

3 Things about The First Tennesseans

Osher Lifelong Learn Institute, Vanderbilt University

Carole Bucy

January 20, 2021

Week 2

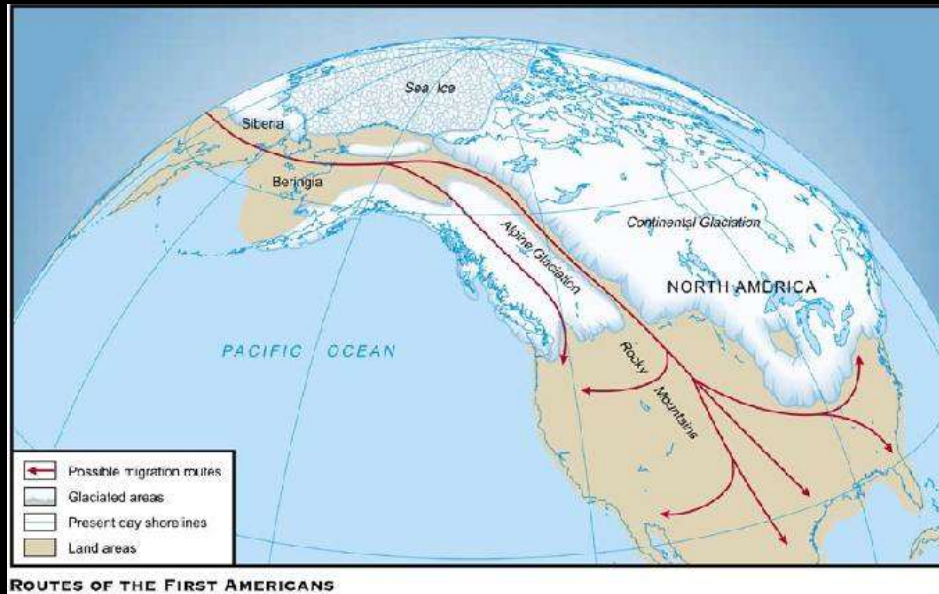


Fossils Found in Middle Tennessee Creeks

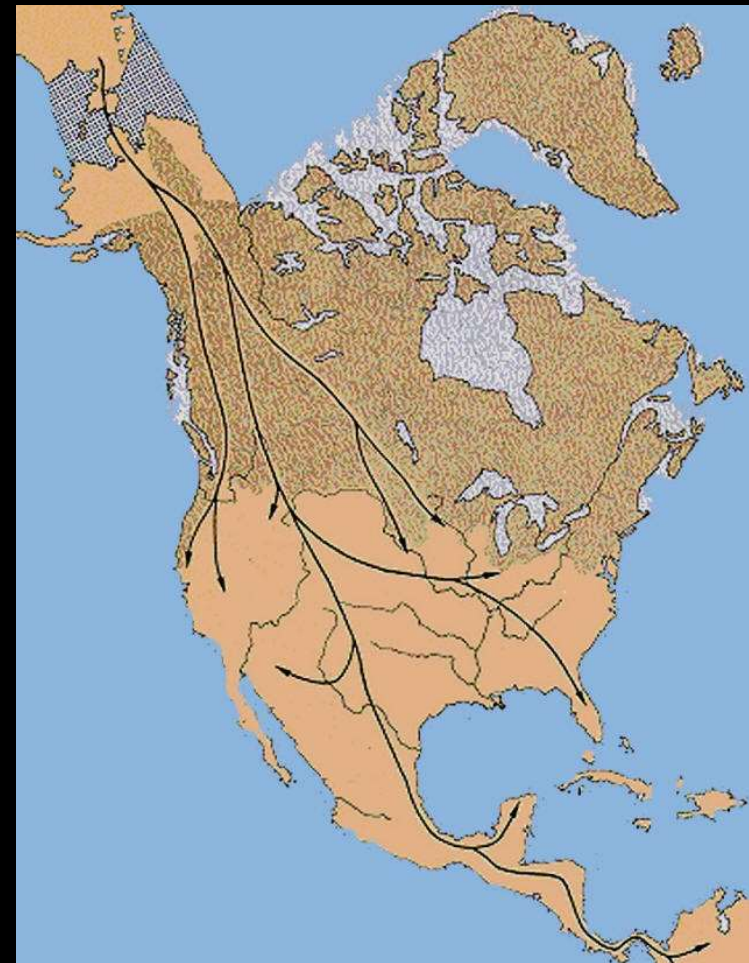


Source: www.thefossilforum.com

Migration Patterns of Paleo Indian Hunters of the Ice Age until the 1970s?



Source: www.navajopeople.org



Source: www.arthistoryworlds.org

The Clovis People



Note flaking on both sides



Rummells-Maske Cache Site, Iowa

Buttermilk Creek



A 15,000-year-old stemmed spear point. CENTER FOR THE
STUDY OF THE FIRST AMERICANS, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Source: <https://www.newsweek.com/texas-ancient-weapons-pre-dating-clovis-people-discovered-buttermilk-creek-1185767>

Judge John Haywood (1762- 1826)



Gates P. Thruston



ICONIC MISSISSIPPIAN PERIOD ARTIFACTS
The Mississippian people created artistic artifacts including earthen shell gorgets, carved ivory combs, flint knives, and effigy pottery.

BEAR EFFIGY POTTERY VASE, 1000 to 1400 CE, [View on the J. Paul Getty Center website](#)

DUCK-SHAPED BOWL, 1000 to 1400 CE, [View on the J. Paul Getty Center website](#)

FLINT KNIFE, 1000 to 1400 CE, [View on the J. Paul Getty Center website](#)

SHALLOTTA SHELL GORGETTE, 1000 to 1400 CE, [View on the J. Paul Getty Center website](#)

Construction Equipment – a Common Site in Middle Tennessee



Exposed Bone Bed Following 1994 Excavations



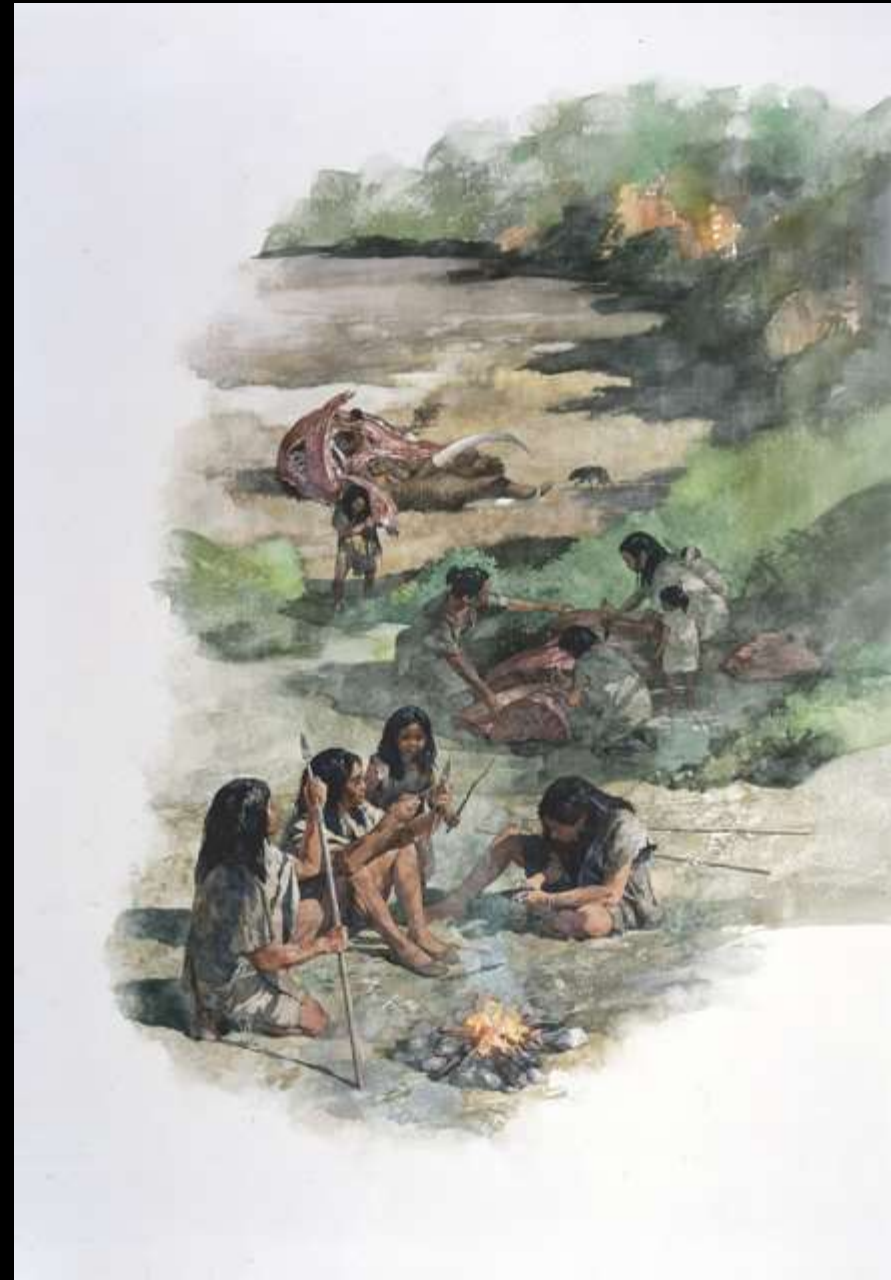
1995



The PaleoIndian
Period
(11,000 – 3,000 BCE)

