

ITINERARY: THE HEARTLAND OF ANCIENT AMERICA

Here in southern and central Ohio, spectacular ancient cultures created the largest concentration of geometric earthen architecture in the world, and spread their cultural influence across much of the continent. Explore their vast and precise enclosures, effigies, embankments, and walled hilltops. Admire their dazzling art works preserved in area museums. Discover why Ohio was the cultural epicenter of North America two thousand years ago! Ancient Ohio Trail resources will help you discover the distinguished Native American heritage in the Midwest, to trace early settlement in the region, to gain rewarding insights from your visits to the ancient earthworks, and to enjoy yourself among Ohio's historic towns, scenic roads, and many distinctive cultural, artistic, and tourist amenities. This 15-part itinerary provides descriptions and directions, while our downloadable media segments (available now for 4 of the earthwork sites) will provide more resources to make your travel experiences in *Ancient Ohio* deeply rewarding and memorable. Most but not all of these routes and suggestions have been ground-tested or otherwise confirmed. Please contact us (john.hancock@uc.edu) with any additions, corrections, or suggestions. Opinions and selections do not necessarily coincide with those of all *Ancient Ohio Trail* collaborating agencies.

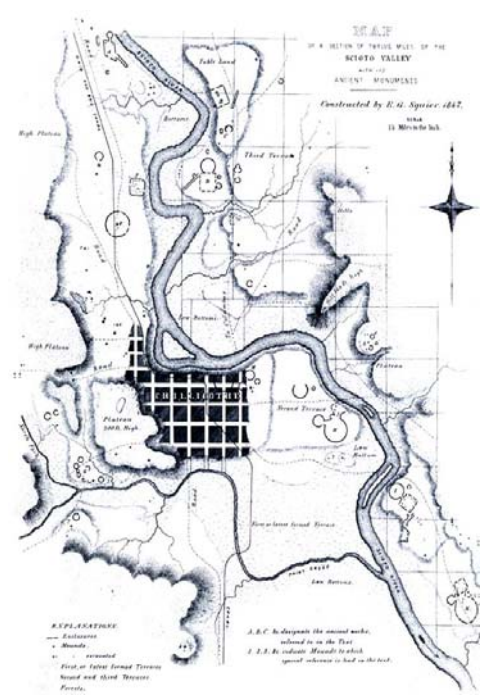


The Ancient Ohio Trail: 15 Route Segments, described here in detail

Getting Oriented: From the region's three international airports (Columbus CMH, Dayton DAY, and Greater Cincinnati CVG), or main interstate highways (I-70, I-71, and I-75) you'll connect quickly and easily to our *Ancient Ohio Trail* routes and destinations. Along with this itinerary, an essential companion is the comprehensive, multi-page DeLorme *OHIO Atlas and Gazetteer*, available at online or regional booksellers. Many of our route descriptions depend on its detailed maps for successful navigation. These 15 itinerary segments suggest many opportunities to extend, deepen, and customize your routes throughout the region. Use them in any order, and to plan any amount of exploration, from a few hours to two weeks or more.



Great Circle Earthworks, Newark



Chillicothe, 1848



Avery-Downer House, Granville



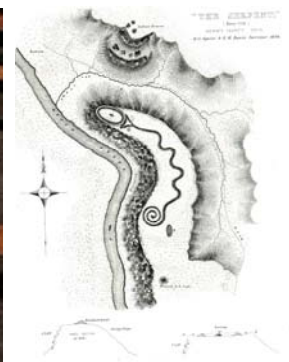
North Fort and Stone Mound, Fort Ancient



Octagon and Small Circle, Newark



Hopewell Copper (CERHAS image)



Serpent Mound (Squier+Davis)

Planning What to See: We describe here over sixty mounds, earthworks, and other sites evoking the Adena, Hopewell, and Fort Ancient cultures in the region. The four most significant (Newark, Mound City, Fort Ancient, and Serpent Mound) are on the US Department of Interior's list awaiting UNESCO World Heritage status,

and are not to be missed. Many towns in the region reflect their origins in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, when settlers from the newly independent United States of America first crossed over the mountains. Most traveled along the Ohio River, exploring its tributaries, encountering Native groups, marveling at the already-ancient architectural monuments, and establishing new settlements. Today, many of these places reflect a layered history: from antiquity through the 19th century, and into the modern era. Our ***Ancient Ohio Trail*** itineraries invite you to stay, eat, shop, explore, and relax in some of these wonderful historic places. Granville, Chillicothe, and Lebanon are especially convenient and pleasant bases for excursions to all the earthworks.

THE GREAT MIAMI VALLEY

Take US 50 (River Road) east from downtown Cincinnati. For detailed, on-the-road navigation throughout the whole Ancient Ohio Trail experience, we recommend the DeLorme *OHIO Atlas and Gazetteer*, available in regional bookstores.



Miami Fort Earthwork



Early Cabin, Shawnee Lookout Park

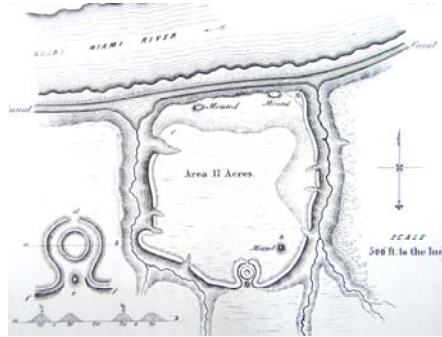
Shawnee Lookout Park and Miami Fort: The large county park encompasses a golf course and other modern amenities, amid steep bluffs overlooking the ominous smokestacks of a coal-burning power plant. The winding park drive ends beneath a narrow ridge on which the ancient Hopewell built a hilltop enclosure, still well preserved. Trails lead among the walls and gateways, some dropping into deep ravines, some creating water holding ponds similar to those at Fort Ancient. Professor Ken Tankersley of the University of Cincinnati has recently argued that the construction of these so-called “forts” had much to do with water management, and also that this design was more extensive than what was recorded on the best-known nineteenth-century map. It is possible to spot more wall segments hidden in the forests throughout the park, as well as some prominent mounds. Beyond the earthwork is one of the most spectacular vistas in all of southern Ohio: at the tip of this steep, isolated promontory is a panorama out over the vast confluence of the Great Miami and the Ohio Rivers, and the wooded hills and fields of three states. Significant Native American habitations from all eras have been investigated here; migrating birds of many types still use this valley as a major landmark.

Harrison Tomb; Canal Tunnel: In the nearby village of North Bend, where US 50 is joined by Brower and Cliff Roads, is the monument to William Henry Harrison, a military and political leader in the years before Indiana and Ohio became states, and later our nation’s ninth president (though for only a few months). While living in the Cincinnati area he remarked on the extensive earthen “lines and figures” that covered the basin where the oldest parts of the city now stand. Across US 50 from his monument, near the intersection of Miami and Wamsley Avenues in Cleves, is a historic marker and pathway leading to the Cincinnati Whitewater Canal Tunnel,

built in the 1830s to complete the waterway connecting Cincinnati and eastern Indiana. Only 12 such canal tunnels were built nationwide; only 4 remain. This one is gradually being restored; a path leads to the partially-submerged east entry archway, built with Buena Vista stone quarried far away near Portsmouth, Ohio.



Fernald Preserve Visitors Center



Squier and Davis Plate VIII #1



Fairfield Township Earthworks

The Fernald Preserve; White Water Shaker Village: Follow the Great Miami River route (SR 128) northward. Between Miamitown and Ross (left on Willey Road) the Fernald Preserve covers a large, flat terrace above the river. This is the reclaimed site of a Cold-War-era uranium processing plant, now restored to the ecological conditions of the prairie that was here when white settlers first arrived in the very early 1800s. Exhibits in the impressive visitors' center retell the story of the Cold War, the pride of the workers, the national scandal over radioactive leaks from the plant, and the astonishing abundance of wildlife that has returned. Trails explore the locations of the many contaminated buildings and stockpiles, now marked by eerily rectilinear ponds. On-site disposal of much of the lower-level contaminated materials resulted in the gigantic, hermetically-sealed mound dominating the eastern horizon. Earth architecture again speaks of eternity, as the Department of Energy's Legacy Management division will be monitoring the water and the aquifer beneath the mound forever. Three miles west of Fernald, along Oxford Road above New Haven, are several surviving buildings from the Central and North Families of the White Water Shaker Village, one of thirteen settlements across New England and the Midwest planned by this industrious nineteenth-century sect.

Hamilton and the Fairfield Township Earthworks: About 4 miles northeast of the city of Hamilton's pretty waterfront and historic downtown, along SR 4, lies the Rentschler Forest Preserve. Enter via Reigart Road for the picturesque canal remnants along the riverbank. Trails explore two adjacent, flat-topped, wooded terraces; the eastern one is the earthwork site. For shorter access to the earthwork, continue along Route 4 to the next intersection where, off Rentschler Estates Drive, is a parking lot beside a large, old barn. The "Earthwork Trail" skirts a large meadow before entering the forest, where a small ravine appears on the left. Just beyond, a large section of the earthwork appears among the trees on the right. This is the enclosure shown in Squier and Davis's Plate VIII, Number 1, and its most distinctive feature remains intact: the earthen ring embraced by two arcs, forming an elaborate gateway. A bench and small sign provide orientation.

Germantown and the Carlisle Fort Earthworks: Off of SR 4 about 2 miles south of Germantown, the Twin Rivers Metro Park covers bluff land overlooking Twin Creek. A trail from the south parking lot off Chamberlain Road leads in about one-third of a mile to the Carlisle Fort Earthworks, where surviving Hopewell era embankment walls 3 to 4 feet high partially enclose a roughly rectangular wooded hilltop. The trail enters the woods and skirts the southern arm of the earthwork, which culminates in a sharply-pointed gateway atop one of several dramatic, razor-back ridges. Portions of the eastern and northern walls are also visible among the trees as the trail loops back toward a large meadow. Using remote sensing equipment, Dr. Jarrod Burks has located traces of two partial circles in the middle of this meadow (not visible), associated with earthwork's long-lost gateways.



Carlisle Fort Earthworks



Miamisburg Mound

Miamisburg and its Mound: Crowning a hilltop park southeast from Miamisburg's quaint, historic downtown, the Miamisburg Mound is one of the two largest burial mounds in North America, and certainly the most spectacularly situated. Its 70-foot-high mass contains 54,000 cubic yards of earth. Excavations here have connected it with the Adena Culture. There were at least two burial vaults: one eight feet from the top containing a bark-covered grave, and another 36 feet down with a log chamber but containing no remains. Climbing the 116 steps to the top affords a splendid view of the surrounding 36-acre park and the Great Miami River watershed almost in its entirety, from the hills and valleys west of Cincinnati to the skyscrapers of downtown Dayton. The sweeping views explain why this high, prominent hilltop was important to the builders, and perhaps why they went to all this effort to magnify it with such a large mound. (The only larger Adena burial mound in existence is the Grave Creek Mound, in Moundsville, West Virginia, located on the Ohio River 15 miles south of Wheeling.)

Eating and Sleeping: In Ross, just above the intersection of US 27 and SR 128, Boston Butz serves superb home-made barbecue pork in many forms. Miamisburg, Germantown, and Hamilton offer café's, both local and chain varieties. For superb Provencal fare, try Rue Dumaine Restaurant in Centerville, just east of Miamisburg on SR 725 (937 610 1061).

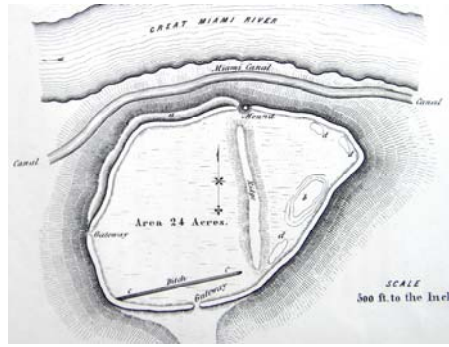
DAYTON

From Miamisburg, enter Dayton via SR 741 and Carillon Park, or cross to the opposite bank of the river to take in SunWatch Village enroute. Otherwise, Dayton is easily accessed from I-70 or I-75.

Calvary Cemetery and Earthworks; Carillon Historical Park: The large Catholic cemetery off of South Patterson Boulevard, about three miles south of downtown Dayton, occupies the site of the hilltop earthwork shown in Squier and Davis's Plate VIII, Number 4. From among the beautiful rolling drives and monuments in the northern section, along St. Joseph Drive, glimpses and now-obscured trails into the woods lead to remnants of the northern walls along the steeply rolling bluff-top. Enter behind the Nash Obelisk, past a huge Burr Oak to explore. Interpreting the early drawing, the earthwork apparently encircled much of the modern cemetery. Below, and reachable by car, is the Carillon Historical Park, a collection of early settlement structures and exhibits including Newcom's Tavern (Dayton's oldest, from 1796), plus the original Wright Flyer III of 1905. The staff at Carillon Park are preparing trails (from below) to the surviving remnants of the earthwork.



