</th>
<th>Name Associated</th>
<th>Address, City</th>
<th>Lithograph?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-238</td>
<td>1860 Carpenter Gothic</td>
<td>E. L. &amp; Mary Pomeroy</td>
<td>160 Pomeroy Ave., CL</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-239</td>
<td>1874 Queen Anne</td>
<td>Teckler House</td>
<td>25 S. Walkup, CL</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-254</td>
<td>1867 Italianate/Goth. R</td>
<td>C. S. Dole Mansion</td>
<td>401 Country Club Rd., CL</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-267</td>
<td>1860 Carpenter Gothic</td>
<td>James &amp; Sarah Crow</td>
<td>648 Leonard Parkway, CL</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Burton Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-240</td>
<td>1863 Greek Revival</td>
<td>Robert &amp; Eleanor Richardson</td>
<td>9107 Richardson Rd., SG</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-241</td>
<td>1862 Italianate</td>
<td>Franklin &amp; Emily Cole</td>
<td>Main St., Burton</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chemung Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-242</td>
<td>1838 Carpenter Gothic</td>
<td>Rodolphus &amp; Lydia Hutchinson</td>
<td>10308 Rt. 14, Harvard</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Greenwood Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-244</td>
<td>1862 Upright &amp; wing</td>
<td>Lewis B. &amp; Margaret Peart</td>
<td>3920 Greenwood Rd., Wd</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hartland Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-243</td>
<td>1853 Greek Revival</td>
<td>John A. &amp; Laura Kennedy</td>
<td>17817 Rt. 14, Wd</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hebron Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-245</td>
<td>1880 Italianate</td>
<td>Stewart Bros.</td>
<td>Vander Karr Rd.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-246</td>
<td>1862 Greek Revival</td>
<td>John &amp; Harriet Stewart</td>
<td>11201 Vander Karr Rd.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-247</td>
<td>1872 Italianate</td>
<td>Seth &amp; Salina Lewis</td>
<td>301 Main St., Marango</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-248</td>
<td>1872 Italianate</td>
<td>Charles H. &amp; Jane Hibbard</td>
<td>413 Grant Hwy., Marango</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>McHenry Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-249</td>
<td>1860 Greek Revival</td>
<td>The Count’s House</td>
<td>3803 Waukegan Rd., McH</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-250</td>
<td>1889 I-House</td>
<td>Barbarian Homestead</td>
<td>1501 N. Riverside Dr., McH</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-251</td>
<td>1878 Church</td>
<td>Miller/Muller Chapel</td>
<td>Wilmot &amp; Ringwood Rds.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nunda Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-252</td>
<td>1849 Classical Rev.</td>
<td>Samuel &amp; Laura Terwilliger</td>
<td>Mason Hill &amp; Cherry V.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-253</td>
<td>1856 Italianate?</td>
<td>George &amp; Sylvia Stickney</td>
<td>1904 Cherry Valley, BV</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-255</td>
<td>1858 Greek Revival</td>
<td>Holcombville School</td>
<td>Crystal Springs &amp; Walkup</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-256</td>
<td>1856 Federal</td>
<td>John B. &amp; Mary Jane Walkup</td>
<td>5214 N. Walkup Ave., CL</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-257</td>
<td>1858 Federal</td>
<td>Col. G. A. &amp; Henrietta Palmer</td>
<td>5516 Terra Cotta Ave., CL</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Richmond Twp.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-258</td>
<td>1852 Greek Revival</td>
<td>W. A./John McConnell</td>
<td>6119 Broadway St., R</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mb-259</td>
<td>1872 Greek Revival</td>
<td>Geo. &amp; Amanda Purdy</td>
<td>NE Broadway &amp; Covell, R</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2. concluded  Thirty historic Euro-American architectural sites recorded during the MCCD historic sites project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site #</th>
<th>Age and Style</th>
<th>Name Associated</th>
<th>Address, City</th>
<th>Lithograph?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-Mh-260</td>
<td>1865 Italianate</td>
<td>Charles &amp; Sally Conging</td>
<td>5512 East Mill, R</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mh-261</td>
<td>1844 Vernacular</td>
<td>Charles Conging’s #90</td>
<td>1028 Main St, R</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mh-262</td>
<td>1862 Greek Revival</td>
<td>Wm. &amp; Elizabeth McConnell</td>
<td>6102 Broadway St, R</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mh-263</td>
<td>1872 Greek Revival</td>
<td>Wm. &amp; Mary Smolies</td>
<td>5061 George St, R</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mh-264</td>
<td>1900 Queen Anne</td>
<td>Lucien Benaparte Cowell</td>
<td>5805 Broadway St, R</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mh-265</td>
<td>1886 Second Empire</td>
<td>Sarah Gibbs</td>
<td>10313 West St, R</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-Mh-266</td>
<td>1850 Georgian</td>
<td>William &amp; Ann Gardner</td>
<td>4219 W. Solon Rd.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PLATE 19:** Blue transfer printed cup fragment from a mid-19th century privy at the Powers-Walker House.