Nomadic Hunters
Processing Meat of
Now Extinct Elephant
at Coats-Hines site in
Williamson County
(Painting by Greg Harlin)

Source: www.mcclungmuseum.utk.edu



Remains of a Mastadon, 1994



Fossils from the Coats-Hines Site



Source: www.mcclungmuseum.utk.edu

Mastadon Molar



Smilodon, Giant Beaver, Giant Bison and Giant Peccary. Its presence in the cavern beneath the site marks the First American site of first magnitude among Paleontological Sites. Recovered bones are listed below.

Upper, or lower, Vertebrae

Ribs of Saber-tooth Tiger

Thoracic, or middle, Vertebrae

Scapula, or shoulder blade

Section of skull housing the "Saber"

Sections of Mandible (lower Jaw) of Smilodon

Cast of skull from Tar Pits of Rancho LaBrea, CA

A carnassial, or shearing tooth, from the jaw of Smilodon

Head of left femur or thigh bone

Left Calcaneus or heel bone

Toe bone with sheath for Tractile Claw

Left Tibia or Shin Bone

Many bones bear stains from minerals in ground water



21. Unerupted 3rd molar
22. Lower right 2nd molar
23. Upper right canine
24. Lower left canine
25. Humerus
26. Equus, or horse is represented by this tooth
27. Bobcat

Built like a small Smilodon, is represented by this lower right canine

"Wild Animal," was represented by this mandible, or jaw bone, fragment.



The Archaic Period (11,000-3000 BCE)
“Base Camp of Native Americans of the Archaic Period” -
Painting by Greg Harlin



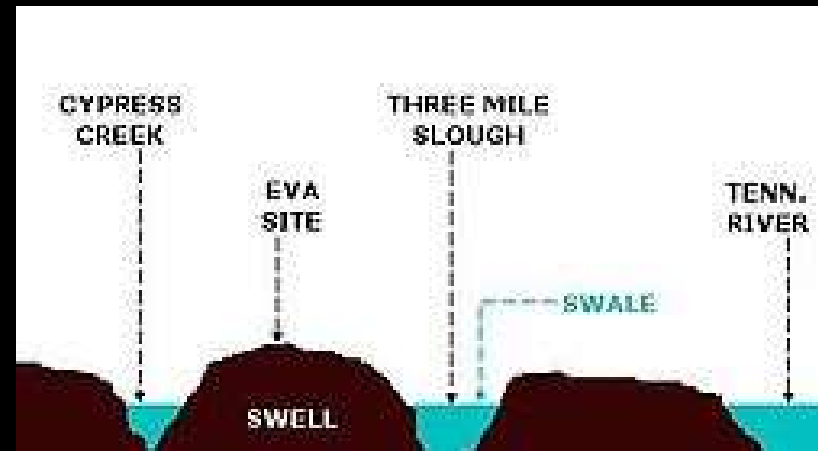
Source: www.mcclungmuseum.utk.edu; website of the McClung Museum of Natural History & Culture, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Archaic Period Projectile Points

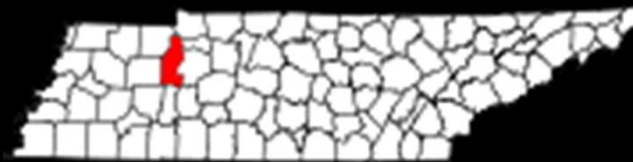


Source: www.mcclungmuseum.utk.edu
Ernest J. Sims Collection

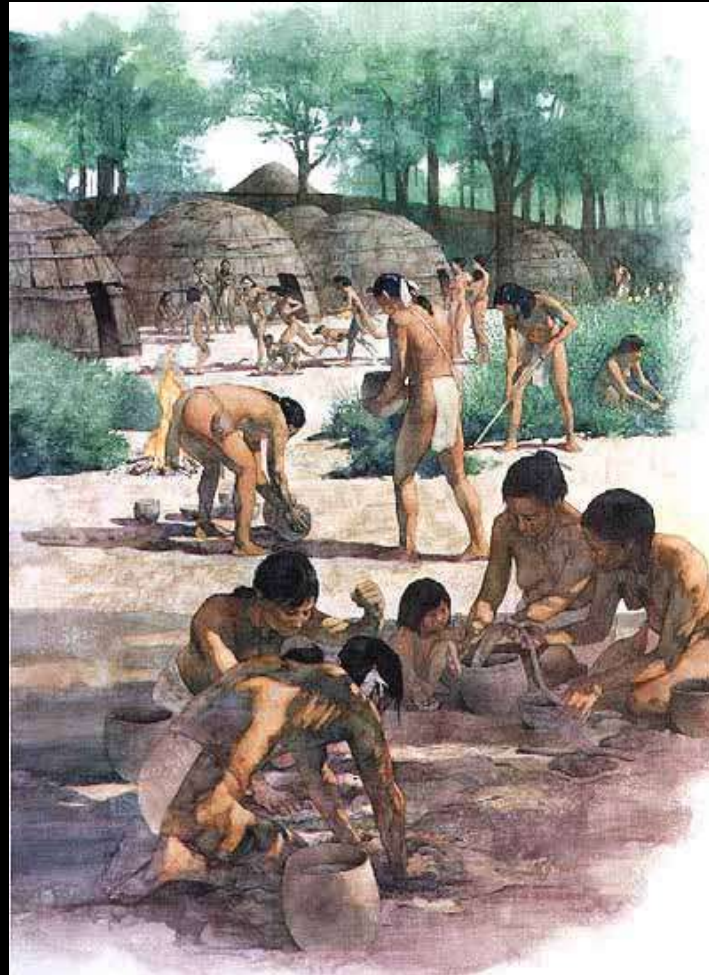
Eva Group – Cypress Creek – Benton County – Archaic Period



Source: Wikipedia, “Eva
(archaeological site)”



Woodland Period



Source: <http://mcclungmuseum.utk.edu/>

Old Stone Fort - Woodland Period 3000-1100 BE (near Manchester, Tennessee)



Woodland Period, Coffee County



Paper plates mark the post holes of three circular Woodland Period houses at a site in Coffee County, Tennessee. The houses may have resembled those in the Greg Harlin mural above. [Source: McClung Collection web site]

Pinson Mounds – Woodland Period

(Just south of Jackson, Tennessee)