Calvary Cemetery, Dayton



Squier and Davis Plate VIII #4



SunWatch Village

SunWatch Village Archaeological Park: SunWatch is a National Historic Landmark, and through reconstructions as well as museum exhibits a visit to the site gives an excellent idea of Indian town life in the last centuries before European contact, when the so-called “Fort Ancient” culture occupied the central Ohio River Valley (from what is now southeastern Indiana east to modern day West Virginia) and practiced intensive farming. Several houses and poles are re-erected on the 800-year-old remains, based on exact post mold locations discovered during archaeological investigations. The quality of the houses, with their wattle and daub walls and thick thatched roofs, suggest a remarkable level of comfort. The modern name “SunWatch” is derived from the relationships among pole locations, certain house doorways, and the positions of shadows cast by the rising sun at different times of the year, apparently the society’s way of marking out a calendar for agricultural and ceremonial purposes. Native American events, gatherings, and ceremonies are still held regularly at SunWatch.

Dayton Aviation: Using the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park (16 South Williams Street, 45402) as a point of orientation, it is possible to visit four important sites commemorating the legacy of local bicycle makers and flight pioneers Orville and Wilbur Wright: the Wright Cycle Company complex, the Wright Brothers Aviation Center at Carillon Park (also mentioned above), the Huffman Prairie Flying Field and Interpretive Center on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and the Paul Laurence Dunbar House. Also at the Air Force Base is the National Museum of the United States Air Force.



Clifton Mill



Falls of the Little Miami, Clifton Gorge

Yellow Springs and Clifton Gorge: Home to Antioch College, an impressive cultural life, and a lively village center, Yellow Springs is a former spa, and today serves as a good point of departure for Glen Helen Park, John Bryan State Park, and Clifton Gorge. These offer excellent recreational opportunities including hiking and bike trails, a covered bridge, and a mound. Clifton Gorge is especially spectacular: its steep canyon cliffs, rushing waterfalls, and hiking trails are reached

from South Jackson Street in the tiny village of Clifton (4 miles east of Yellow Springs), and hidden by towering 300-year-old trees. The 110-foot, sheer-rock gorge was once named by *National Geographic* as one of the nation's 50 most beautiful places. Adjacent to the gorge is the historic Clifton Mill, among America's oldest and largest water-powered grist mills. One of several industrial operations built in the early 1800s to take advantage of the gorge's rushing water, the mill is now home to the Millrace Restaurant.

Eating and Sleeping: The Winds Café in Yellow Springs is a casual fine dining restaurant with a seasonal menu and frequent special events (937 767 1144); Ye Olde Trail Tavern is nearby, occupying the oldest building in the village (937 767 7448). The Mill Race Restaurant in the old Clifton Mill serves home-cooked pastries, breakfasts, and lunches, including that regional specialty of Indian origin, cornmeal mush (937 767 5501). Dayton's historic Oregon District (south of Fifth Street between Patterson and Wayne, dating to 1829) has many eateries, notably Jay's Seafood Restaurant at 225 East Sixth Street (937 222 7547). Rooms are available at the nearby Inn Port Guesthouse at 137-9 Brown Street (937 224 7678).

LEBANON AND POLLOCK

Reach Lebanon from I-71 (exit 28 or 32), or via SR 741 and SR 123 from Dayton.

Lebanon: This small, picturesque city presents the opportunity to stay, drink, and eat at the historic Golden Lamb Inn, dating from 1803, and to use this as an "early Ohio" base for exploring all of the southwestern part of the state. This is Ohio's longest-running Inn: its guest rooms and restaurant having hosted presidents and many other distinguished guests. Along well-preserved, tree-lined downtown streets are many cafés, antique and specialty shops, and other amenities. On weekends, a scenic railroad tour embarks from the nearby station for Mason and Monroe. Two blocks from the Golden Lamb is one of Ohio's finest Greek Revival mansions, now open as a museum: "Glendower" was built in 1840 for one of the framers of the state's constitution, and has exceptional architectural details. For more information on amenities here, contact the Warren County Convention and Visitors Bureau at: <http://www.ohioslargestplayground.com/>.



The Golden Lamb Inn, Lebanon



Waynesville



Jonathan Wright House, Springboro

Waynesville: Just above Lebanon, this village is a major antiques capital with more than fifty shops, most of them clustered along the well-preserved Main Street. Nearby is the scenic Caesar Creek Gorge, with tall cliffs along a two-mile stretch of the river, and abundant flora, fauna, and fossils. The adjacent State Park has a large lake and a reconstructed pioneer village. The nearby lakeside village of Harveysburg (an early Quaker settlement) is now best known as the home of the Ohio Renaissance Festival every September and October.

Springboro: A National Register Historic District encompasses the heart of Springboro. A walking tour of this small town, including its historical society (513 748 0916) will include many houses identified as stations on the Underground Railroad. As many as 4,000 slaves came through Springboro on their flight to freedom. Visit the Null Log House, built in 1798, with a hiding area in the basement. Expert guides are available to escort you through this Quaker community, with its old cemetery. Among the historic structures in Springboro is the Jonathan Wright House, built for the town's founder in 1815 and with one of the most authentic slave hiding places in the state. It is now a Bed-and-Breakfast.

Xenia and the Kinsey Road Mound: Take US 42 two miles northeast from the Xenia Courthouse and turn left on Stephenson Road, then left again on Kinsey. In the new subdivision on the left, find the cul-de-sac Mound Court, off of which is the well-preserved Kinsey Road Mound, still complete with its pronounced, Adena-era, surrounding ditch and ring. From here, continue on back roads for a visit to Wilberforce University, the first private, African American college in the country. It was founded in 1856 while Ohio's active underground railroad routes were still in operation. Two covered bridges cross Massie's Creek between here and the Pollock Earthworks.



Pollock Earthworks, CERHAS Rendering



Rock Shelter, Pollock



Earthwork Gateway, Pollock

Pollock Earthworks and Williamson Mound: Just outside of Cedarville on US 42 is Indian Mound Reserve. From the parking lot, next to a log cabin, a walking trail leads across Massie's Creek and up the hill to reach the large, conical, Adena culture Williamson Mound at the peak of the hill. The top of the mound may be reached by a flight of stone steps. Another marked path heads east from the parking lot into the woods. At about 600 feet, the pathway rises across the southernmost of three gateways of the Pollock Earthworks. This series of Hopewell-era earthen walls and gateways can be seen to the left, radiocarbon dated to the first-to-third centuries AD. The site was systematically studied by archaeologist Dr. Bob Riordan. Over 20 years of excavations, his team discovered an elaborate construction sequence: The stone and earthen gateways were briefly protected by a high wooden stockade, which was then burned and quickly buried by its builders. On its other three sides, the plateau is surrounded by often dramatic, sheer stone cliffs. Wooded trails lead past rock shelters where many ancient remains have been found, along the beautiful creek, and among evidence of early 20th century quarrying and abandoned industrial waterworks.

Eating and Sleeping: In Waynesville, the Hammel House Inn (built in 1817 and 1822, replacing an even older tavern on the same site) offers five overnight guestrooms and a restaurant (513 897 2333). In Springboro is the historic Wright House Bed & Breakfast (937 748 0801). In Lebanon, of course, is the legendary Golden Lamb Inn (513 932 5065) with 18 famed guest rooms and a large and busy restaurant serving an excellent American menu. Also in Lebanon is the 1885 Queen

Anne II Bed-and-Breakfast, in a lovely residential district a short walk south of downtown (513 932 3836).

CINCINNATI and the LITTLE MIAMI VALLEY

Enter and leave Cincinnati via US 50 (east through Mariemont and Milford, or west via Shawnee Lookout Park), or by using I-75, I-74, or I-71.

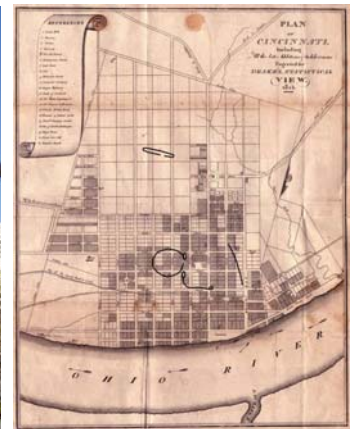
Cincinnati: This modern city has many fine museums, hotels, and restaurants. The newly-renovated Fountain Square and the Art Deco masterpiece Netherland Hotel form the heart of downtown, and stand where an elliptical earthwork once dominated this high Ohio River terrace (as shown on Dr. Daniel Drake's 1815 map). William Henry Harrison remarked that the otherwise unrecorded geometric earthwork lines across the landscape seemed "almost endless". Surviving mounds occupy prominent sites in several Cincinnati neighborhoods. The most dramatic is the enigmatic, elliptical Norwood Mound, about six miles up US 22 (Gilbert Avenue, then Montgomery Road) where, by the Mound Café, Indian Mound Avenue leads to a small alley on the right between two houses. The tall, oval mound stands near a water tank, emphasizing the prominence of this spot overlooking an ancient, pre-glacial course of the Ohio River.



Cincinnati's Skyline at Sunrise



Fountain Square



Daniel Drake's 1815 Map

Cincinnati's Museums: The Cincinnati Museum Center is housed in the architecturally-spectacular train station of 1931, and presents excellent nature, culture, history, and archaeology exhibits, including impressive collections of Adena and Hopewell-era artifacts. The National Underground Railroad and Freedom Center and the Cincinnati Art Museum also depict important historical narratives; while the exquisite Taft Museum collections are housed in an 1806 Federal Style mansion at the end of Fourth Street downtown. The main campus of the University of Cincinnati (on the hill, two miles north of downtown) is artfully knitted together with avant-garde, earthworks-inspired, sculpted landscape features.

Mariemont and Newtown: With street names in its southern residential areas like Midden Way, Cachepit Way, and Flintpoint Way, the idyllic, 1930s, English-style village of Mariemont is also a distinguished archaeological site. Along Miami Bluff Drive, a large, ancient earthwork wall remains visible among the trees. At the lower end of the street a historical marker commemorates the "Madisonville Site" where decisive archaeological discoveries were made, demonstrating the importance of this high terrace location in antiquity. The picturesque village center offers food and lodging. Across the valley is Newtown, where Round Bottom Road passes the Odd-Fellows Cemetery, centered on a large, tree-covered burial mound. Three miles farther out, behind a railroad overpass near the corner of Mount Carmel and Round Bottom Roads, the vast overgrown gravel pits were once the spectacular Turner Earthworks from which came some of the Hopewell culture's most spectacular artistry, including clay figurines, the mica serpent, and an effigy of a

strange horned creature. Small sections of the earthwork remain but are inaccessible.



Mariemont's "Old Town Center"



Mariemont Earthwork



Turner Earthworks (CERHAS)

Fosters and Stubbs Earthworks: Continuing along back-roads up the Little Miami Valley, Milford and Terrace Park are at the center of what was once a large complex of earthworks comparable to those in Newark or the Scioto Valley. The hill just above historic Main Street in Milford (with ample café's, shops, and galleries) was crowned by a strange, long, fan-shaped figure (Squier and Davis' Plate XXXIV No. 1; No. 2A was somewhere across the river). Above Loveland, beneath the high bridge carrying US 22 over the Little Miami, are the remains of the village of Foster, mainly an oddly-detailed, stone tavern building with a gazebo beside the river. Though not yet open to the public, the Foster's Earthworks enclose the opposite hilltop and, as Frederic Ward Putnam discovered in the 1890s, contain extensive, superheated fire chambers and stone-lined tunnels within the walls. Farther up US 22, about 2 miles before the village of Morrow, is the Little Miami High School, built about a decade ago on the site of the Stubbs Earthworks. A low, irregular (perhaps effigy) mound lies in the school's circular entry drive. About where the outdoor grandstands are now, Dr. Frank Cowan and his team from the Cincinnati Museum Center discovered the giant "Woodhenge", a precise ring of telephone-pole-sized timbers more than 240 feet in diameter, its location corresponding to the small earthen ring drawn on Whittlesey's 1819 plan. The surrounding fields and hilltops have given up unusually dense concentrations of flint chips and evidence of habitation.

Eating and Sleeping: In Mariemont there's the fine Quarter Bistro for lunch and a nearby outlet to sample Cincinnati's world-famous Graeter's Ice Cream. An overnight stay can be had amidst all this "English village" ambience at the Tudor-styled Mariemont Inn Best Western (513 271 2100). Downtown Cincinnati has many hotels, notably the spectacular Netherland Hilton at Fifth and Race Streets (513 421 9100), and superb restaurants such as Via Vite overlooking Fountain Square (513 721 8483). Food and lodging chains of all kinds are plentiful along US 22 and I-71 between I-275 and South Lebanon (exit 28).

FORT ANCIENT

Reach Fort Ancient via back roads along the Little Miami from Morrow, or SR 350 from the east or west, or using exits 32 or 36 off of I-71.