**PLATE 20:** Clay pipe fragment from a mid-19th century privy at the Powers-Walker House.

The most dramatic change in the number of sites recorded in McHenry County is in the number of Historic Period sites. In 1988 only five historic period sites had been recorded; by the end of 2003 there were 179 historic sites. As development moved out of urban centers into the countryside, and as old structures within urban areas were taken down to make way for new, archaeologists and the general public came to realize that historic homes, farmsteads, factories, schools, mills, post offices, and other structures are also finite resources worthy of investigation and, if possible, preservation. The District has taken an early lead in this effort. In the late 1980s the Sauk Trail Chapter, aided by the Conservation District, excavated a Euro-American dairy farm at the Hollows Conservation Site near Cary, Illinois. The site has provided valuable information about the lives of Euro-American settlers in McHenry County from the end of the Civil War until the early twentieth century, a period poorly represented in written historical records. The standing structure survey described above is another District project that has added to our knowledge of nineteenth and early twentieth century architecture. More recently, archaeological investigations at the 1854 to 1919 period occupied Power’s Walker house at the District’s Glacial Park has provided important information on household use of yard space, and answered the mystery of the secret basement room. (It was not a room at all, but rather a large builder’s trench dug for the first addition to the house.) Among the artifacts recovered at the site were tableware (Plate 19) and clay pipe fragments (Plate 20), whole and bottle fragments, buttons, coins, medallions, nails and other metal objects, and toys.

Historic sites in Illinois are divided into six occupational periods, Colonial (1673-1780), Pioneer (1781-1840), Frontier (1841-1870), Early Industrial (1871-1900), Urban (1901-1945) and Post War (1946 and later). The earliest sites in McHenry County date from the Pioneer Period. Three sites built during this period have been identified. Only one, the Matheny/Bird Farmstead (11-Mh-115), was occupied for a short period of time. The other two sites were habitations from the Pioneer Period into the Post War Period. Single occupation sites like Matheny/Bird are rare, but provide us with an important picture of past lifestyles restricted to a narrow slice of time and usually one family. John B. and Margaret Matheny, Upland Southerners within the Virginia Settlement, occupied 11-Mh-115 from 1849 until 1854. Historic documents and artifacts recovered from the site suggest that they enjoyed a higher economic status than their New England neighbors, and that dietary preferences and farming practices do not conform to the expectation archaeologists have for the Upland South ethnic group.

Most historic sites first built during the Frontier Period, the Early Industrial Period, or the Urban Period were also occupied for long periods of time. Population and agricultural census records, early county histories, and other archival documents show that while a few of these farmsteads were occupied by a single extended family through time, most were occupied by a series of unrelated families. Some families owned their property, others were renters or tenant farmers. Some families were American born, others were immigrants. Some were financially well off, others struggled to make ends meet. The archaeological deposits left behind by each set of site occupants can provide information on the many different kinds of people—information that is not always recorded in written documents. It contains discrete, intact deposits of particular set of site occupants. Interpretations are mixed with those from McMillen Farmstead in Mundelein.

In this situation, archaeologists from different periods have been able to reconstruct the history of the site from documents and the archaeological remains that were left behind.

**Summary**

McHenry County has been home to a wealth of archaeological sites. Most of these sites are located on private lands, and many are not protected. We have not conducted site investigations to assess the extent or quality of the archaeological remains. As a result, we do not have a comprehensive understanding of the archaeological remains on private lands, and our knowledge of the prehistory of the area is limited. While we have made limited progress in the past, we believe that there is a great deal of potential for archaeological research in McHenry County. We encourage all residents and visitors to the area to be aware of the potential for archaeological remains and to be respectful of these resources.