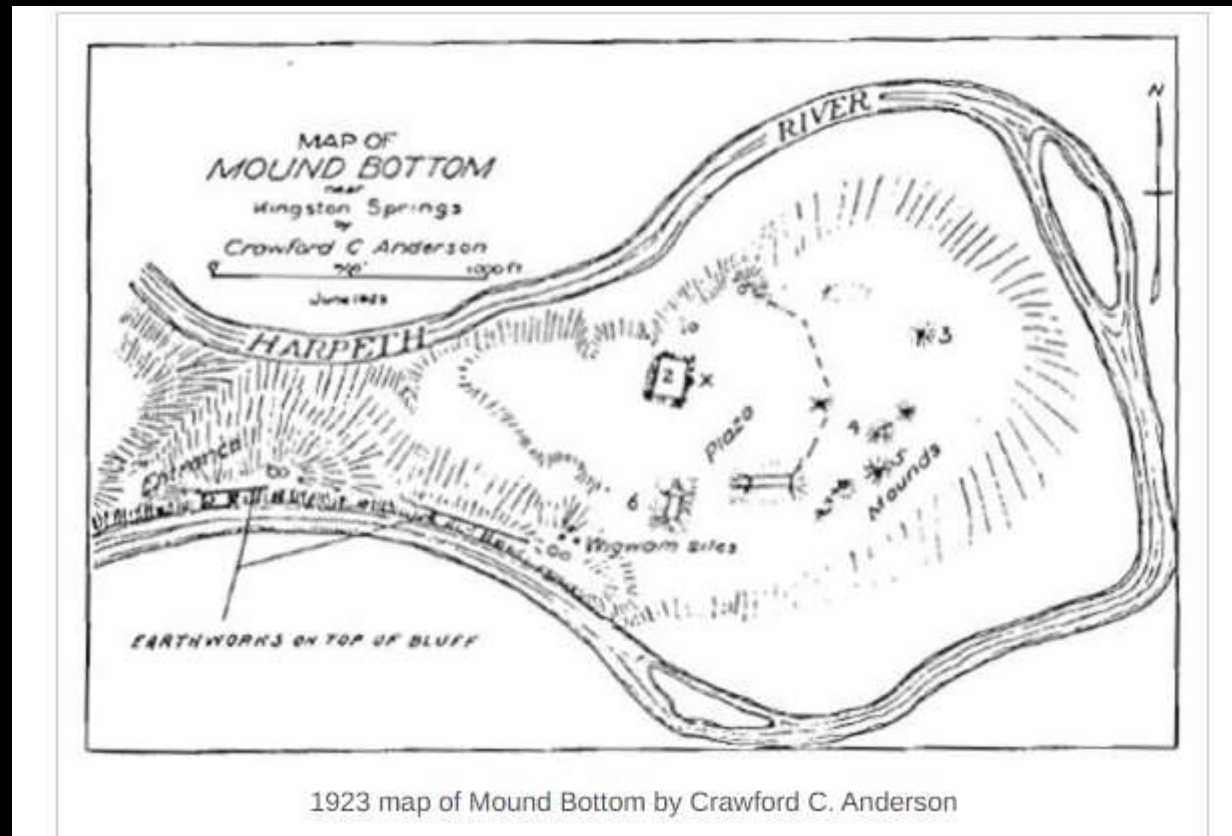


The Mississippian Period

Toqua, a town in Monroe County

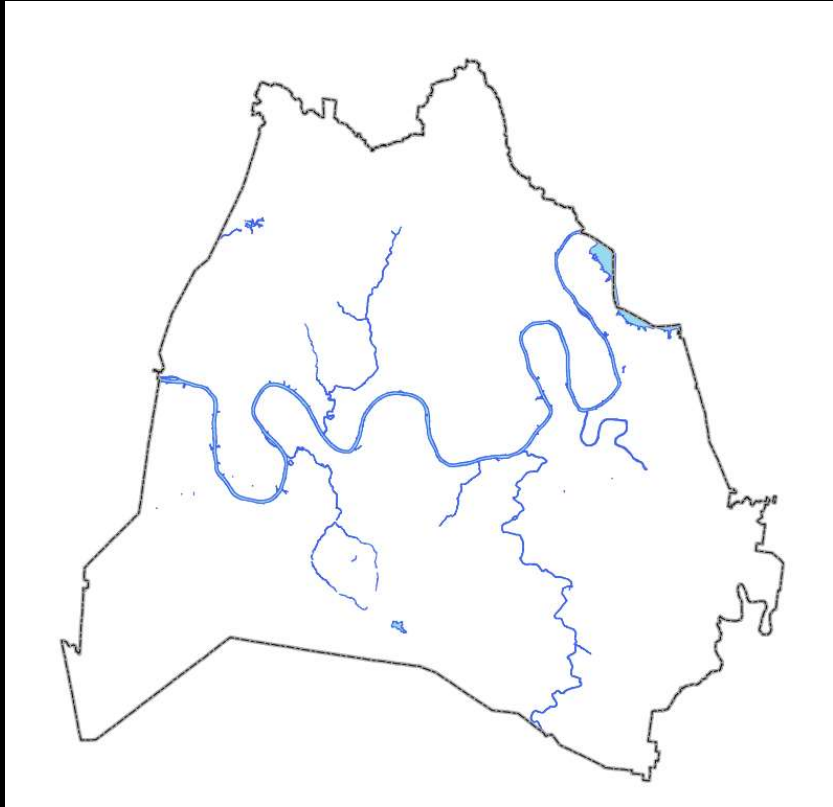


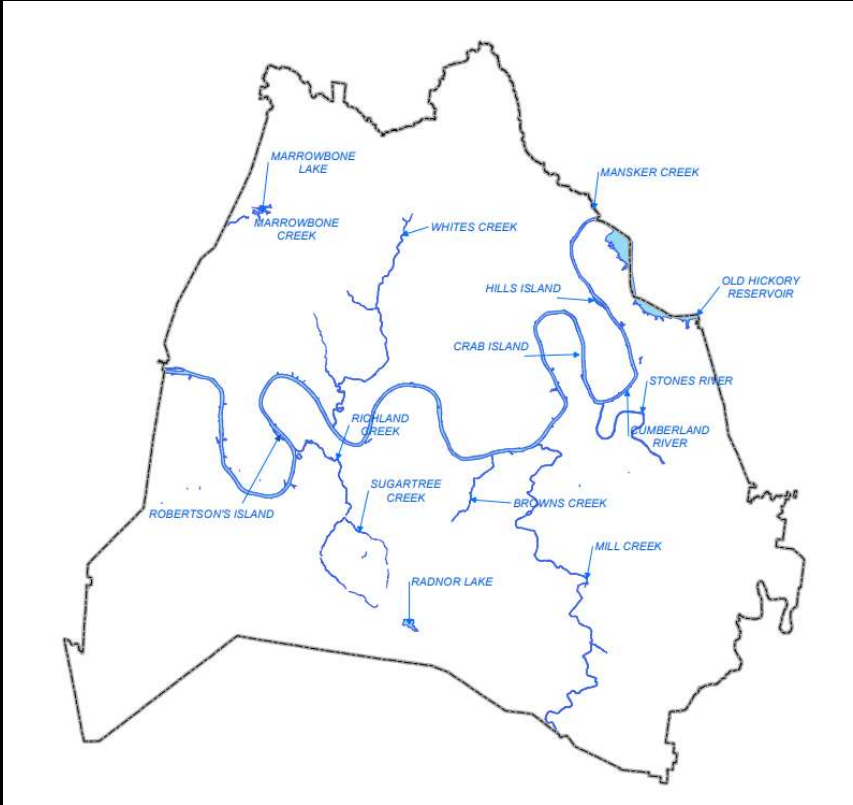
Harpeth River State Park

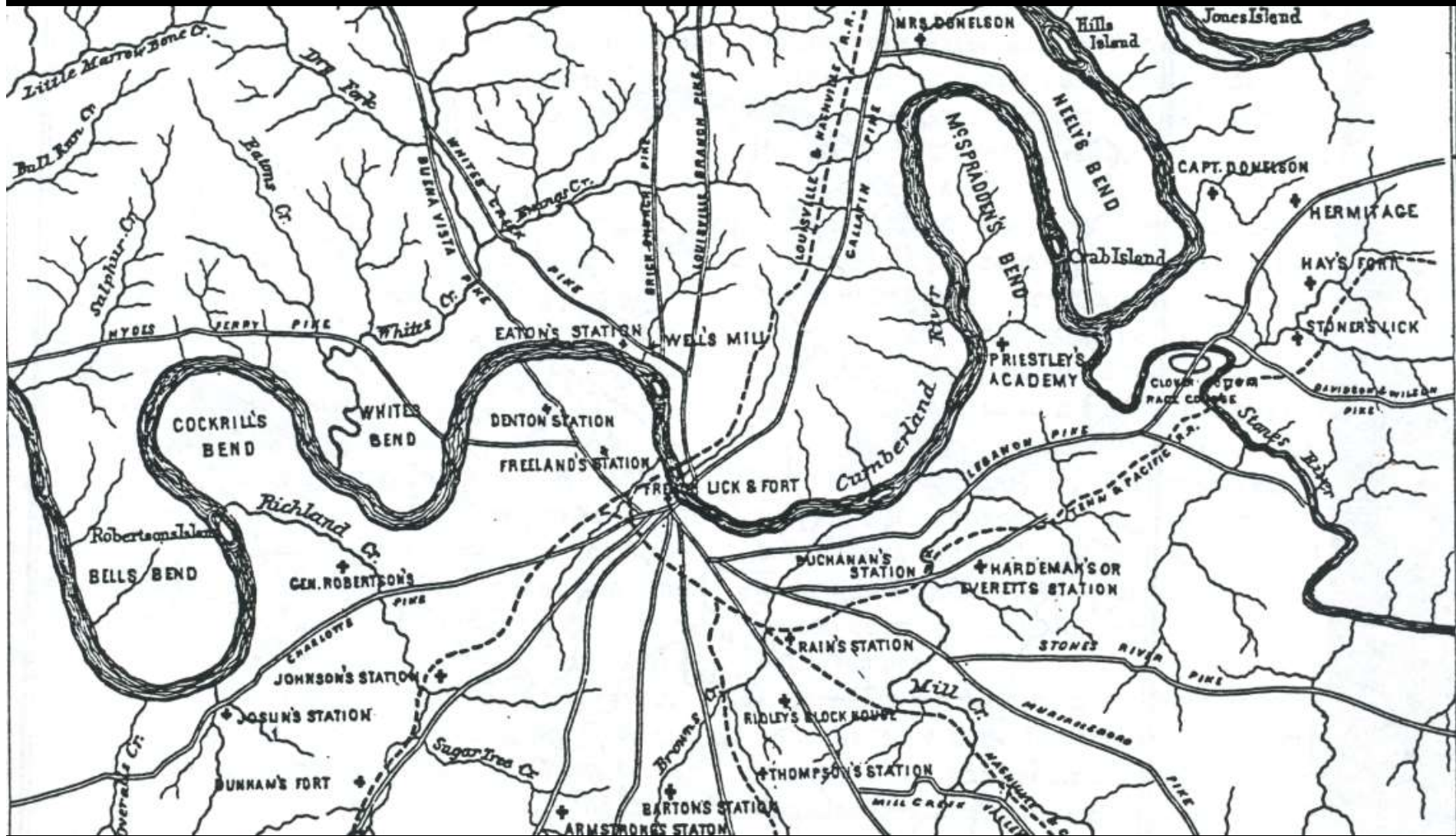


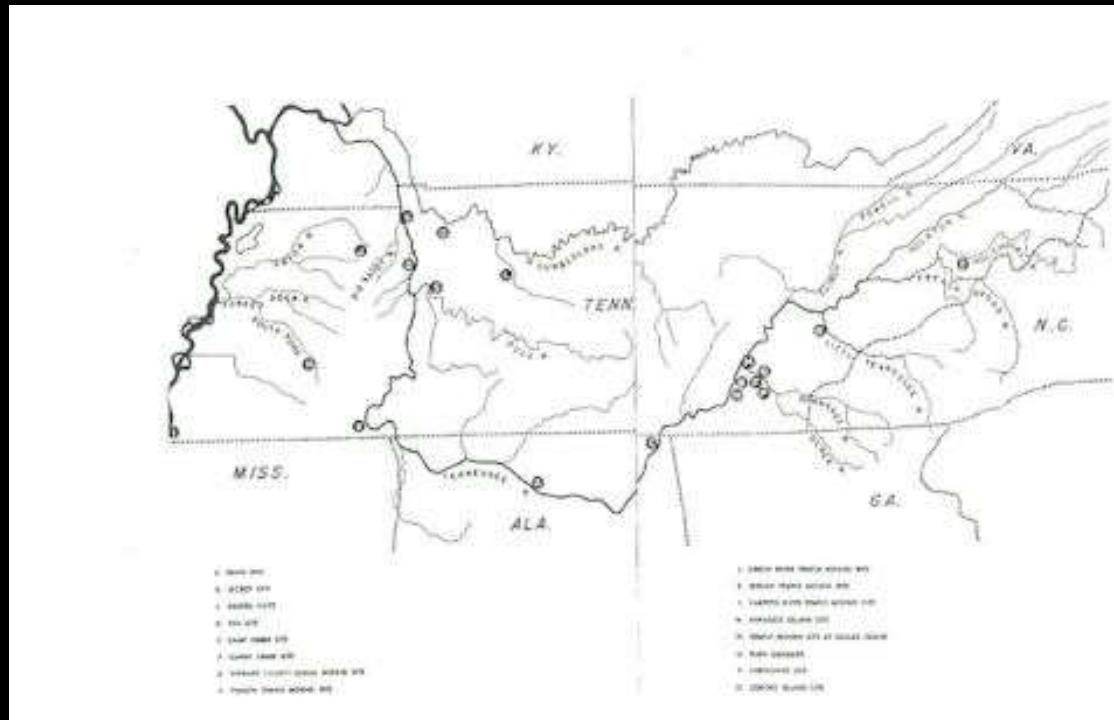
1923 map of Mound Bottom by Crawford C. Anderson











Source: *Tribes that Slumber*

Mississippian Period Mound



FIGURE 5. The Brick Church Mound in 1971 (*Courtesy, Mack Prichard*).