Fort Ancient State Memorial: The most spectacular and well-preserved of the Hopewell-era hilltop enclosures rings more than 100 acres, high above the narrow valley of the Little Miami River. This structure was built in the second or third century AD, and consists of a sinuous embankment system designed with earth, stone, and water, and with neither a mortuary nor a defensive purpose. The broad North Fort contains a new museum and period garden with a reconstructed

Hopewell house, plus the site's highest walls (to the east) and deepest walled ravines (to the west). The walls enclose four stone-covered mounds in the shape of a perfect square, with astronomical alignments that inspire a sunrise gathering here every June 21. Entry to the older South Fort is marked by an impressive narrow gateway, with nearby mounds, crescents, and pavements. The site's most dramatic feature is the monumental South Gate, reached by a forested pathway. Remains of an almost-continuous necklace of ancient, clay-lined ponds are visible inside the walls and between the gateways.



Fort Ancient, CERHAS image



Twin Mounds, Fort Ancient

Fort Ancient Video Segments: A set of short videos are downloadable from the **FORT ANCIENT** page include an introduction to the site that begins with its visibility from the I-71 bridge [FA-01 Fort Ancient], presentations of several of the site's main features [FA-02 Great Gate; FA-04 Walls and Water; FA-11 South Gate; FA-15 The Foursquare; FA-19 Forts?; and FA-52 Mounds], and general discussions of why the ancients may have built monuments with links to astronomy [GE-01 Ancient Observatories], how modern Native traditions view the moon [GE-02 Moon], and the general Hopewell-era practices of ringing high places with earth [GE-16 Hopewell Hilltops].

The Approaches: State Route 350 passes through the North Fort. Arriving from the west, the road first drops into the steep wooded gorge of the Little Miami River, then passes an old schoolhouse structure on the right, and crosses the river. At the top of the bluff on the other side, the road runs directly through one of Fort Ancient's 67 gateways and enters the broad, open North Fort. A small crescent, and the undulating walls, are visible on the left. From I-71 Exit 36, the route passes over the subtle rise of ground once marked by the long, parallel walls (a farm yard on the left was the location of the ringed mound), before making a right turn onto SR 350 and passing between the monumental Twin Mounds, signaling one of the sites three grand gateways.

The North Fort, Foursquare, and Moorehead Circle: The eastern walls of the North Fort, near the Twin Mounds, are the tallest of the site's embankments. Near the Museum is one of the stone-covered mounds that form a perfect 512-foot square, but make your way to the one just beyond the ticket booth and the driveway. From there the geometric precision of the square becomes clear, and the view opens up through the gateway that frames the summer solstice sunrise (the trees have been cleared all the way to the horizon). Along the north edge of the North Fort, the walls frame a beautiful, forested ravine; along the west they fall steeply into deep, dramatic ravines which they were designed to cross over in order to create ponds. In the field west of the ticket booth, recent excavations led by Dr. Bob Riordan have uncovered a complex "woodhenge" (called the Moorehead Circle after the early Ohio Archaeologist Warren K. Moorehead), with a burned red clay central feature and parallel rows of stone-lined trenches.



North Fort and Stone Mound, Fort Ancient



Passage Gateway, Fort Ancient

The Museum and Visitors Center: The Ohio Historical Society and the Dayton Society of Natural History maintain this as the “Gateway Site” for all of their ancient Ohio stories. Exhibits provide an overview of the site and Ohio’s ancient cultures. A garden and reconstructed Hopewell-era house add to the interpretive stories about everyday life for the earthwork builders, including their development of agriculture. In the woods near the museum are stone paved rings.

The Passage, Crescents, and Great Gate: The slim neck leading toward the older South Fort is punctuated by beautiful earthen crescents, and is the best place to view the variety of wall shapes and gateway configurations. Dr. Robert Connolly believes that much of this connector was artificially built up to make a level connection between the two sections of the site. The passage road culminates in the tight, impressive Great Gate, just beyond which are a mound and more stone pavements.



Shadows, Fort Ancient



South Gate, Fort Ancient



Ponds, Fort Ancient (CERHAS image)

The South Gate: The site’s most dramatic and monumental feature is the South Gate, which is forest covered yet can be reached by a pathway along the forest edge, beyond the large parking lot in the South Fort. Its design contrasts with that of the later North Gate – both are a combination of walls and mounds, but here the mounds are placed on top of the walls. (For the later North Fort, the designers not only made the walls facing the plateau the tallest, but placed the Twin Mounds outside, in front of the wall.) Remains of the stone-paved avenue from the elevated South Gate down to the river can be found among the underbrush, as can the stone coverings on much of the walls’ exterior surfaces throughout the site.

The Water and Pavement Features: An almost-continuous necklace of clay-lined ponds parallels the walls on the inside. The ancients were designing with systematic and complex formal combinations, using earth and water, symmetry and rhythm,

ramps, passages, and exterior mounds, in order to create this vast ceremonial enclosure. Views of the Little Miami River and its gorge from the western corners of the South Fort remind us of the special prominence of this location, and how important it must have been to create such an elevated, sacred place, with such a strong visual tie to the river below. Though hard to see due to overgrowth, many rings, circles, and pathways within the Fort, as well as wall surfaces, were paved in limestone slabs brought up from the riverbed below.

The South Fort and Beyond: The term “fort” is a nineteenth-century misnomer, as there is no evidence this enclosed hilltop was ever used for defense, nor were the populations large enough to defend it effectively. Also, very few burials were found near the walls, although traditional (and probably earlier) burial mounds dot the nearby hilltops and ridges. Extensive and sometimes more obscure trails lead to other site features: more of the walled ravines, a set of carved terraces along the hillside above the river, and a variety of the ancients’ techniques for situating the wall-ditch combination relative to the edge of the natural plateau (sometimes on, sometimes below, sometimes above).

Camp Kern: Operated by the YMCA of Greater Dayton, Camp Kern offers thrilling zip-line tours of the forest canopy and river valley, reached by paths (from the old Schoolhouse down near the river) that also lead to the two ancient stone serpent effigies that lie in the valley across from Fort Ancient and also mark solar alignments.

Eating and Sleeping: Hiking, biking, and canoeing facilities are available just below Fort Ancient beside the river. Directions to nearby eating or sleeping (probably scant) could also be requested at Morgan’s Canoe Livery (513 932 7658), some perhaps reachable by bicycle along the beautifully re-purposed rail-bed paralleling the river.

SERPENT MOUND

Leave the Cincinnati area via US Highway 50 (through Mariemont and Milford), then detour right on SR 286 to approach the Fort Salem Earthworks enroute to Hillsboro or Serpent Mound. From Fort Ancient, take SR 350 east, then SR 73 through New Vienna and Hillsboro.



Mound, Fort Salem



Cabin, Coyote Creek Farm

Fort Salem Earthworks: This remote yet well-preserved site is located at 4206 Certier Road, halfway between Rtes 131 and 138, twelve and a half miles southwest of Hillsboro. A small parking lot and prominent sign stand at the northern end of

the earthwork. Also known as the Workman Works, it consists of conjoined mounds together with a 450-foot circular ditched earthwork. The site was recently preserved through a partnership between the Archaeological Conservancy and the landowner. Its remote location bridges the two dominant Adena and Hopewell cultural regions, the Little Miami and Scioto valleys. It was likely built between 50 BC and AD 500. The earthworks stand in a beautiful grove of giant beech trees, on land which, though pastured, was never plowed, and has never been excavated. Below the steep embankment on the eastern side of the site is a sharp bend in the creek, where remnants of a stone dam define a pond favored by masses of turtles, raising the question whether the double mound may be a turtle effigy.

Hillsboro: Heading east from either Cincinnati or Fort Ancient, across the fertile farmland and prairies, there are many remote routes and tiny villages to explore as the landscape gradually transitions toward the hilly Appalachian plateau. The Highland County Seat of Hillsboro is centered on a gem of a Greek Revival courthouse (the oldest in continuous use in Ohio), the brick and stone trimmed opulence of Bell's Opera House (slowly undergoing restoration), and a fine collection of period specimen houses and churches along the main roads north and east from the Square. East of Hillsboro, watch for the sharply rising edge of the Appalachian Plateau, and the fundamental geological and ecological changes that accompany it. Many of Ancient Ohio's greatest earthwork monuments are clustered along this natural seam, where multiple resources and landscape ecologies could be harvested and celebrated.

Nature in Adams County: Central and southern Adams County (south from Serpent Mound) offer unique nature preserves and activities, including canoe excursions on the upper and lower Ohio Brush Creek between Serpent Mound and the Ohio River; the 88-acre Davis Memorial nature preserve with rugged dolomite cliffs, rich forests, and prairie openings (near Peebles: Davis Memorial Road, 2 ½ miles east of Steam Furnace Road); the Edge of Appalachia Preserve, owned and managed by the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History and Science and the Nature Conservancy; the Lynx Prairie Preserve (trail entrance behind Easy Liberty Church off Tulip Road, near Lynx); and Buzzard Roost Rock Preserve offering scenic vistas high above Ohio Brush Creek (at the east end of Weaver Road, off SR 125).

Serpent Mound State Memorial: The most famous effigy in the world is best visited early or late in the day, when shadows are long and deep, and the contours of the body are most pronounced in its graceful undulation across the saddle of the hill. The Arc of Appalachia Preserve System now manages the site for the Ohio Historical Society and keeps the gate open from dawn to dusk daily. Site interpretation is much enhanced by the small museum, and by the old iron tower allowing visitors to get an overhead view of the sprawling creature.

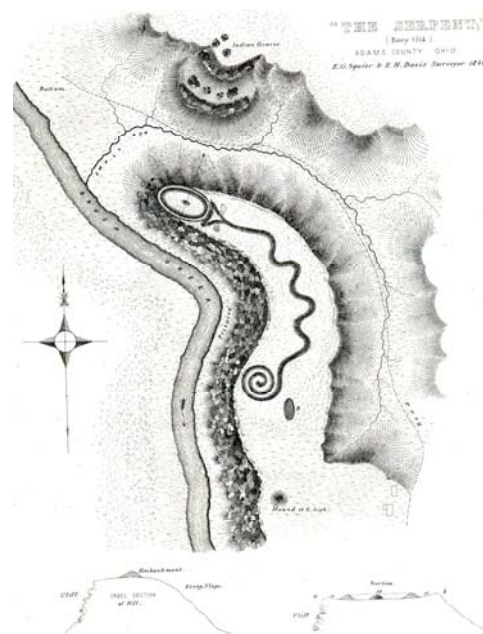
Serpent Mound Video Segments: From the [SERPENT MOUND](#) page, download videos that can help visualize and interpret the site: An introduction to the earthwork and its history [SN-01 Great Serpent Mound; SN-05 History], an account of its possible connections to the western "Mississippian" cultures [SN-02 Mississippian Serpent], and a Native story about its coils [SN-11 Serpent Path]. More general stories about site preservation from both archaeological and Native perspectives [GE-25 Preservation; GE-27 Native Preservation], about effigy building in general [GE-52 Effigies], and about the so-called "Fort Ancient" culture and what these modern names for ancient societies mean or don't mean [TM-86 Fort Ancient Culture; GE-90 Naming These Cultures].

The Serpent's Builders: The effigy builders were a different, later culture than the Hopewell who created the hilltop enclosures and geometric earthworks. It was the confusingly-named "Fort Ancient" people, living in the region about 800 years after the Hopewell, who built effigies including the Great Serpent, and who had a very different way of life: they had walled villages and extensive corn agriculture,

like the Mississippians down at Cahokia (near East Saint Louis, Illinois) and elsewhere.



Serpent Mound



Serpent Mound, Squier and Davis, 1848

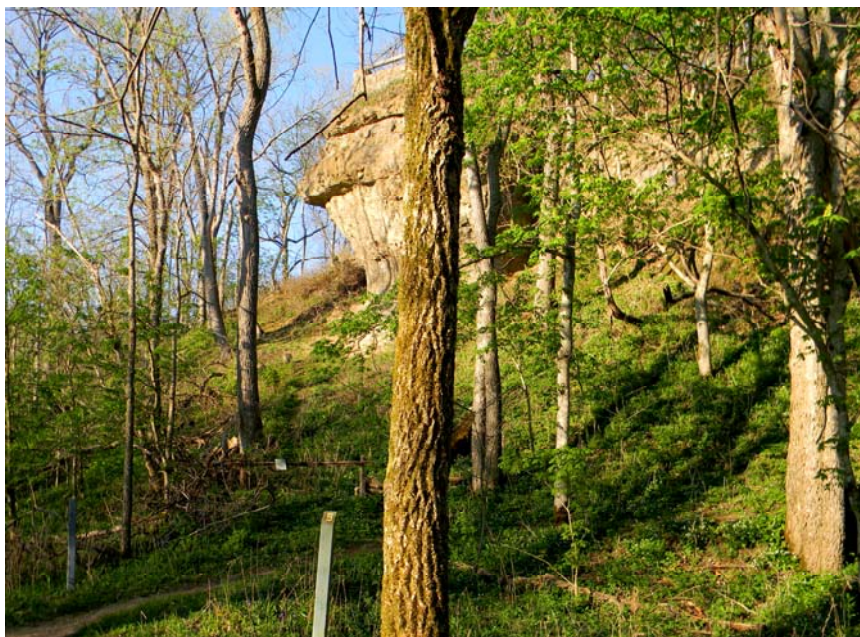
The Serpent's Features: Most beautiful are the snake's perfectly spiraling tail, the three main coils (which some claim offer astronomical alignments), and the head which faces the summer solstice sunset (evening celebrations every June 21). Walk the serpent's elegant length from the tail (overlooking a steep section of the Brush Creek cliffs), along the coils, and down past the head (or egg, or eye, or the sun). The iconography resembles Mississippian-era serpent symbols from the same time period, found on artworks from their urban cultures farther west, even down to the poison glands that are visible alongside the effigy's neck.