The McHenry County Conservation Service is working to protect and preserve the archaeological remains in McHenry County. This includes developing a plan to assess the potential of the area for archaeological research and preparing a report to the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency on the condition of the archaeological sites in the area. The report will be used to guide future research and to prioritize the most important sites for protection. It is hoped that this work will help to ensure that the archaeological remains in McHenry County are protected for future generations.
References
The authors have used a wide variety of references in preparing this booklet. These include primary and secondary sources, many of which are unpublished, out-of-print, or highly technical. A complete listing of the references used for this booklet can be found on the MARS, Inc. web site (www.midwestarch.net). This web site also has a list of references commonly used to identify prehistoric and historic artifacts (including historic house styles). In addition to the readings listed below, three journals routinely contain articles relevant to Illinois archaeology—Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology, Illinois Archaeological Society (www.uwm.edu/oas), and The Wisconsin Archaeologist (journal of the Wisconsin Archaeological Society—www.uwm.edu/oas). Local libraries have computers you can use to access these web sites.

The following books are readily available in local libraries or can be obtained through interlibrary loan. Some may also be purchased from the Illinois State Museum, the University of Illinois, local bookstores, and from book selling web sites.

General References

Geology and Environment

Midwest Archaeology


History
James E. Davis provides a comprehensive, readable history of the settlement process within Illinois. David Hackett Fischer’s study shows the importance for the United States of having been British in its cultural origins. Keating’s description of the Long Expedition of 1823 across northern Illinois from Chicago to Prairie du Chien is invaluable. Faragher’s story of the rural community in Illinois details the social history of a particular time and place.
McHenry County References

Plats
Selected McHenry County plats are available at local libraries within the county. The Woodstock Public Library has a good selection. An extensive collection of McHenry County plats, ranging from 1862 through 2004, is available at the Illinois State Library in Springfield. Pre-settlement plats (1838-1840) drafted by the General Land Office (GLO) are available for viewing on the internet at <landplats.isis.net/FlashWelcome.html>. In addition to the GLO plats, MARS, Inc. referred to the following for this booklet.

Thompson & Brothers, Publisher

Everts, Bank & Stewart, Publisher

Ogle, Geo A., Publisher

Ogle, Geo A., Publisher

Thrift Press, Publisher

McHenry County Title Company

Histories
The 1883, 1903, and 1968 county histories are available at most of the local McHenry County Libraries. Some communities, such as Harvard, Hebron, and Huntley, also have produced local histories.

Baterman, Newton and Paul Selby

Ellison, Erma Cont

Harvard Bicentennial Committee

Historic Homes of Marengo Committee

Huntley Sesquicentennial Committee

Interstate Publishing Co

McHenry County Historical Society

Nye, Lowell Albert

Thompson, Loren

Websites

State and National Organizations
Archaeology Awareness
www.illinoisarchaeology.org
Information about archaeology programs, sites to visit, suggested readings and other activities having to do with Illinois archaeology.

Center for American Archaeology
www.caa-archaeology.org
Educational programs and books on Midwestern archaeology.

Illinois Archaeological Survey (IAS)
www.virtual.parcard.edu/IAS/mainmenu.htm
Organization of professional archaeologists.

Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology (IAAA)
www.museum.state.il.us/iaaa
Organization of avocational archaeologists.

Illinois State Archives
www.library.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/databases.htm
Contains databases for the Public Domain and death, marriage, and veteran records.

National Park Service (NPS)
www.nps.gov/archaeology.htm
Discovery by National Park Service archaeologists and their partners.

Society for American Archaeology (SAA)
www.saa.org
National organization of professional archaeologists.

Society of Historical Archaeology (SHA)
www.sha.org
National organization of archaeologists studying the historic era.

Wisconsin Archeological Society
www.uwm.edu/Org/WAS/
An organization made up of individuals with interest in Wisconsin’s historic and prehistoric past.

Local Organizations
McHenry County Conservation District (MCCD)
www.mccdistrict.org
Preserving and restoring natural areas and open spaces for the educational, recreational and environmental benefit of present and future generations.

McHenry County Historical Society (MCHS)
www.mchsonian.org
Identify, preserve, present and promote the history of McHenry County.

McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society (MCGS)
www.mcgis.org
Fosters an interest in genealogy and preserves early McHenry County records.

Algonquin Historic Commission
www.algonquinhistory.org/History%20Commissio/home.htm
To foster research, development and preservation of Algonquin’s history.

City of Johnsburg Homepage
www.johnsburg.org/aljohn.htm
The history of Johnsburg.

Museums
Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site
www.cahokiamounds.com
Take a virtual visit to the World Heritage site.

Chicago Historical Society
www.chicagohs.org
Visit their museum without leaving home.