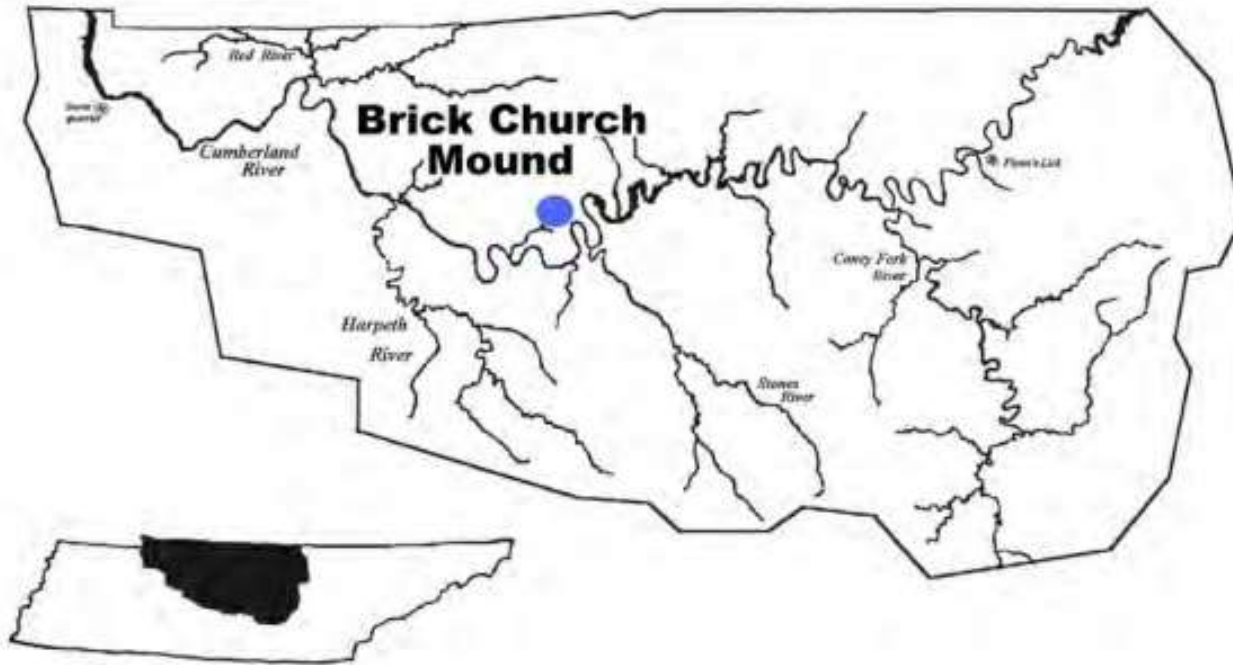




FIGURE 2. Figurines recovered from the Brick Church Mound site in 1971 (Courtesy, John T. Dowd).

Source: *Tennessee Archaeology*, vol. 5, #1, Summer 2010.



FIGURE 3. Prepared clay house floor identified at the Brick Church Mound site by John T. Dowd in 1971 (*Courtesy John T. Dowd*).

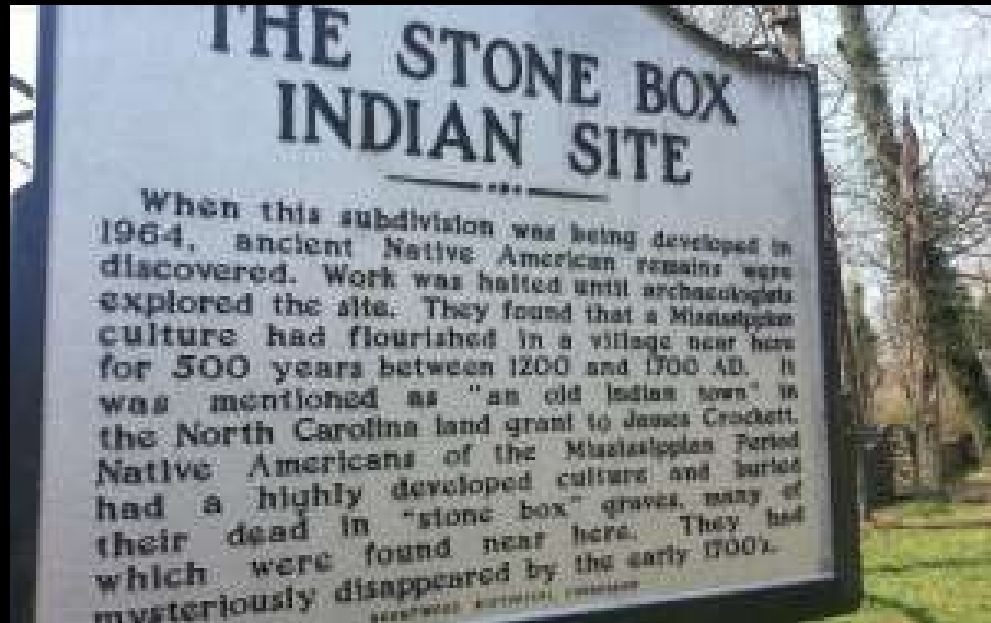


FIGURE 11. Stone box graves excavated by TDOA staff in 1984 at the Brick Church Mound site.