The Burial Mounds: Near the Serpent Mound parking lot is a large Adena-era (pre-Hopewell) mound, and another smaller one is next to the picnic shelter, indicating this site was important for centuries before the effigy was created. Indeed, long before humans were here at all, the vicinity of Serpent Mound was a geological anomaly, likely the result of a primordial meteor strike or volcanic crater. The serpent's head looks out over the western rim of this now largely submerged, four-mile wide formation. (Its eastern rim is visible to the east along SR 41, just north of Locust Grove.)

Brush Creek Trails: Trails down from the edge of the trees on either side of the effigy lead through dense woods to the bottom of the valley, where trails skirt Ohio Brush Creek and offer views of a prominent stone "head" directly beneath the effigy's head, and an undulating cliff with small caves extending to the right, directly under the effigy's body and tail. It is easy to imagine that the effigy's designers saw that a "serpent" was somehow already present in this distinctive hillside formation.

Archaeology and Meaning: With Fosters and Turner, this is the only other site investigated by famed early archaeologist Frederick Ward Putnam. It was his effort, after returning to Harvard, that persuaded members of Boston society to preserve the site and place it into the safe-keeping of the Ohio Historical Society at an early date. Some controversy persists about the date of the monument, although recent dating from an excavation led by Dr. Brad Lepper indicates a date between AD 1000 and 1200. The Great Serpent, through its fame, has been opened up to many interpretations, for many people, groups, and traditions. A visit during the sunset

celebrations on any June 21 tells the story: Indians from many tribes and groups, new-age mystics, earthworks enthusiasts, tourists, locals, and many others, have many varied ideas about what makes this place somehow sacred, or maybe evil, or at least spiritually loaded.



Cliff beneath Serpent Mound



Tail, Serpent Mound

Eating and Sleeping: In New Vienna, try the New Vienna Restaurant at 142 West Main Street (937 987 2463). In Hillsboro stop in at Magee's downtown near the courthouse, widely known for superb breakfasts and pies. Near Serpent Mound, the Locust Grove Dairy Bar (intersection of SR 73 and SR 41) offers ice cream and snacks; in Peebles try the White Star Café. Spend the afternoon and night at Coyote Creek Farm Bed-and-Breakfast, an impeccably appointed log cabin in a serene hollow where rolling woods and pasture reflect the transitioning landscapes of the Appalachian foothills (3 miles east of Hillsboro at 8871 SR 124; 937 393 5166). Larger but a bit farther away is the Murphin Ridge Inn, on 142 acres in the northern Adams County hills, with beautiful guest rooms and gourmet dining (750 Murphin Ridge Road, West Union; 877 687 7446). Chain food and lodging are available on the highway heading north out of Hillsboro (perhaps the time to sample Ohio's own regional restaurant brand with a loyal following, good Midwestern character, and cornmeal mush on the menu: Bob Evans) or at many of the exits along SR 32.

FORT HILL AND PAINT CREEK

From Serpent Mound (Locust Grove) head ten miles north on SR 41 through Sinking Spring, to the entrance to Fort Hill. From Chillicothe, follow US 50 west toward Bainbridge. We recommend navigating with DeLorme's *OHIO Atlas and Gazetteer*.

Fort Hill State Memorial: This 1,200 acre nature preserve features a large, beautiful, intact, Hopewell-era hilltop enclosure, as well as astonishing biological diversity. Exhibits in the small museum explain how the site's unique geology combines four of Ohio's five major geological and ecological zones, and presents the diverse flora and fauna found in each of them. Over eleven miles of often-challenging hiking trails include the 400-foot vertical climb to the earthwork, with its 33 visible gateways, and a dramatic gorge below. Springs, ponds, and rocky outcrops recorded on 19th century drawings still support unique wildlife

communities; the whole preserve is one of the region's largest and best-preserved stands of old-growth forest. This remarkable ancient structure and biological "island" is managed and interpreted by the Arc of Appalachia Preserve System.



Wall and Ditch, Fort Hill (Arc photo)



Fort Hill, Squier and Davis



WPA Picnic Shelter, Fort Hill

The Hilltop Earthwork: From the parking lot, with its elegant 1930s stone and timber amenities, the steep Fort Trail makes the 15-minute climb to the earthwork. Just before the summit, a gap in the 6-foot-high earthen embankment frames the squared-off rock outcropping drawn by Squier and Davis in the middle of the "prow" or head of the enclosure. A ten-minute walk to the left along the ridge top leads to the largest of several ponds, home to large colonies of frogs. A tour of the far (northwestern) flank of the earthwork should begin with the sharply-pointed northern gateway. Walking along the wall, it is impossible to avoid the huge numbers of large sandstone slabs used by the ancients to pave the surface of their construction. The roots of the many large trees toppled in the 2008 hurricane still grip fragments of this ancient pavement. These well-preserved earthen walls were built with a complex sequence of soil and stone construction, using materials pulled from the slopes, and designed to ring the hilltop just below its flat summit, creating the prominent ditch. Some of the most monumental sections and deepest gateways are found along the southwestern face. Among the gigantic old-growth trees are glimpses of the hills and farmlands beyond.

Biological Diversity: Each face of the hilltop, and each elevation, presents distinct microclimates and combinations of trees, plants, and even wildlife, very evident near the southern tip. From the sharply-pointed southern gateway, an old trail leads straight down the hill to intersect the descending Gorge Trail. (Shortcuts and now-unmarked historic trails abound across the open-floored forests.)

The Surviving Earthen Ring: From the Gorge Trail's sharp switchback above Spring Creek, follow the signposted "Buckeye Trail" southward for about 5 minutes, where it leaves the forest. The large meadow (with an old barn) on the left is where archaeologist Raymond Baby (pronounced "Bobby") discovered in the early 1950s the post-mold layout of a 120 x 80-foot Hopewell-era building. Of more interest today is to the right, likely the same builders' 190 foot diameter earthen ring still clearly visible in the tall grass (and on Google Earth). Its walls appear now to be about 2 feet high and 5-6 feet wide. Baby discovered that this ancient earthwork seems to have been built to memorialize a huge double ring of timber posts. The beautiful views from here encompass rolling farmland and more of the Appalachian escarpment in the direction of Serpent Mound.



Sulphur Creek, Fort Hill



Earth Ring, Fort Hill



Cabin, Fort Hill

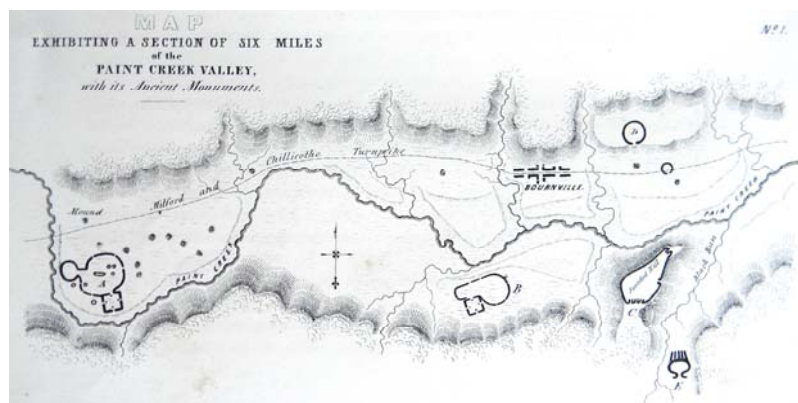
The Gorge Trail: Return via the Gorge Trail along Spring Creek (with a fine stone arch and pock-marked limestone cliffs loaded with wildflowers, various ferns, and other unique plants) and then Baker Fork. The challenging path (not for the faint of heart or small children) alternately climbs and descends precipitous outcroppings and overhangs, offering views of the river from all angles, and more biological diversity. Beaver work on tree trunks is plentiful. At the mouth of Sulphur Creek a small waterfall is visible through a narrow archway in the cliff-face. Above Shelter Creek, the trail passes through an abandoned log cabin. From the front door, the now-unmarked “Sunset Trail” used to climb straight up the ridge to the earthwork, whose steeply banked walls are visible from far below.

The Arc of Appalachia Preserve: The scenic farmland nearby is home to many Amish families, often seen in their distinctive horse-drawn buggies. On Cave Road, about six miles west of Bainbridge (14 miles east of Hillsboro), stands the Appalachian Forest Museum (7629 Cave Road, Bainbridge 45612; 937 365 1935), gateway to the stunning gorge of Rocky Fork Creek, with its springs, canyons, sinkholes, caves, remarkable bio-diversity, and clear rushing stream. Leading efforts to assemble and protect the eastern forests, The Arc manages hiking trails, historic lodgings, and educational programs on the history and nature of the region. This small section of Ohio is a unique ecological zone: as a result of glacial remnants, multiple ecologies survive here, including over 400 species of wildflowers and the rare (outside of Canada) white cedar, sacred to Indian cultures. Some specimens are over 1,000 years old.

Seip Earthworks: Along US 50 just east of Bainbridge (with its Dental Museum, the first Dental School in the US), the beautiful Paint Creek Valley opens up, which in antiquity was lined with a magnificent array of Hopewell-era geometric earthworks. Small remnants are visible in front yards in the town, though the most important are the remains of the Seip Earthworks, south of the highway 3 miles east of Bainbridge. The large mound is a reconstruction after extensive excavations. Beneath lay the post-mold pattern of a huge, multi-chambered timber building, with a precise, perfectly-symmetrical, temple-like floor plan almost identical to another at the Liberty Earthworks just south of Chillicothe. Elaborate, pearl-drenched burials and beautiful oversized effigy smoking pipes were found. Today visitors pass between two small segments of the surrounding geometric wall, which originally encompassed two large circular segments and a perfect square. From the top of mound, one can easily imagine the surrounding figures, and their spatial relationships with the Valley.

Baum Earthworks Site: Exactly where the valley seems to close up, 4 miles to the east, a very similar 3-part geometric earthwork (called Baum) was placed. Five major earthworks in Ross County were variations on this same theme (Seip and Baum, plus Frankfort, Works East, and Liberty), forming the most consistent and complex architectural pattern among the geometric monuments of the Hopewell era. The Baum earthworks were across the river from the village of Bourneville, and traceable on aerial photos as late as the 1980s. Today they are invisible from

ground level, yet it is still possible (at the intersection of Baum Hill, Jones Levee, and Camelin Hill Roads) to admire the Hopewell genius at marking out monumental, ceremonial, geometric space, on such a vast scale among these lovely hills, and to wonder at their placement of two such similar complexes literally within sight of each other along the river.



Paint Creek Valley, Squier and Davis



Seip Mound

Spruce Hill Fort: The steep, prominent, arrowhead-shaped hill just above the Baum site (to the northeast) is ringed by a stone-walled hilltop enclosure even larger than Fort Ancient. It has recently been acquired and placed under the management of the Hopewell Culture National Historical Park. Access is via a steep climb from its eastern flank, along Black Run Road, which may be arranged by contacting the Arc of Appalachia Preserve for a permit, or by checking in at the National Park's headquarters at Mound City (or its web site) for the times and dates of periodic ranger-escorted tours.

Eating and Sleeping: Paxton's in Bainbridge serves traditional, southern-style specialties such as fried chicken in a friendly atmosphere. The Arc of Appalachia has historic lodgings which can be booked in advance (937 365 1935).

CHILlicothe

Chillicothe: This elegant historic town was Ohio's first capital city, settled in large part by Virginians around 1800. It flourished during the canal era from the 1830s. Roger G. Kennedy, author of *Hidden Cities: The Discovery and Loss of Ancient North American Civilization*, and Director Emeritus of the Smithsonian's American History Museum, has aptly called Chillicothe "The Delphi of North America" in view of both the remarkable concentration of Greek Revival architecture in its historic districts, and its apparent status as the heartland, and spiritual and creative center, of the brilliant Hopewell culture, whose influence was spread across more than half the continent seventeen centuries ago. Indeed, this immediate vicinity held the densest concentration of geometric earthwork sites, which no doubt helped prompt the 1840s efforts of local physician Edwin Davis and newspaper publisher Ephriam Squier, both skilled amateur archaeologists, to collaborate on what would become the first publication of the new Smithsonian Institution: their magisterial and beautifully-illustrated *Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley* of 1848. The huge majority of the wonders they illustrated and described were in southern Ohio.