Field Museum
www.thefieldmuseum.com/
A virtual tour of the exhibits at the museum.

Illinois State Museum
www.museum.state.il.us
Describes museum programs with link to Dickson Mounds Museum.
www.museum.state.il.us/muslink
Has extensive information about archaeology and related topics.

Additional Information
Breaking News in Anthropology
www.tamu.edu/anthropology/news.html
Links with all the major archaeology articles in the media.

Center for the Study of the First Americans
www.centerforfirstamericans.com/
All the latest information on the earliest North Americans.
Glossary

AMS (Accelerated Mass Spectrometry) dating—a radiometric method of dating small samples of carbon (less than 0.3 grams), archaeological site—A geographical location with evidence for past human activity.

artifacts—Any product of human manufacture or manipulation.
atlatl—Spear thrower. A mechanical device used as an extension of the human arm to hurl darts or spears.

Aztalan—A Middle Mississippian settlement in southern Wisconsin.
bannerstone—Ground stone symmetrical object used as an atlatl weight.

birdstone—A specialized form (bird or bird's head) of Bannerstone.

B.P.—Before Present. A dating convention established when the radiocarbon technique for dating organic material was developed (1948). The present set is by convention at A.D. 1950.

beveled edge—a steeply flaked edge. During the Early Archaic period projectile points often have beveling on one side of the tool edge.

Cahokia—Largest Middle Mississippian archaeological site in North America. It is located in southern Illinois east of St. Louis.

cert—A microcrystalline quartz stone used for making chipped tools. In McHenry County this stone is found in gravels deposited by the glaciers. Cert is another word for flint. Other microcrystalline stones used for tools are jasper, chalcedony, and agate.

collectors—People who pick up artifacts from the ground surface as a hobby or avocation. Collectors are important sources of information for archaeologists. Ethical collectors do not excavate without supervision and always have permission to walk the lands from which they collect.

denticulate—a stone tool with a saw-tooth edge that may have been used for shredding plant material.

Early Archaic—Term used for the time period from 10,000 to 8,000 B.P. and the way of life from that time period.

Early Woodland—Term used for the time period from 3,500-2,100 B.P. and the way of life from that time period.

Effigy Mound—Cultural tradition dating between A.D. 700-1300. Animal-shaped effigy mounds are built during the Late Woodland Mississippian periods in northwestern Illinois, southern Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. Animals frequently represented are turtles, birds and mammals.

Euro-Americans—Americans of European descent and Europeans who immigrated to North America after A.D. 1492.

fluted point—A type of chipped stone point characteristic of the Paleolithic period. As a last step in the manufacture of these well-made tools a stone flake is removed from one or both sides. This flake is removed from the bottom or base of the tool and extends toward the tip creating a groove or channel. Archaeologists are unsure about the function of this channel. It may have served a purpose in aid in attaching the stone point to a shaft.

General Land Office—Federal agency established to survey and sell land from the public domain.

goosefoot—A weedy plant producing edible seeds that was cultivated during the Woodland Period. Lamb's quarter is another common name for this plant.

graver—A tool used to groove, slot or engrave wood, bone, antler and shell.

groundstone—Tools manufactured by pecking and grinding, or tools used to peck or grind other materials.

Hoelewold Interaction Sphere—a network of trade and exchange which flourished in eastern North America during the Middle Woodland time period (2,100-1,600 B.P.). Major centers for these activities were the Scioto River Valley in Ohio, the Illinois and Mississippi River Valleys in Illinois. Materials exchanged included shells and shark teeth from the Gulf Coast, copper from Michigan and Canada, mica from Georgia, galena from Illinois, obsidian from Wyoming, and many kinds of cherts from throughout the Midwest. These materials were made into distinctive artifacts, many of which were deposited in graves or tombs within large burial mounds.

horticulture—Use of gardens for production of foods. It does not include the clearing of large tracts of land as in agriculture.

hypothermic—a climatic period (8,700-5,000 B.P.) when temperature was higher and there was less rainfall than there is today. It resulted in an expansion of the prairie and a decrease in forests in Illinois.

kill sites—Archaeological sites with evidence for human hunting and butchering of large game such as mammoth or bison. Some kill sites in the Great Plains contain hundreds of bison skeletons.

Langford—a name given to Upper Mississippian grit-tempered pottery and the people who made that pottery.

Late Archaic—Term used for the time period from 5,600-3,500 B.P. and the way of life from that time period.