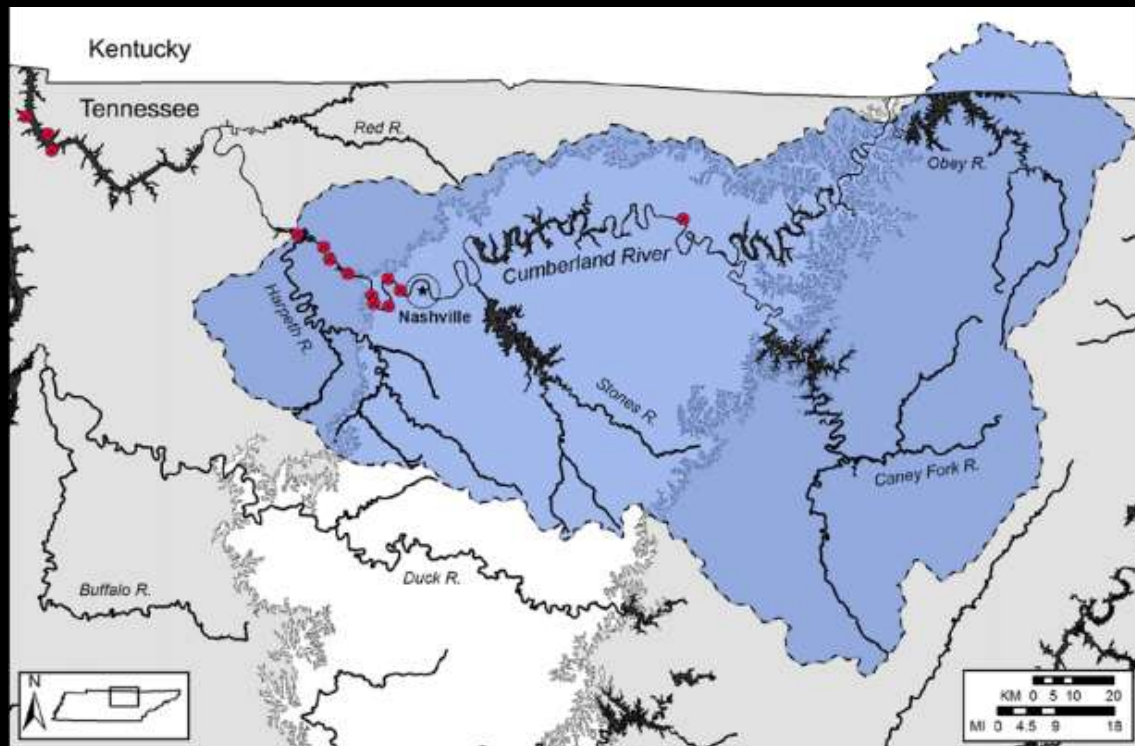


Source of photo of graves:
TN Archaeology Council

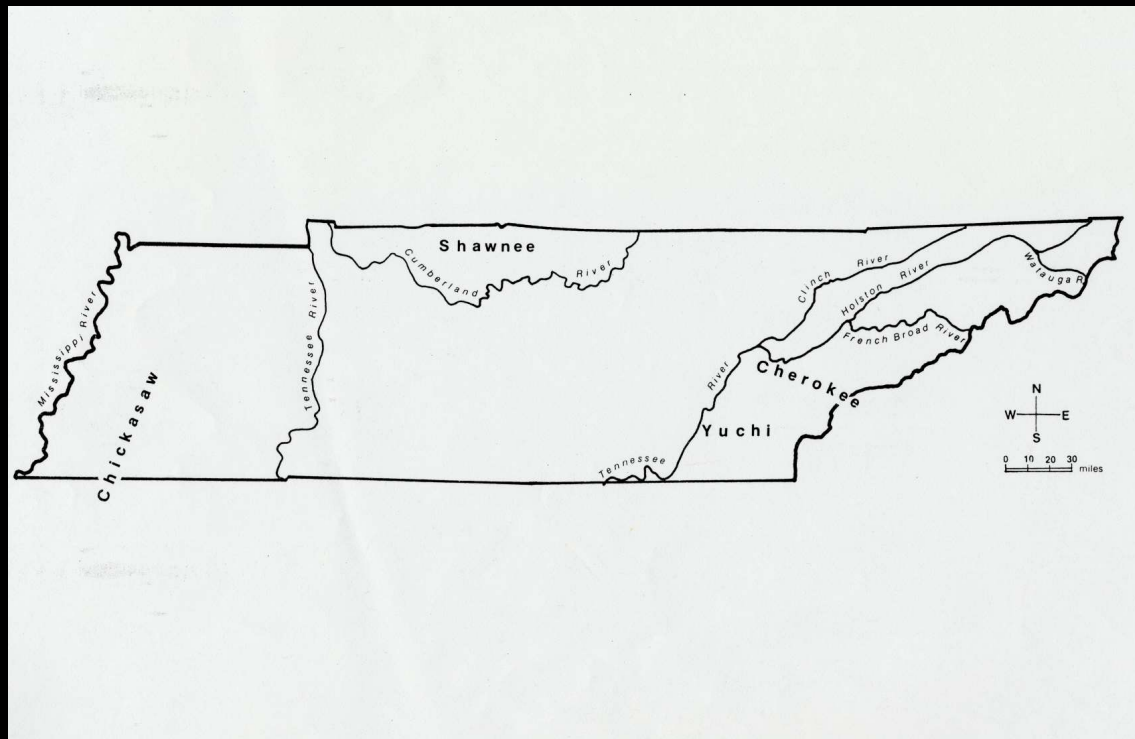
Historic Marker in the Williamsburg Subdivision, Brentwood



Areas in Middle Tennessee Where Stone Box Graves have been Found



Tribes in Tennessee at the Time of the European Encounter (c1530 CE)



Warioto:

*“...a region of primeval beauty - an undisturbed wilderness garden of nature, and many besides
—————~~the Shawnees coveted it~~—————”*