Downtown Historic Districts: The seventeen large city blocks bounded by High, Water, Seventh, and Mulberry Streets create a wonderful ambience of intact nineteenth-century commercial architecture (much of it very early), specimen houses in many glorious styles, and several exquisite, nationally-important works of Greek Revival domestic architecture. The most interesting shops cluster near the top of Paint Street; many overlooking Water Street (the former canal) and a large park preserving a picturesque old meander of the Youctangy River. James Emmitt's

huge flour warehouse built for canal commerce survives at Main and Mulberry Streets. Brick-paved East Fourth Street is lined with stately Victorians (#56 was Mordecai Hopewell's town house). The Adena-era Story Mound is in the northwestern part of town, along Allen Avenue (seventh left off SR 104 north of Main) at Delano Street.



Paint Street, Chillicothe



Greek Revival Houses, Chillicothe

Greek Revival Masterpieces: The finest examples of Greek Revival are along South Paint Street, including the large Atwood-Wilson House at Paint and Fifth Streets, and next door the single-story “Temple of the Winds” (Bartlett-Ritchart-Cunningham House). Many architectural treasures, with elegant porticos, details, and proportions, line the surrounding streets and alleyways, especially West Second Street. Of special prominence throughout the city and the region, for both dwellings and infrastructure, is the distinctive, golden, honey-colored Waverly (or Berea) sandstone.

Ross County Historical Society Museum: A collection of historic buildings near Paint and Fifth Streets house excellent collections illuminating the city's ancient and historical past, including many well-presented Adena and Hopewell-era pieces. The Camp Sherman Room and the adjacent McKell Library are excellent resources for the study of the early history of this prominent city, and its distinguished antiquity.



Second Street, Chillicothe



Adena Mansion

Bellevue Avenue: Following an original segment of Zane's Trace, this street passes "Tanglewood" a superb Greek Revival Villa of 1835, the entrance to Grandview Cemetery (on a prominent ridge with beautiful views and many early graves – Worthington, Renick, Hopewell), and the entrance to "Paint Hill", cattle-baron George Renick's elegant stone mansion of 1804 (now the Presbyterian manse, up behind the church). Farther out, after passing the site of the now-invisible Junction Group of earthworks (near Plyley's Lane, in a meadow on the left), take the left into Alum Cliff Road and follow the river (Paint Creek) to the giant black cliffs, near where the road ends and the river enters an impassable gorge.

Adena Mansion and Gardens: On a hill overlooking the city, stands the 2000-acre hilltop estate of Senator Thomas Worthington, an early settler in Ohio, its first US senator and its sixth governor. A new Museum and Education Center interprets the life and history of early 1800s Ohio (847 Adena Road, Chillicothe; 740 772 1500). Adena's architectural significance lies in the fact that the 1807 mansion was designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe, America's first professional architect (who also designed the US Capitol for Worthington's friend, Thomas Jefferson). Like many others who settled the Chillicothe region, Worthington was a Virginian, and his grand, elegant house and gardens reflect well the post-revolutionary-war transposition of Virginia aristocratic ideals (minus slavery, notably) into the Ohio Country. The house and interiors were inspired by distinguished French, English, and American precedents, and have been largely restored to Worthington's time.

The Great Seal and the Adena Mound: The rolling estate looks out over the scenic Scioto Valley and Mount Logan, which, standing prominently across the river amongst the dramatically-formed ridges of the Appalachian escarpment, inspired the design of Ohio's state seal: Worthington and his friends, the story goes, concluded an all night card game by emerging onto the north lawn in time to watch the sun rise over these distinctive formations, now "Great Seal State Park". Worthington, like Jefferson, had respectful views toward the Indians in the region and admired the spectacular earthen architecture of their distant Native ancestors. It was excavations of a mound on this estate that later provided distinctive evidence of the cultural practices of the pre-Hopewell era (800 – 100 BC), therefore called "Adena," which involved certain grave practices, pottery making, mound building, and the construction of earthen rings of various sizes.

Tecumseh: Worthington and his friends had various encounters with the Indians in the area, and their leaders, most famously the brilliant Shawnee leader Tecumseh, whose heroic story of resistance to Euro-American encroachment is relayed in an epic outdoor drama during the summer months, just north of Chillicothe. The elaborate production uses the huge outdoor stages of the Sugarloaf Mountain Amphitheater. (For information call 866 775 0700.)



Mound City

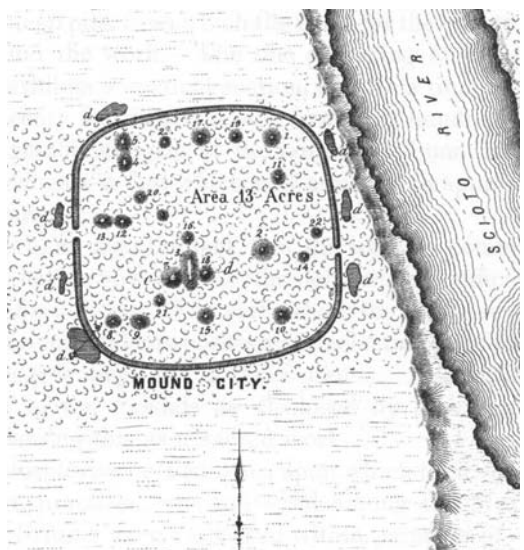


Chillicothe Geometric Earthworks 1848 (Squier+Davis)

Mound City, Hopewell Culture NHP: Excursions among the monumental antiquities of these gorgeous hills and valleys should begin here, at the Visitors Center of Hopewell Culture National Historical Park, about three miles north of Main Street on SR 104 (16062 SR 104; 740 774 1126), with its fine artifact collection and orientation programs. Immediately outside the museum, Mound City – the completely unique ensemble of mounds and enclosing wall – is visible against a backdrop of the forests, river, and prominent hills. Enter the western gateway and walk among the 23 mounds, of various shapes, sizes, and purposes. Although each one covers the remains of a funerary or ceremonial building, excavations have revealed some highly specific features. Some held spectacular collections such as effigy smoking pipes or shimmering blankets of mica.

Mound City Video Segments: For the site tour, download video segments from the **MOUND CITY** page, including a site introduction and overview the building practices that preceded mound construction [MC-01 Mound City; MC-02 Buildings], details on two of the mound with the most spectacular finds [MC-07 Central Mound; MC-08 Pipes Mound], a Native story about the creature depicted on one of the pipes [MC-21 Turtle Pipe], cross-cultural comparisons of the meaning of fire and burning [GE-15 Fire; GE-18 Burning Things], the Hopewell-era practices with material craft and placing things in mounds [GE-22 Precious Materials; GE-92 Deposits], and some of the most profound reasons why mounds may have been built here at all [GE-84 Sacred Landscape; GE-86 Reincarnation].

The Mound City Enclosure: The embracing enclosure here was likely a prototype for the more precise and complex geometric figures of later Hopewell-era monuments. This place is unique among Hopewell-era sites, and may reflect a period of time when mound building was just beginning to be augmented by bigger, grander ideas about geometric form and enclosure. Here they created a collective cultural monument on a much larger scale than previous mounds or clusters: one imagines bigger festivals, with more complex clan relations, and therefore needs for more embracing, and eventually differentiated spatial enclosures for sacred rituals and memorial activities. With its distinctive rounded corners, the wall mimics the shape of houses at the time.



Mound City, Squier and Davis



Mound City at Sunrise

The Mounds: Paired mounds to the left of the West gateway covered the sites of two connected buildings that contained “shimmering blankets of mica” over graves. The connected buildings were likely a prototype for the complex building plan-forms developed at Seip and Liberty earthworks. The tallest, central mound covers several elaborate graves, originally with canopy structures and accompanied

by spectacular artifacts. A mound near the southwest corner contained dozens of broken animal-effigy smoking pipes, almost identical to another set found at the Tremper Mound near Portsmouth. All the mounds were built over building remains, mostly funerary; while the site was in use, a combination of functioning buildings and memorializing mounds would have been visible.

The Mound City Riverbank: A new concrete staircase enters the forest along the banks of the Scioto River, descending through the long, ancient Graded Way. This monumental, excavated ramp area resembles others built by the ancients at Stubbs and Marietta, and was probably their ceremonial pathway up to the enclosure from the river. Looking across the river, one can imagine the huge circle, square, and passage of the Hopeton earthworks once standing visible on the opposite terrace.

The Hopewell Mound Group: An imaginary axial centerline through Mound City, extended to the west-southwest, would pass exactly through a gap in the hills and establish the central axis, about 3½ miles away, of the square end of the brilliant Hopewell Mound Group. These two sites, taken together, present the apex of Hopewell-era ceremonial complexity and craft artistry. Reach the site by heading west from downtown Chillicothe, via US 50, and turning northwest on Anderson Station Road for about 2½ miles. Beside a small parking lot is a display panel providing orientation to the vast open meadow that was once the earthwork. For its astonishing complexity and spectacular artifacts, this became the “type site” of the entire culture, as defined by archaeologists. Though subtle today, the wide profile of the large, 3-lobed mound can be detected in the open field (there is a marker farther down the road). It was re-arranged after excavations here on Mordecai Hopewell’s farm in the 1890s, led by Warren K. Moorehead, and which produced dazzling artifact exhibits for the Chicago World’s Fair of 1893 (the “White City”). The huge irregular enclosure also contained many other rings and mounds, some of earlier Adena origin, and some still being discovered by the National Park staff’s remote-sensing methods. The trail from the parking lot leads to the surviving walls and ditches along the northern hilltop, still retaining water like those at Fort Ancient, as was likely intended by their makers.



Hopewell Mound Group, CERHAS image



Large Mound, Hopewell



High Bank Earthwork, CERHAS image

Hopeton and High Bank Earthworks: Although not visitable (or easily visible) today, two other elaborate geometric earthworks in the vicinity are preserved by the National Park Service: On the upper terrace across the river from Mound City are the remains of the Hopeton earthworks, a square and circle with walls originally up to 12 feet high; and the High Bank Earthworks, a giant circle-octagon (comparable to Newark’s Octagon Earthworks) is south of Chillicothe just off US 23, with a long, complex tail that stretched far down the edge of the terrace towards the river.

Eating and Sleeping: For drinks and light meals in Chillicothe’s historic center, visit Schlegel’s Coffee Shop on Paint Street, or Crosskeys Tavern (17 East Main). Grinders (also on Paint) is legendary for sandwiches. Good breakfasts and lunches are served at Carl’s Townhouse, a restored diner from the 1939 New York Worlds

Fair (95 West Second Street). The Old Canal Smokehouse at Water and Mulberry Streets (where the canal turned a corner, and once the red-light district) serves outstanding dinners featuring meats smoked on the premises. Bill Hirsch, a former presidential butler, has returned to his hometown from Washington DC to welcome guests in a stately Greek Revival home built in 1843 by Jacob Atwood, a financier from Baltimore: the Atwood House Bed-and-Breakfast (68 South Paint Street; 740 774 1606). Other accommodations in the historic center include the Green House Bed-and-Breakfast, the grand 1894 Queen Anne Style residence of banker George Hunter Smith (47 East Fifth Street; 740 775 5313). A wide range of chain lodgings and food outlets is available on North Bridge Street (Route 159). The Ross County Convention and Visitors Bureau can provide further information on where to stay and what to do in the area. <http://www.visit Chillicothe Ohio.com>

SCIOTO VALLEY

Going south out of Chillicothe, either take Route 23/104 through the hills, or follow Three Locks Road along the Scioto River in its huge Teays-Age (pre-glacial) valley.

Waverly, Piketon, and Sargents: In the historic district in Waverly, the picturesque Emmitt House restaurant (in an old hotel built by Madison Hemmings, a possible descendent of Thomas Jefferson) serves good food. The Waverly-Piketon area in the pre-glacial era was a major confluence of the Teays River system, flowing northward here as it drained much of eastern North America; these huge valleys remain remarkable landscape spectacles. South of Piketon, a cemetery along Wakefield Mound Road (turn east on SR 32 from the US 23 intersection, then take the first left) contains an unusual cluster of Adena-era burial structures. Continue south on Wakefield Mound Road past several early-19th century houses, notably the grand Barnes House (3 miles south of SR 32, on the left), where Abraham Lincoln stayed while visiting the Seal Township Earthworks directly across the road (now only traces).



Wakefield Cemetery Mounds



Portsmouth Skyline

Tremper Mound: Just before Lucasville, cross over to the western side of the river and take SR 104 towards Portsmouth. Just past the intersection with SR 73, the irregular Tremper Mound (partially reconstructed after excavations) lies on the right in a private field, once surrounded by an enclosing earthen wall. Excavations here uncovered remains of a complex Hopewell-era building, with many ceremonial fire pits and an astonishing treasure-trove of deliberately-broken animal effigy pipes directly comparable to the ones buried at Mound City. The pipes portray bears, cougars, herons, hawks, dogs, beavers, and other creatures, and are now in the collections of the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus.