Late Woodland—Term used for the time period from 1,600-1,000 B.P. and the way of life from that time period.

lithics—Raw materials (primarily chert) for making stone tools, the stone tools themselves and the debris from their manufacture.

looting—The illegal or unethical removal of archaeological materials from a site. Looting usually removes the scientific importance of the artifacts by obliterating information, and often destroys an irreplaceable archaeological site; also called pot-hunting.

Middle Archaic—Term used for the time period from 8,000-5,000 B.P. and the way of life from that time period.

Middle Mississippian—The way of life practiced by groups of Native Americans living in parts of the central and southern Midwest from 1,000 B.P. until contact with Euro-Americans.

Middle Woodland—Term used for the time period from 2,100-1,600 B.P. and the way of life from that time period.

mounds—Man-made mounds made of earth which are used as cemeteries or as platforms for buildings. They were built during the Woodland and Mississippian time periods.

Native Americans—Americans of Asian descent who immigrated to North America during or immediately after the Wisconsinan glaciation.

non-renewable resource—Something of importance that cannot be replaced once taken or used. Gas and oil are examples of non-renewable energy resources. Archaeological sites are non-renewable cultural resources.

Oneota—a name given to Upper Mississippian shell-tempered pottery and the groups who made that pottery.

Paleoindian—Term used for the time period from 12,000 to 10,000 B.P. and the way of life represented during that time period.

Pleistocene—the geological epoch beginning approximately 1.6 million years ago that is generally referred to as the Ice Age. It includes the four major advances of ice sheets to partially cover Illinois (Nebraskan, Kansan, Illinoian, and Wisconsinan) and interglacial periods. The last major glacial advance, the Wisconsinan, ended in our area about 12,000 years ago.

pot-hunting—The illegal unethical removal of archaeological materials from a site. Pot-hunting (potting) usually removes the scientific importance of the artifacts and often destroys an irreplaceable archaeological site. Also called looting.

preform—a stage in the manufacture of bifacial stone tools such as projectile points or knives. Preforms range from crudely shaped, thick items to well shaped, thin, almost completed tools. Preforms for projectile points may simply lack hafting elements.

projectile point—a tool which is used as the end of a spear or arrow. Can be made of metal, stone or bone. Most examples found by archaeologists are made of stone and have stems or notches which made attaching to the stub easier.

radionuclide—Tools used to date an object or site in chronological years. These dates are expressed in years before present, set by convention to 1950. The age of an object is established by measuring the rate of decay of certain radioactive isotopes. Carbon fourteen is one method of radiometric dating. In this method the decay of radioactive carbon is measured in organic material such as bone or wood.

Schafer—Albert Schafer was an amateur archaeologist who located and mapped many prehistoric and historic sites during the early 1900's in the greater Chicago area. He identified 12 villages and mounds in McHenry County. Most of these have been destroyed by urban development.

sedentism—The process where nomadic peoples settle into more permanent villages, thereby changing many aspects of their lifestyle.

sherd—Fragment of a pottery container or figure.

site numbers—Site numbers have three components: a state number (11) for Illinois, the 11th state in the United States, alphabetically, a county designation (Mc for McHenry County) and a sequential number assigned to sites as they are reported.

site preservation—Conserving archaeological sites by protecting them from destruction. Destruction can come from natural causes such as erosion, or from man-made causes such as construction or pot-hunting.

smudge pit—a shallow pit filled with corn cobs, dried animal dung, rotten wood and sometimes other plant material which when burned produced dense clouds of smoke. Animal hides were stretched over the pit to smoke—one step in a series of processing activities before the hide could be used for clothing.

sumpweed—a weedy plant producing edible seeds that was cultivated during the Woodland Period.

systematic archaeological survey—a way to look for archaeological sites in which: 1) the amount of land surveyed is defined; 2) the amount of effort used to find sites is defined; 3) all of the land is surveyed in the same manner. This method provides information on where sites are not located, as well as where they are located.

Temper—Fiber, sand, stone grit (of various sizes), or shell added to clay to prevent ceramic vessels from cracking during firing.

Upper Mississippian—The way of life practiced by groups of Native Americans living in parts of northern Illinois, northern Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa from 1,000 B.P. until contact with Euro-Americans.

Wisconsinan—Last glacial period (approximately 75,000-12,000 B.P.), when climate was much cooler than today and ice sheets covered major portions of North America.
“McHenry County has been home to humans for over 10,000 years. Archaeological sites from all time periods of North American prehistory are found within the county....These sites represent links with our past and with the past of the original occupants of McHenry County.”

—from *The Archaeology of McHenry County*