---John Egerton

Sellars Farm Mound, Wilson County

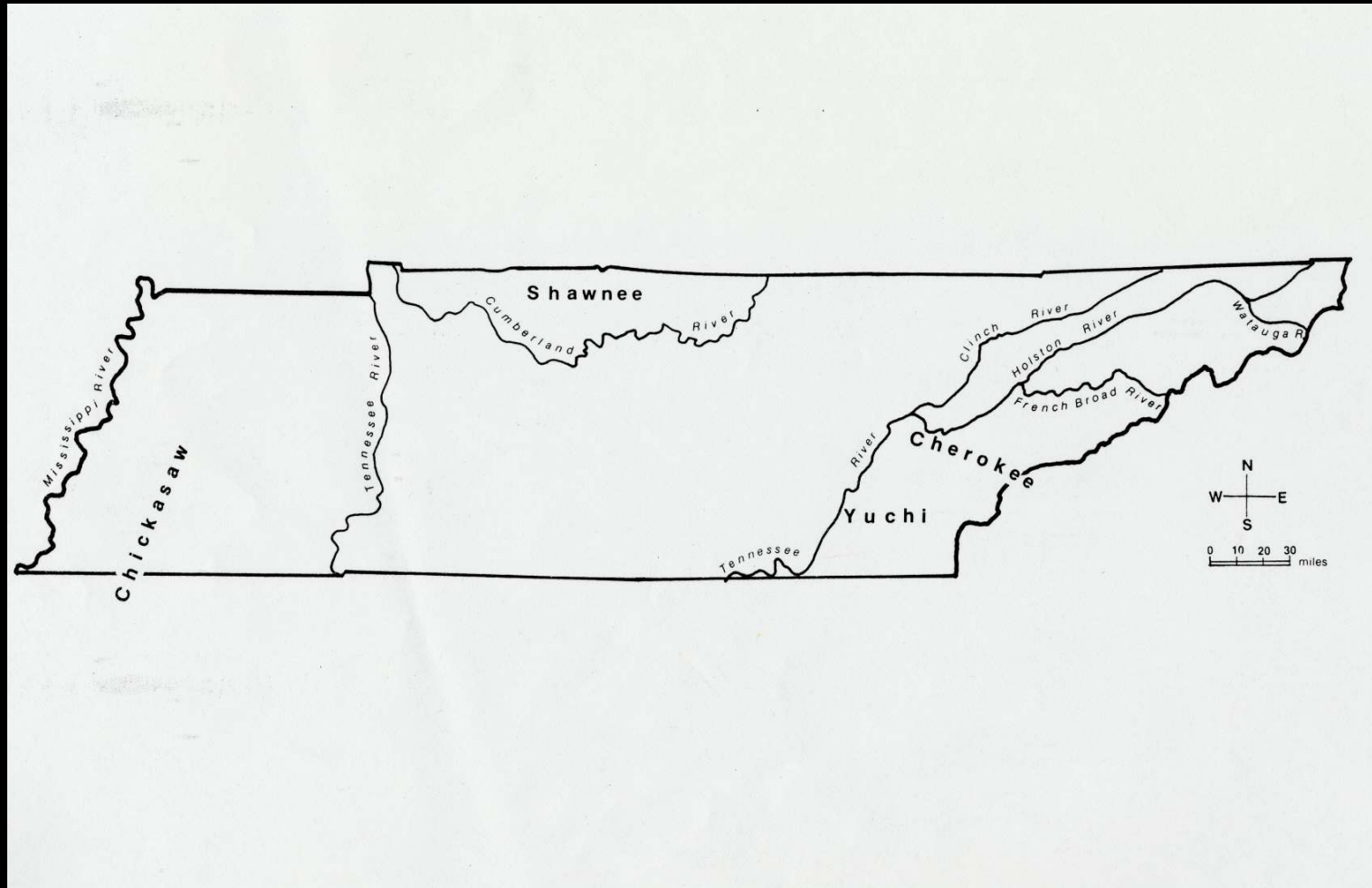


"Sandy", found at the Sellars Farm site
(Photo taken during Special Exhibit at Tennessee
State Museum, February 2016)

Davidson County Archaeological Sites

	Designation	Cultural affiliation(s)	Year(s) excavated	Status
East Nashville Mounds	40DV4	Mississippian	1868, 1992	
French Lick	40DV5	Archaic, Woodland, Mississippian	1821, 1860s, 1880s, 1992	
Widemeier Site	40DV9	Paleo-Indian, Archaic		
Traveller's Rest	40DV11	Mississippian		
Archaeological Site No. 40DV35	40DV35	Mississippian		
First American Cave, <u>Regions Center (Nashville)</u>	40DV40	Ice Age fauna, Woodland	1971	
Brick Church Mound and Village Site	40DV39	Mississippian	1877, 1969, 1971-2001	Destroyed for residential development
The Hermitage	40DV100	American plantation		Museum
The Ensworth School	40DV184	Paleoindian, Archaic, Mississippian	2003	Destroyed
Kelley's Battery	40DV392	Mississippian, American military		
Drennon Site	40DV447	Archaic, Woodland		
Hermitage Springs	40DV551	Archaic, Woodland		

Tribes in Tennessee at the Time of the European Encounter (c1530 CE)



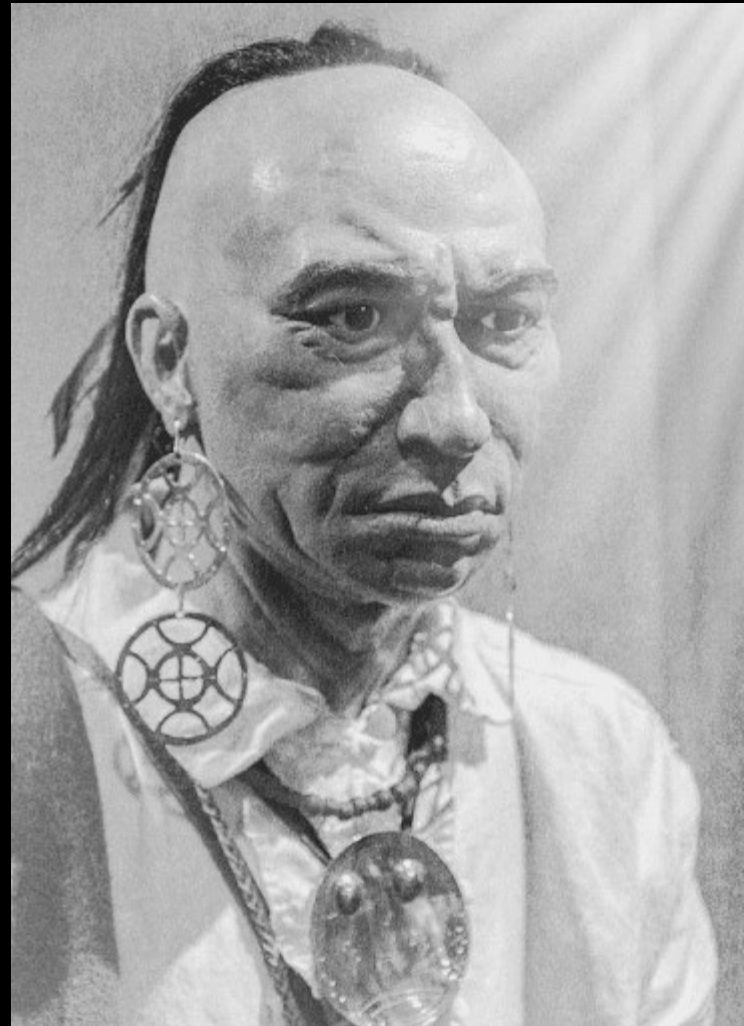


10K OUKAH U. AN | A SKAGHONK VAKTINCIZAN | TASHIOWE | A CLOGITTAN | A KOLLAVAN | FURVANTERPA | O QALCONO 4.

Oconastota



Tsiyu Gansini, (Dragging Canoe)



Source of image: <http://nativeamericannetroots.net/diary/1800>

Piomingo – Chickasaw Chieftan (Chief/Major William d'Blainville "Piomingo" Colbert)

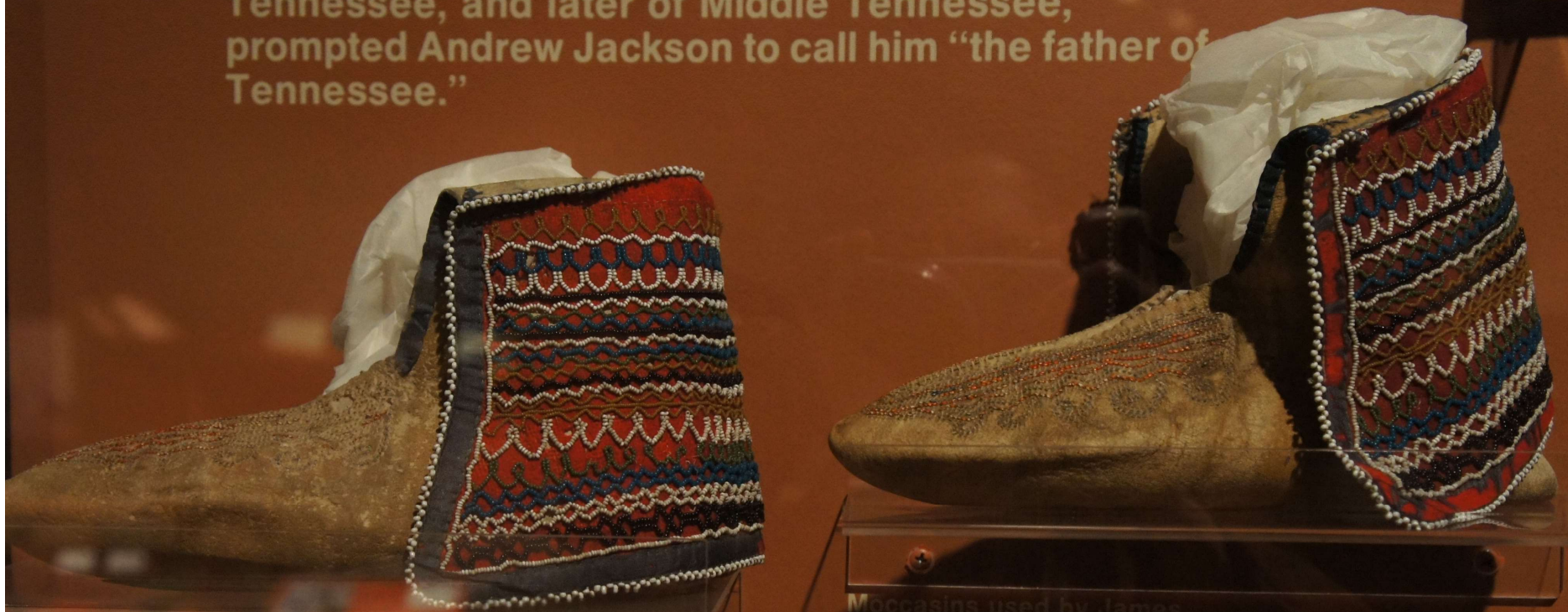


Sketch of a Chickasaw
by Bernard Romans, 1775



Source of Image from Tupelo City Hall:
<https://mississippihills.org/directory/chief-piomingo-statue/>

Robertson's leading role in the settlement of East Tennessee, and later of Middle Tennessee, prompted Andrew Jackson to call him "the father of Tennessee."