Portsmouth: The city of Portsmouth stands at the most dramatic river confluence in the region, an understandable setting for the extensive earthworks that once

stretched here for miles across the upper terraces on both sides of the Ohio River. Segments remain in both Ohio and Kentucky, while the whole complex is well portrayed in murals along the riverfront, adjacent to the downtown historic districts. This was also the site (on the point between the rivers) of a large Indian settlement at the time of European contact, called Lower Shawnee Town, where archaeological evidence has established the apparent continuity between the “Fort Ancient” culture and the Indians whom the Euro-Americans met in the Ohio Valley after 1650. Today Portsmouth is known for its many lively festivals.

The Portsmouth Earthworks: To reach the best preserved sections, in Horseshoe Mounds Park, go north out of downtown about one mile on US 23, then right on Kinney’s Lane for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, then south on Hutchins Avenue for 2 blocks. Compare this impressive horseshoe-shaped earthwork feature to the overall extent of the complex as depicted on Squier and Davis’s drawing: from this point, broad curving avenues stretched down to the riverbank and continued to even more dramatic earthwork and mound features on the Kentucky side. Today in South Portsmouth, Kentucky, much of the Old Fort Earthworks, a perfect square with two long arms, have recently been preserved with help from the Archaeological Conservancy. On private land, they lie about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of the US 23 Ohio River bridge, on the right. The beautiful square enclosure is well preserved among a handful of small houses, its ancient orientation perfectly diagonal to the cardinal points.



Portsmouth Earthworks Mural



Old Fort Earthworks



Antiquities, Southern Ohio Museum

The Boneyfiddle Historic District: Specialty shops, antiques, restaurants, and a variety of historic architecture can be found in Portsmouth’s old, riverside Boneyfiddle District and in nearby downtown. The Portsmouth Brewery (224 Second Street) was first established in 1843 and is now operated as a microbrewery and café. Along the riverfront is the famous 2,200-foot suite of floodwall murals created between 1993 and 2002 by Robert Dafford, and depicting episodes in the region’s history. The “earthworks” panel provides the best overall visualization of what this immense valley-confluence may have looked like filled with one of the Hopewell era’s most ambitious geometric earthwork complexes.

The Southern Ohio Museum: In a beautifully renovated, classical style bank building (at 825 Gallia Street), this museum displays an impressive permanent collection of art and hosts an ambitious program of changing exhibits and performing arts. The collection of ten thousand antiquities, beautifully presented in a new exhibit on the upstairs balcony, offers an unusually good opportunity to compare side by side the many subtleties and variations in how the Adena- and Hopewell-era craftspeople shaped their points, axe-blades, grinding stones, smoking pipes, and other artifacts.

Two Old Houses: Near the north edge of town, the 1810 House is a historic farm dwelling interpreting the life of the early settlers in the area. The rooms portray several different decades of home furnishings, clothing, and housewares, in a very intimate setting. Across the Scioto River, along SR 239 in West Portsmouth, is the Philip Moore, Jr. Stone House, built in 1797 from stones quarried from the nearby

hill, and used as a meeting place for the earliest itinerant Methodist ministers in the area.

Eating and Sleeping: For a meal in Portsmouth, try the bourbon-laced rib-eye steaks at Ye Olde Lantern (at 2nd and Court Streets; 740 353 6638), or visit other eateries in the Boneyfiddle District or nearby downtown. For an overnight within easy walking distance, try The Captain's Quarters Bed and Breakfast (529 Sixth Street; 740 354 6609), or the River Inn near the bridge (Formerly Ramada, at 711 Second Street; 877 356 7711). About 12 miles northwest from Portsmouth lies the 63,000-acre Shawnee State Park and Resort, with over sixty miles of hiking trails among densely wooded hills and hollows, plus golf, dining, lodging, and other resort amenities (740 858 6621).

ATHENS

Leave Chillicothe on US 35 toward Jackson, then follow SR 32 and SR 124 toward Athens. From Columbus, take US 33 down through the Hocking Hills region.

The Leo Petroglyphs: Leave US 35 near Savageville on Sour Run Road to reach the hamlet of Leo, and the State Memorial, which consists of a series of rock carvings chiseled by ancient Indians into an outcropping of sandstone. Based on the symbolism and the amount of weathering, the petroglyphs are likely the work of the "Fort Ancient" culture which lived in Ohio from AD 1000 up until the time of Euro-American contact. Between thirty and forty different designs include human figures, birds, a snake, a fish, human footprints, and bear paws. The most arresting image is a human head, with horns or antlers and small bird's feet, possibly representing a shaman being transformed into a supernatural being. The images may resemble what David Zeisberger, the Moravian missionary, described in the mid-1700s as "hieroglyphics" still being painted on trees by Ohio's Delaware (Lenape) Indians as a form of communication. A trail explores the 60-foot sandstone cliffs.



Leo Petroglyphs



Cutler Hall, Ohio University Athens

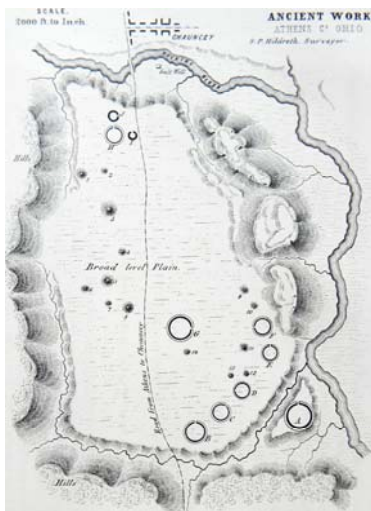
Buckeye Furnace: From the village of Berlin Crossroads, follow SR 124 and Buckeye Furnace Road to the State Memorial, a reconstructed charcoal-fired iron blast furnace with its original stack. It is typical of those operating in southeastern Ohio's Hanging Rock Iron Region more than a century ago. The reconstruction includes the adjacent casting shed, the charging loft where iron ore, limestone, and charcoal were loaded into the furnace, and the engine house which contained a steam-powered compressor. The company store provides visitor orientations, and there are two nature trails.

Athens and Ohio University: Athens is the home of Ohio University, chartered in 1804 as the first college in the "Northwest", and it remains mainly a university

town. The Uptown district (on a terrace high above the Hocking River) is where the town and university began. Walk around the College Green, off the corner of Court and Union Streets, to see the earliest buildings, including Cutler Hall (1816), the oldest; inside are portraits of the college's presidents. Up Court Street, see the ornate Athens County Courthouse (1880), the latest of a series on this plot beginning with an 1808 log building. Nearby are the Athens County Historical Society Museum (65 North Court Street; 740 592 2280), plus many shops, taverns, and restaurants. Down hill by the Hocking River, visit White's Mill (2 Whites Mill Drive), one of the last of the mills that once lined the Hocking River, now used as a garden store.

The Arts In Athens: The university sponsors two important museums: the Kennedy Museum of Art in Lin Hall with significant Native American, African, and 20th century American collections, and the nearby Dairy Barn (8000 Dairy Lane) with contemporary arts and crafts, and famous for the biannual Quilt National Show. Both museums are part of the university-owned complex called The Ridges, a fascinating Victorian architectural complex that was originally a mental hospital where inmates did their own farming. Galleries and shops in the town feature local arts, especially ceramics.

Wolfe Plains Mounds and Earthworks: Just northwest of Athens along SR 682 is The Plains, a village occupying an unusual, glacially-formed flat area among the hills. Squier and Davis's map shows the extent of mounds and circular earthworks measured here in the nineteenth century, of which several remain among the streets and houses. The road on their map matches SR 682, and is likely an ancient Indian trail. These were all ceremonial structures; archaeological evidence suggests the people did not live down here but rather on the surrounding hilltops and terraces, often marked by smaller mounds. This was a major center of Adena-era activity in Ohio. Early settlers found at least 30 mounds and earthworks here, plus those on surrounding hilltops. The Plains can also be reached via the Hockhocking Adena Bikeway, which connects Athens and Nelsonville.



The Plains, Squier and Davis



Woodruff-Connett Mound, The Plains

The Hartman and Connett Mounds: The largest surviving mound is the 40-foot Hartman Mound, clearly visible on Mound Street, the first right turn after exiting into the Plains off of US 33. Now owned by the Ralph Hartmann family, it has never been excavated. It is almost certainly an Adena-era burial structure. A nearby smaller mound (now gone) contained a grave with 500 rolled copper beads. The steep climb to the top yields a clear view of how the surrounding hill settlements may have intentionally focused on this ceremonial center. Continuing on Mound Street and then onto Adena Street presents the Woodruff-Connett Mound, 15 ft. high, now owned by the Athens County Historical Society. It was once part of a

cluster of three mounds; the “apron” of higher ground along one side of the mound may also be of ancient origin.

Other Plains Earthworks: A recently-excavated mound nearby, the Armitage, contained one complete burial accompanied by 14 cremated and completely disintegrated burials, probably moved from elsewhere to be with the central figure. There were continued episodes of mound building and ceremony, evidenced by some 40 small fire pits, suggesting ceremonial mound use and additions over generations. Only one of the many Adena-era circles in the Plains Group remains visible: it is privately owned but can be seen from SR 550; about half a mile north of US 33, where a small wooden barn with brick supports sits on the immediate left, stop and look right to see the circle sitting next to the creek (don’t leave the road, as this is private property). Many other mounds remain around The Plains, barely visible as swells or as elevations under buildings. For more information contact the Athens County Historical Society (740 592 2280).

Nelsonville and the Hocking Hills Region: A few more miles up US 33, Nelsonville is a historic town with a fine public square and arts venues, serving as a tourism center for the Hocking Hills region and its many state parks, waterfalls, caves, trails, and activities. The Hocking Valley Scenic Railway is a volunteer-run scenic route up the river valley to Haydenville and Logan (just over two hours) with stops at Robbins Crossing, an authentic collection of 1840s Ohio houses with historic demonstrations, maintained by Hocking College. The natural treasures of the region are well presented at the headquarters of the Wayne National Forest (off US 33 near Nelsonville: there is an orientation film, and staff can advise on historic points of interest visible while hiking, and suggest resources for comprehensive trail maps, such as the Athens Conservancy: <http://www.athensconservancy.org/>).

Eating and Sleeping: Athens is in the forefront of the “fresh, organic, and local” food movement; its plentiful Farmer’s Market is held Wednesdays and Saturdays at the Market on State (shopping mall) parking lot. Local supermarkets also carry many local products. A pioneer in local sourcing for restaurant fare is the cooperatively owned and run Casa Nueva (4 West State Street; Mexican style food), where a list of food sources is part of the menu. Many restaurateurs in Athens got their start here, including the founders of the sophisticated Stephen’s (25 N. Court Street), and Zoe (24 E. State Street; French-American) and the fun Betty’s Red Hots, a hot dog tavern across the street from Casa Nueva. For distinctive lodgings try the pleasant Ohio University Inn (331 Richland Avenue; 866 593 8661). Or in Nelsonville, there is the Inn at Hocking College (a “lab” hotel run by students at 15770 SR 691; 740 753 3531), or the Mead House Bed-and-Breakfast at the village center (138 Fort Street; 740 596 2408). A bit farther away (28 miles south of Athens via US 33) in the tiny Ohio River village of Middleport is the stately Downing House Bed-and-Breakfast (740 992 9115), home of generations of Downings including Major John B. Downing, a riverboat captain and friend of Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain).

MARIETTA

From Athens, follow SR 550 to Marietta, or use the Muskingum River route or I-70 and I-77 from northern or central Ohio.

Marietta: This well-preserved river town was laid out in the late 18th century by The Ohio Land Company. These retired officers of the American Revolution (The “Society of the Cincinnati”) dreamed of a new and better life across the mountains, on land given to them in payment for their military service. They arrived on April 7, 1788, and respectfully planned their town, the first permanent Euro-American settlement in the Northwest Territory, among the huge, geometric, already-ancient earthworks they found here beside the Muskingum and Ohio Rivers. They admired the earthworks and, aligning themselves with Roman tradition (Cincinnatus was the

Roman conqueror who retired to his farm), gave them Roman-inspired classical names and tried to preserve them in public squares. Though some were destroyed by later generations, the continued presence of these remarkable antiquities, plus a thriving downtown and riverfront, and beautiful residential and historic districts, make Marietta an especially pleasant destination.



Lafayette Hotel, Riverfront, Marietta



The Castle, Marietta

Historic Architecture: Trolley and steamboat tours highlight Marietta's distinguished history and its often unusual 19th century architecture. Clustered along Front Street between Putnam and Foster Streets are some very early houses, and the first chartered American Masonic Lodge (1790). Historic downtown has many unusual local shops, including famed Rossi Pasta (founded by an art student from Ohio University), which ships everywhere. Among many historic mansions is the spectacular Gothic Revival "Castle" (built in 1855; 418 Fourth Street) open to public view. Across the Muskingum lies historic Harmar village, accessible to pedestrians via a renovated rail bridge. Harmar Hill sits above it, providing good views of the city from Lookout Point, at the top of Bellevue Street.

Festivals and Events: On "Final Fridays" each month Marietta's shops show art-works, host performing musicians, and offer free snacks; thousands fill the streets. Tens of thousands turn out for the biggest festival of the year: the Ohio River Sternwheel Festival in mid-September. An annual pow-wow in late July is sponsored by a pan-tribal group, the People's Nation, under Chief Iron Hand. There are many other events during the summer in this thriving tourist town; information is available at www.mariettaohio.org.

The Marietta Earthworks: The unique layout of the earthworks on this high terrace, safe from floods, is best portrayed by Squier and Davis's 1848 map. It can provide an orientation to the surviving pieces, which are: the Conus Mound in Mound Cemetery, probably the finest Adena-era burial mound where the surrounding ditch-and-ring design is still intact and visible; the rectangular, ramped Capitulum Mound, now a platform for Marietta's Carnegie Public Library; the larger, rectangular Quadranaou Mound, preserved in a park farther north, with one of its ramps gesturing toward the riverbank along the broad, ancient ceremonial way which the settlers named the Sacra Via.

The Conus Mound, Mound Cemetery: The focal point of Mound Cemetery, at the corner of Fifth and Scannel Streets, is the Conus, with its surrounding ditch and wall. Many Revolutionary War veterans are buried near it, marked by a patch of thickly planted flags. The undulating ditch and wall make beautiful shadows, especially early or late in the day, and add grandeur and solemnity to the mound, which can therefore only be respectfully approached via the level "bridge" from the northwest. Signs here and at the Quadranaou incorrectly date the works at 900

years old; instead they are more like 2000. The first settlers who dug at the mound found human bones and immediately stopped digging and retreated; no archaeological investigations have been made since. The steps were installed in 1837 to avoid destruction from people climbing. The very top of the mound has been flattened somewhat; there are benches, a good view, and a 1976 time capsule. In line with the “bridge” are the remains of the earthen wall connecting the Conus with the surrounding rectangular enclosure.



Conus Mound and Ring, Marietta



Quadranaou Mound, Marietta

The Capitulum Mound: The Capitulum Mound named after the smallest of Rome’s seven hills and survives beneath the public library on 5th Street near Washington. The flat-topped, rectangular design was fitted with three ramps: one has become the library’s front steps, one on the right is the most prominent, one behind is barely visible. On the left side of the building is more like a notch, or “anti-ramp” which can offer the experience of “going into” the mound, perhaps for a ritual transformation of some kind. The only archaeological investigation of the Marietta earthworks, done here in 1990 when the Library needed to add an elevator, confirmed that the earthworks are from the Hopewell era, and built purposefully in layers. Charred material collected from an ancient hearth turned out to be wood from many different kinds of trees, from near and far, all burned in one fire. Archaeologist DeeAnne Wymer did the analysis and suggested it may well have been a World Renewal ceremony. The playground next door remains part of the “public use” area set aside by the town’s founders to preserve the mounds. Have a look inside the 1916 Carnegie library to see the woodwork and fireplace on the left wall.

The Quadranaou: The Quadranaou Mound stood, with the Capitulum and two other platforms now gone, inside the larger rectangular earthwork enclosure called “the town” by the first settlers. In a city park on Warren Street, between Fourth and Third, the four-ramped Quadranaou is the largest and grandest of Marietta’s remaining works. The huge scale and multi-directional ramps gives a sense of the grand gatherings and ceremonies that must have taken place here. Of the four platforms in this enclosure, this one had four ramps, the Capitulum three, a destroyed one two, and another none. It was at the Quadranaou that Dr. Cutler made the first effort in the U.S. to date earthworks scientifically: using tree rings, he estimated an age of more than 900 years. (It is actually double that.) Like other enclosures at Mound City and Newark, Quadranaou Park was used as a Civil War mustering camp.

The Sacra Via: Below 3rd Street begins the long, broad public park strip called the “Sacra Via” This grand, ancient, 150-foot-wide processional way between the river and the enclosure was carved into the edge of the terrace and framed with parallel earthworks creating an embankment height of up to twenty feet. Walking to the

river and back recalls the processions that could have passed here. The embankments are gone (used to make bricks in 1855 for the Unitarian Church at Third and Putnam) but the elevated positions of some of the houses near the bottom of the Sacra Via show how the terrace was cut. The angle of this broad avenue was set to the winter solstice sunset behind the steep Harmar Hill across the river: from the brick monument to the descendants of original Marietta deed holders, positioned at the top of the Way, the sun will drop into the exact alignment during the week surrounding each December 21.

The Campus Martius and Ohio River Museums: Stories of the founding of Marietta in 1788, and the lives of the settlers in the early years, are told in this museum, named after the Campus Martius, the fort-like beginnings of the settlement (partly preserved) at 601 2nd Street. Exhibits include some ancient items suggesting the beauty and intricacy of the earthwork-builders' craft artistry. It is possible to tour the house of settlement leader Rufus Putnam, who also surveyed the earthworks and drew an early map. The city grew quickly after steamboats came to the Ohio and Muskingum rivers after 1811. The Ohio River Museum, on the Muskingum at the foot of St. Clair Street, tells this history and preserves for public enjoyment the "William P. Snyder", the last of the steam powered towboats. It was steamboats that brought other early visitors to the earthworks, including the famous (first) American architect Benjamin Latrobe, who was delayed here for two days for boat repairs, and so toured the earthworks and recorded his impressions.

Harmar Historic District: The Harmar Historic District lies across the Muskingum, reached via a preserved railroad bridge from downtown. It was here in 1785 that the first Euro-American presence (Fort Harmar) was built to prevent white squatters from entering Indian territory. Later, when the Treaty with Six Nations (signed here) and the Treaty of Greenville pushed Natives farther west, Fort Harmar became unnecessary. Captain Jonathan Heart, an officer at the fort, made an early investigation and map of the earthworks which eventually reached the hands of de Crevecoeur in France, causing the first splash of excitement in Europe about American earthworks, around 1800.

The Muskingum River Route: From Marietta, a scenic route follows the valley of the Muskingum River to the northwest through Zanesville to Newark. The Muskingum River once had many mounds along its valley, though few remain today. The river was "canalized" in 1841 and linked to the rest of the state's water transportation system. A series of hand-operated locks was installed that are still in use today, maintained by Ohio's Department of Natural Resources. Boat cruises available from Marietta include lock demonstrations and lunch (Ohio specialties) at the Stockport Mill Inn. Using the locks, all 112 miles of the river are navigable, following the path of early archaeologist Warren Moorehead, who explored the river valley in 1878 to discover its mounds, circles, and other earthworks, and who gave a lecture at the McConnelville Opera House (still open and putting on shows).

Eating and Sleeping: Downtown Marietta offers lodgings at the Lafayette House Hotel, an early 20th century high-rise (740 373 5522). On the hilltop across the Muskingum, with a lovely porch and great views, is The House on Harmar Hill Bed-and-Breakfast (300 Bellevue Street; 740 374 5451). Lodging is also available at The Cottage on Washington Street (at #406) and Bed & Wine, a loft above Marietta Wine Cellars (170 Front Street). A superb meal featuring locally-made Rossi Pasta may be had at The Levee House, on the riverfront (127 Ohio Street; 740 374 2233). The Lafayette Hotel's spacious, wood-paneled Riverfront Bar and Grill serves good breakfasts and a huge Sunday brunch. Along the Muskingum River route, stay and eat at the Stockport Mill Country Inn (in Stockport; 740 559 2822) with its unique rooms and river views.

TARLTON AND THE “ROAD”

The diagonal route between Chillicothe and Newark approximates the possible “Great Hopewell Road” – an ancient, arrow-straight route suggested by recorded remains near its northern end. Use SR 104 out of Chillicothe, then SR 159 from Tarlton and SR 37 from Lancaster to Granville.

The Ohio and Erie Canal: Leave Chillicothe going north on State Route 104 where, along the river terraces on both sides, there were once many more geometric earthworks. The road parallels a preserved section of the Ohio and Erie Canal. At the village of Westfall, take Canal Road to the right to view these beautiful remnants up close: the waterway and now-tree-lined tow-path parallel the Scioto River. Near the intersection with US 22, Canal Park offers access to canal related views and constructions. From here, after crossing the Scioto River in an aqueduct, the canal route continued northward, then east toward the town of Baltimore, and Buckeye Lake, where there are more significant remains.

Circleville: In downtown Circleville, US 22 becomes Main Street, following the axis line that bisected the ancient earthworks here: a giant double-ringed circle, from which the town took its name, and an attached square. Circleville was the home of Caleb Atwater, postmaster and eccentric surveyor of Ohio Antiquities in the 1820s, and an early advocate for their preservation. The town’s original layout had concentric and radial streets inside its namesake circle, with an octagonal courthouse in the center. Over the protests of Atwater and others, it was later replaced with a regular grid, but a drawing of this inventive layout was made in the early 1800s by the founder of a local candy company, and still adorns the boxes at Wittich’s Candy Shop (117 W. High Street). A nearby historical marker recalls Atwater’s efforts at documentation and preservation. The Pickaway County Historical Society Museum contains excellent exhibits, including antiquities from the area.



Canal and Towpath between Westfall and Circleville

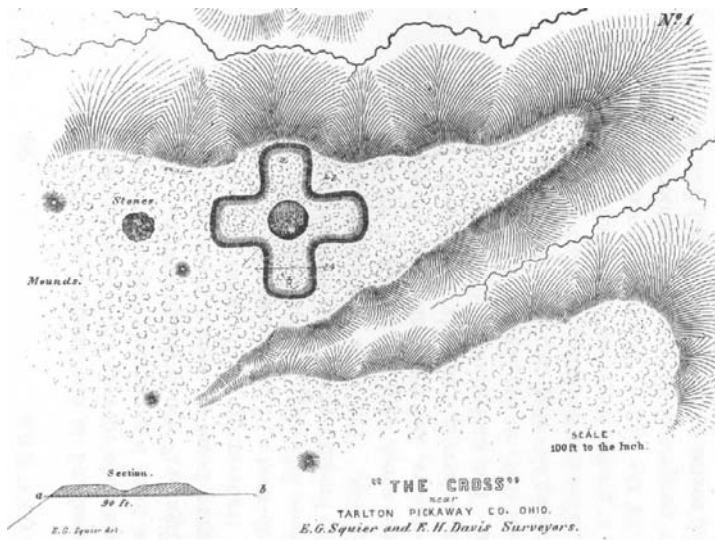


Circleville Drawing, G. F. Wittich

Pickaway Plains and Logan Elm: South of Circleville along US 23 are, to the west, the Pickaway Plains, an ancient, glacially-created rolling prairie landscape that was a favored settlement region of the Shawnee Indians up until the time of Euro-American encroachment. To the east of the modern highway is the Logan Elm State Memorial, the probable setting of Chief Logan’s eloquent 1774 speech on Indian-white relations, delivered under a huge elm tree. The tree died in 1964; the site now commemorates both the Chief’s ideas, and other Indian and settler events.

Tarleton and the Cross Mound: Take SR 56 and then SR 159 east out of Circleville to the village of Tarleton, which was a main stage coach connection point along Zane's Trace (from Zanesville to Maysville KY), commemorated here by a historical marker. Old houses provide a sense of the old road and the conditions of stage travel. Not quite a mile north from the village center, on Reading Road, is a shaded parking area on the left. The unique Tarleton Cross Mound is reached from this small picnic area by means of an interesting early concrete suspension bridge (the work of the 1930s WPA) over the rushing waters of Salt Creek. The trail winds up the hill to the unique plus-sign-shaped mound crowning a small wooded ridge. Probably built by middle-woodland (Hopewell-era) peoples or later, the equal-armed figure was partly created "subtractively" by the removal of soil from the hill. The small dip in the center may be by design (a water feature?) or an early intrusive excavation. According to all the early 19th century accounts the pathway and the earthwork were always somehow kept free of vegetation as if by continuous use. Other small mounds in the woods nearby form a square.

The "Great Hopewell Road" Hypothesis: From Tarleton village, take Route 156 north towards Lancaster. This route skirts the edge of the Appalachian Plateau, and also approximates the route of the possible "Great Hopewell Road," an arrow-straight, sixty-mile ancient thoroughfare which may have connected Newark and Chillicothe, the Hopewell era's two greatest ceremonial centers. Dr. Bradley Lepper of the Ohio Historical Society has discovered tantalizing evidence on old aerial photographs and drawings, proving the road did extend for at least several miles out of Newark, headed in exactly this direction and aiming for Chillicothe. The full distance has not yet been proven by on-the-ground surveys.



Tarleton Cross, Squier and Davis



Houses, Lancaster

Lancaster: Lancaster is an attractive, historic town and the seat of Fairfield County. A pleasant downtown district is home to many shops, galleries, and cafés, and the nearby hillside offers a superb collection of large, historic houses. Among them is the Reese-Peters House, a spectacular Greek Revival mansion now in use as the Decorative Arts Center of Ohio, and offering varied exhibitions. Also nearby are the Georgian Museum (an 1832 mansion), the Sherman House Museum (birthplace of the Civil War General William Tecumseh Sherman), and the Ohio Glass Museum. The surrounding country roads lead to many golf courses and covered bridges. The cliff above the town (now overlooking the county fairgrounds) was used by Indians on the watch for encroaching white settlers. The unique Stonewall Cemetery stands about 3 miles southwest of downtown (US 22 just over 2 miles, then left on Stonewall Cemetery Road for about 1 mile): a 12-sided, 60-foot diameter, walled cemetery meticulously constructed of Blackhand sandstone in 1838 by Nathaniel and Gustin Wilson (call ahead for access 740 681 7249).