Moccasins used by James Robertson in treaty ceremonies with the Chickasaw Indians

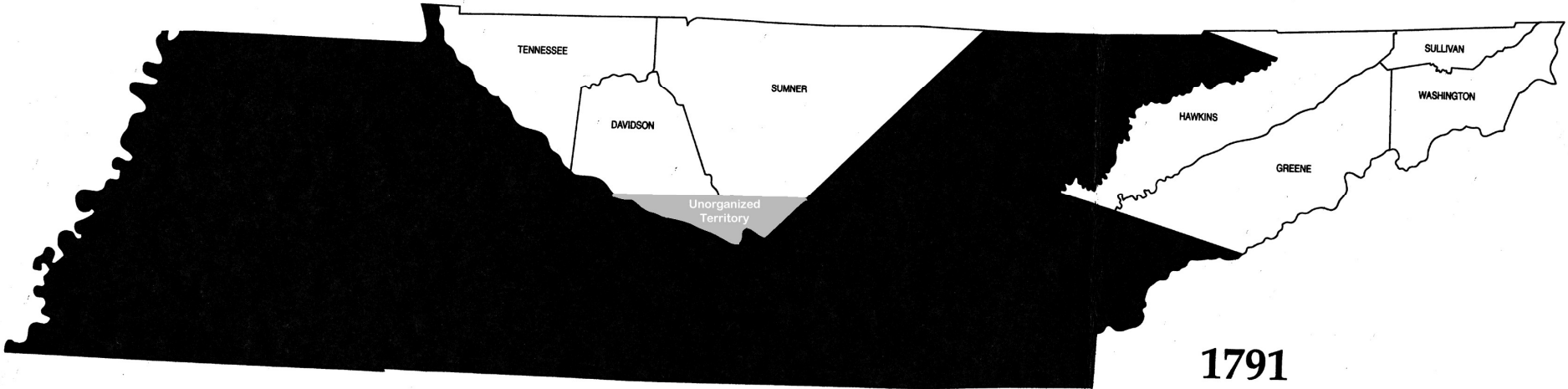
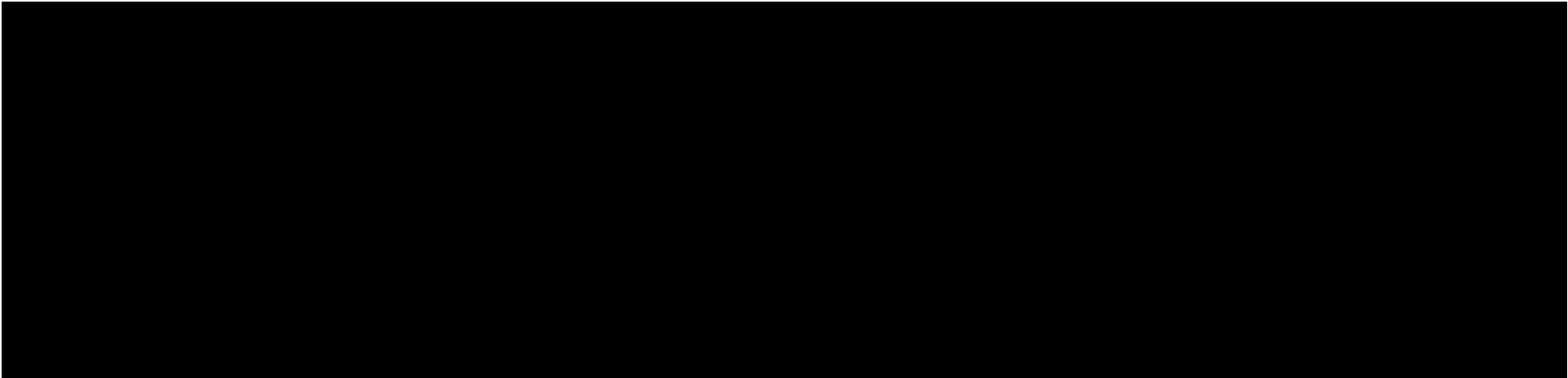


Beaded bag given to Charlotte Robertson by friendly Indians

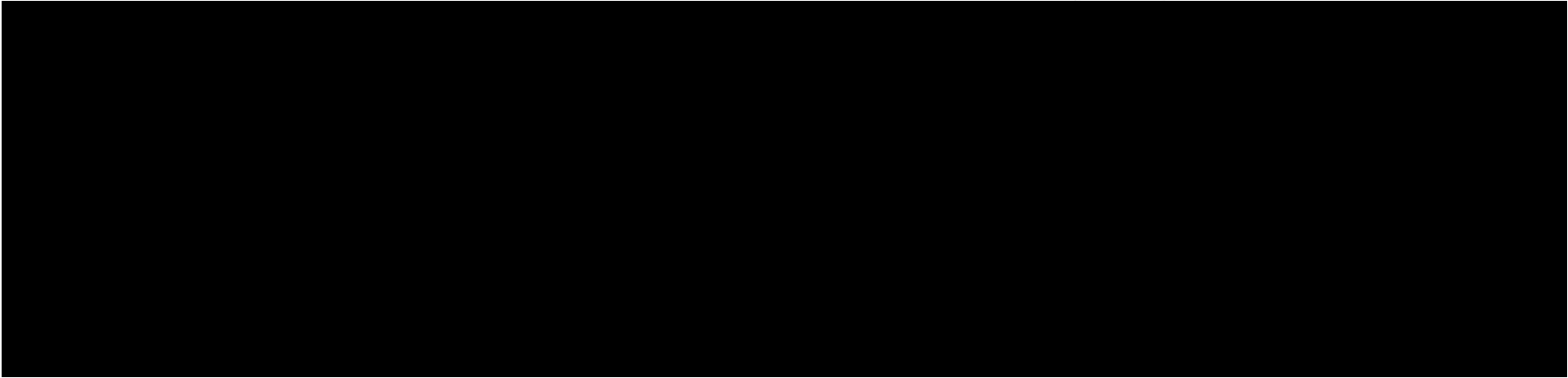


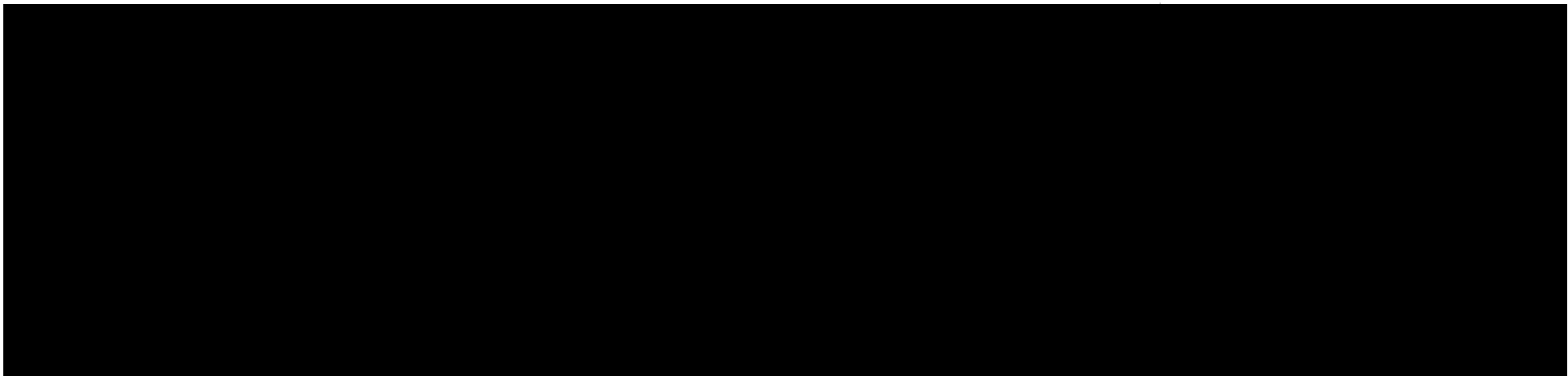
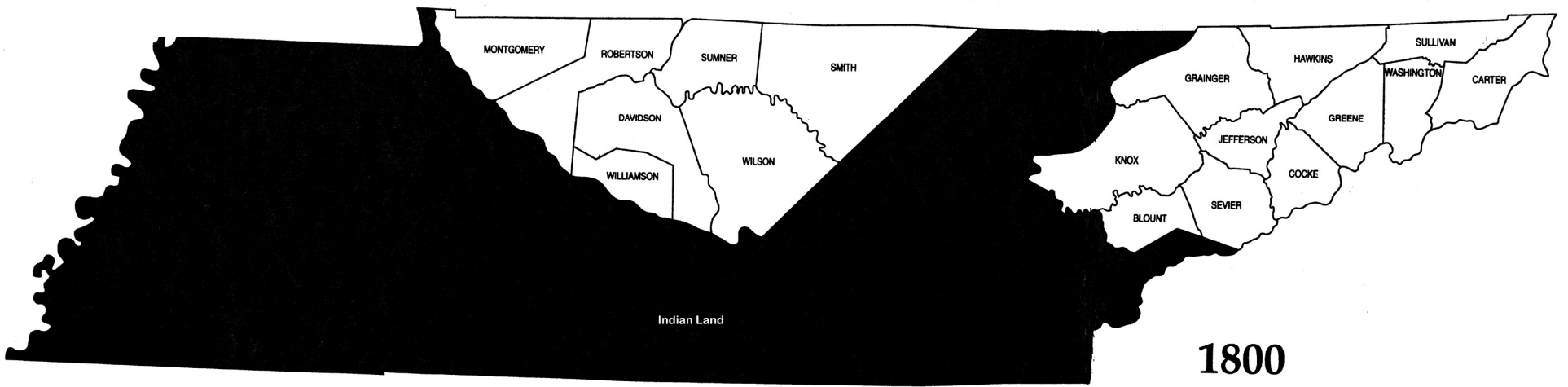
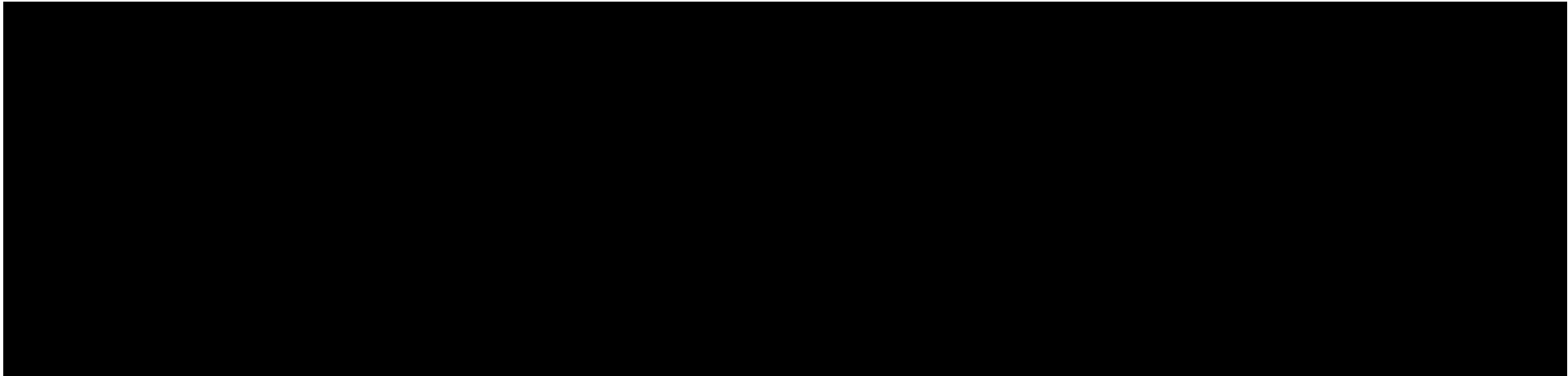
Beaded bag given to Charlotte Robertson by Piomingo, a Chickasaw Indian chief

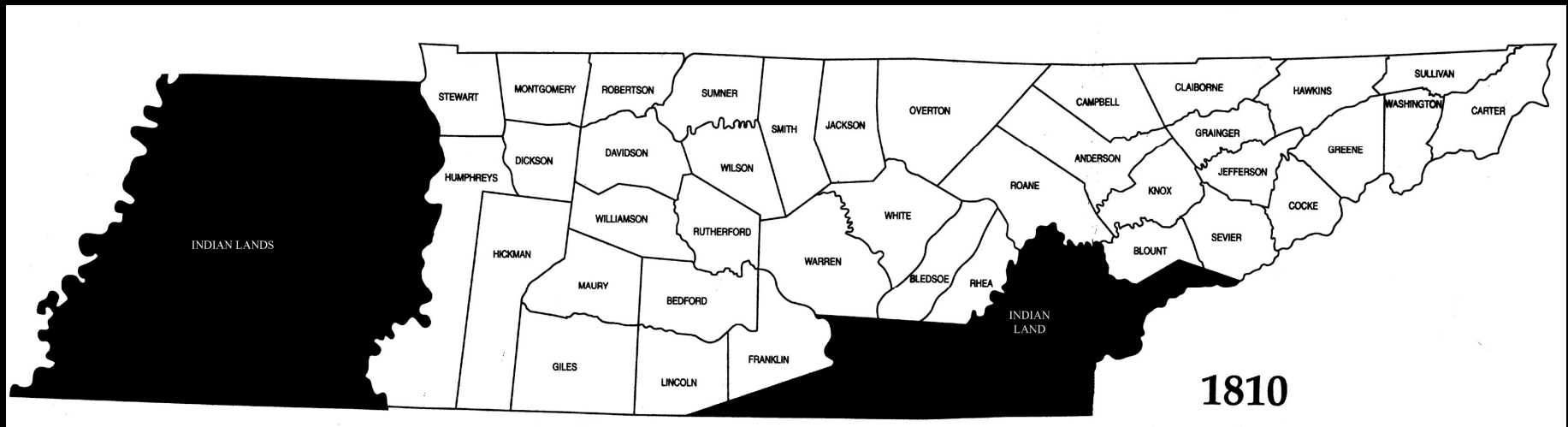
What happened to the Indians?



1791





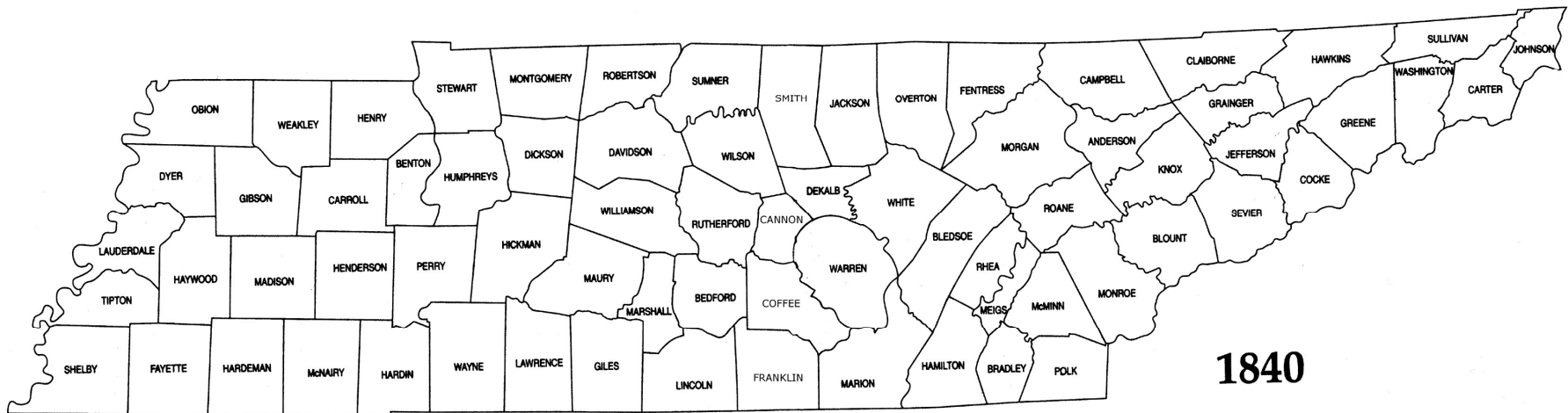




1820



1830



1840