Buckeye Lake: Enroute northward toward Granville is Buckeye Lake State Park. Its long history dates back to the construction of this reservoir in the early 1800s as the high-point feeder for the state's new canal system: south through Millersport and the "Deep Cut" towards Baltimore and Circleville, and north through Lakeside to Hebron and Newark. By 1900, the canals had been long abandoned, but there were lively amusement parks along the shore. A historical museum tells the stories and displays artifacts from the heyday of the canals, and the later inter-urban train line and amusement parks. Boat excursions are offered around the lakeshore and the Cranberry Bogs. The embankments of this huge, artificial lake were built in part with stone and earth from a very large nearby burial mound. Deep Cut Road just outside Millersport traces the major engineering feat that was needed to complete the Ohio and Erie canal system, cutting a water channel through a tall ridge. Significant water-filled remnants extend south and west through the town of Baltimore. More canal traces are evident from Buckeye Lake north toward Hebron, and even along fast-developing SR 79 below Heath and Newark, where the characteristic massive sandstone blocks stand in a few remaining front yards.

Eating and Sleeping: Shaw's Restaurant and Inn, overlooking a shady square in downtown Lancaster, provides very good meals plus twenty-five individually-decorated guest rooms (123 North Broad Street; 740 654 1842). Chain lodgings and eateries are available in Circleville or Lancaster, or at the I-70 interchanges above Buckeye Lake.

GRANVILLE and COLUMBUS

Multiple routes lead to Granville (and Newark) from Columbus; or exit I-70 at SR 37, which is also coming up from Lancaster.

Granville: Founded by New Englanders eager to create an environment that would help them feel at home, Granville has remained an exquisite town. Along Broadway are beautiful churches, an exceptional Greek Revival mansion, a good selection of local shops and cafés, and two wonderful historic inns to use as a base for visiting central Ohio: The Granville Inn is styled after an English Manor House, while the Buxton Inn across the street is a collection of old houses and an inn dating back to 1812. Both have excellent restaurants. There is a small but interesting historical society museum. Denison University's meandering drives and imposing academic architecture occupy the prominent hilltop above the village.



Broadway, Granville



Alligator Effigy, Granville

Alligator Effigy: Just outside town to the east is the greatest animal effigy in Ohio, after the Great Serpent, which has also been recently dated to the same AD 1000 – 1200 time period. Probably mis-named by early settlers, the creature is more likely an opossum or the underwater panther prominent in Indian traditions. Preserved by the Licking County Historical Society, it is accessible from the old Newark-Granville road: take Broadway heading east, and after about a mile enter the “Bryn du Woods” subdivision on the left and follow the street as it curves to the left and climbs to the hilltop. The effigy lies atop the cul-de-sac at the end, and is best seen in very early or very late sunlight when the shadows are long. The head, paws, and spiraling tail are visible, plus a stone-covered extension from its body which was some kind of altar, the scene of many fires. The beautiful views from this hilltop (between the large new houses) extend westward to open plains beyond Granville, and eastward into the defined valley terraces across which the Newark Earthworks were laid out. The builders of the effigy no doubt appreciated these relationships, the prominence of this spot in encompassing the dual ecologies, and especially the spectacular nearby earthworks which were already about 800 years old.

Columbus via East Broad Street: The short drive from Granville into the city of Columbus is rewarded with a thriving arts and cultural scene, the distinctive Greek Revival Ohio State Capitol Building downtown, the Ohio State University, several historic districts, and the Ohio Historical Center with its extensive collections and exhibits on ancient and early Ohio. Several routes are available, though State Route 16 offers an especially informative and pleasant cross section of a typical American city’s growth rings: from agricultural countryside, to various kinds of subdivisions and commercial developments both new and old, to older upscale districts (Bexley), to grand and venerable urban institutions, and into the heart of the city.



Ohio State Capitol



Columbus at City Hall, Leveque Tower

State Capitol Building: In the heart of downtown Columbus, this unusual building was built between 1838 and 1861, its austere, white, Greek-inspired imagery one of the few in the country not directly inspired by the domed US Capitol Building in Washington. It preserves in its basement crypt level the rubble stone footings (visible in the walls around the gift shop) that were taken from the nearby Mound Street Mound, as was the clay to make many of the bricks in the building’s inner

walls. A painting in the Rotunda depicts the signing of the 1795 Treaty of Greenville, the effort following the Battle of Fallen Timbers to delineate a boundary across Ohio separating Indian from settler lands. The bookstore is a good source for materials on state history. Nearby are two other noteworthy buildings, the ornate, white Leveque Tower, and the quirkily Ionic Columbus City Hall.

Ohio State and Historic Districts: Lively urban districts surround the huge campus of The Ohio State University, and its world-famous Wexner Center for the Arts. Short North (along North High Street with its many bars, galleries, and restaurants) and the adjacent Victorian Village (with deeply shaded streets and large, early-twentieth-century houses) connect the University area with downtown. Just south of downtown is the beautifully preserved and especially picturesque German Village neighborhood, with its quaint brick houses, brick sidewalks and streets, and good selection of intimately-scaled shopping, drinking, and dining establishments.

The Ohio Historical Center: About three miles north of downtown along I-71 (Exit 111, 17th Avenue), is the ominous but intriguing 1970s concrete cube containing the headquarters and exhibits of the Ohio Historical Society. This is the place to see the best presented and most brilliant Adena, Hopewell, and Fort Ancient era artifacts from the many earthwork and settlement sites throughout the region. Startling craftsmanship, wrought upon precious, luminous materials brought to Ohio from all over North America, speak of the genius and cultural reach of the mound and earthwork builders, and their ways of interpreting the world around them in both ceremonial and functional objects. The Society also maintains extensive archives and research collections.



Bird Effigy Pipe, OHS Collections, Pangea image



Mica Hand, OHS Collections



Newark Shaman, OHS Collections

Other Columbus Area Earthworks: The Shrum Mound in Campbell Park (five miles northwest of downtown Columbus, about one-half mile south of the intersection of McKinley Avenue and Trabue Road) is a well-preserved, 20-foot tall, Adena-era conical mound. There are steps to climb to the top; adjacent is an old limestone quarry. The Highbanks Metro Park is just north of the city, on High Street (US 23, 2½ miles north of I-270), and contains two mounds associated with the Adena culture, and a semi-circular earthen enclosure lying atop a 100 foot cliff overlooking the Olentangy River. There are three gateways in the approximately-three-foot-high wall. Also called the Orange Township Works, they can be reached by a 2.3-mile loop trail through steep, wooded ravines. The park's Nature Center has interpretive exhibits on the earthworks, as well as the park's spectacular eagles and wildflowers.

Eating and Sleeping: In Granville, the Granville Inn (314 E. Broadway; 740 587 3333) and the Buxton Inn (313 East Broadway; 740 587 0001) both exude the

town's historic charm. Or select the area's premier family resort, the Cherry Valley Lodge, home of the Coco Key Indoor Water Park (2299 Cherry Valley Road, Newark; 740 788 1200). Granville has several charming cafés, plus the superb gourmet Short Story Brasserie at the south edge of the village. The historic districts in Columbus offer many excellent cafés, but especially try Lindey's (169 E. Beck Street, at Mohawk, in German Village). For more details on how to plan a visit in the Granville and Newark area, contact the Licking County Convention and Visitors Bureau at: <http://www.lccvb.com>.

NEWARK

Enter and leave the Newark area via SR 16 from the east (Granville) or west.

Downtown Newark: From Granville, take the Newark-Granville Road, which joins the limited-access Highway 16. From the downtown exit (SR 13), head south to the impressive Victorian Licking County Courthouse in the middle of its square. Around the square are good shops and restaurants, plus a rare architectural gem: a Louis Sullivan-designed bank building of 1914. The history of the town and its impressive industrial legacies is well told at The Works Museum, on the southern edge of downtown, featuring especially the making of glass. The Works complex also includes shops, artists' studios, and a canal-era lock-keepers house.

The Newark Earthworks: Two of the most impressive features of the ancient Newark Earthworks remain today, helping visitors grasp the literally unbelievable scope, beauty, and precision of this unique architecture. The Newark Earthworks were the largest integrated complex of geometric earthen architecture in the world. Awed settlers discovered, described, and began to measure it in the early 1800s, but then began to wear them down through farming, roads, houses, and industries. The impact of these monuments on the visitor today is still stunning, creating an architectural experience like no other on earth. A small museum at the Great Circle orients visitors to the complex.

Newark Video Segments: Download video clips to watch during your tour of the earthworks, including an introduction to the site [NK-01 The Newark Earthworks], orientations and visualizations of its main features [NK-02 The Octagon; NK-03 The Great Circle; NK-12 Eagle Mound], accounts of its use and preservation [NK-09 Histories and Controversies], descriptions of the Octagon's amazing astronomical properties and how they may link to an ancient way of life and to contemporary Native thought [NK-11 Lunar Movements; NK-43 An Architecture of Alignments; GE-01 Ancient Observatories; GE-02 Moon], and how all cultures use "geometry" to embody their ideals [GE-12 Geometry and Culture].



Newark Earthworks, CERHAS image

The Great Circle Earthworks: From downtown Newark take Main Street west, then turn south on Route 79 for 1½ miles to the Great Circle Earthworks on the right, also known as "Moundbuilders State Memorial." The small museum and

visitors' center provides an orientation to the whole complex and its history with a bronze tabletop model out front, an interactive exhibit program, and interpretive materials from the Ohio Historical Society and the staff of the Licking County CVB. Directly across from the front door is the gateway of the Great Circle enclosure, the largest monumental portal ever made by the Ancient Ohioans. Follow the inner ditch and notice the subtle gradations in the height and steepness of the wall. Imagine the wall's inner surface as originally lined with yellowish colored clay and contrasting with the rest of the soil. At the center of the circle, the so-called "Eagle Mound" is an elegantly undulating earthen memorial built over the remains of a long, timber-framed building with two "wings". Outside the gateway and to the north are well-preserved remains of the low embankment walls that once encircled the entire Newark complex with a continuous outline. Outside near the parking lot is a large borrow pit from which some of the soil was taken to build the wall.



Great Circle Gateway, Tim Black photo

The Wright Earthworks: Leaving the parking lot, turn right twice and drive around the Great Circle, continuing with a right turn on Cooper (along the park which flanks the northern arc of the circle). At the end of Cooper, go left on Williams and follow it for about six blocks and go right on Waldo (the last street before the railroad tracks). When Waldo ends, the Wright Earthworks are directly across James Street. These remnants include small pieces of the square and one of the connecting passage walls. From here, the water tower to the northeast will help in grasping the scale of the earthwork complex as a whole: it stands near the center of the giant ellipse, now destroyed, where the Newark Shaman figurine was found. The adjacent highway approximates the route of the canal (which cut right through the ancient square) visible on the Squier and Davis map.



Moonrise over Octagon, CERHAS image



Walls and Gateways, Octagon Earthworks

The Octagon Earthworks: Continue northward on Williams or 21st Street to Main Street, turn left to 30th Street, then north to Parkview, then left again. At the end of the street, turn into the parking lot of the Moundbuilders Country Club, and park on the right. Here at the heart of the Octagon Earthworks, a small wooden

platform has been built to offer an orientation, and views into the ancient earthen Avenue connecting the giant Observatory Circle (left) with the open-cornered Octagon (right). Looking out over these walls it is impossible to miss their precision: perfectly uniform, perfectly level on top, and transforming our human eye-level into some kind of giant, artificial, calibrated horizon.

The Observatory Mound and Circle: If golfers are not present (there are several “golf-free days” each year), walk the grounds thoroughly; it will take between one and two hours. Follow the giant circle to the left, as far as the Observatory Mound. From the top of this feature, ancient shamans could observe the perfect alignment of the moon at its northernmost rising, appearing along the axis of the Avenue and across the center-point and distant gateway of the Octagon, over half a mile away. In an unusual and elegant detail, the ancients designed the sides of the circle so they don’t quite meet, but rather seem to curve gently inward and underneath the Observatory Mound, from which they emerge on the outside as two small tails (This exact configuration is the result of a 19th century partial reconstruction, though faithful to the earliest accounts). Continue around or through the northern half of the circle towards the far, left flank of the Octagon. Views across the circle’s interior emphasize the remarkable precision of this “artificial horizon” as a sighting instrument. The diameter is so great (1,054 feet) that it’s possible to nearly lose the feeling of being within such a precisely enclosed space.

A Lunar Observatory: At the Octagon’s cleverly-designed gateways, the monumental effect is more clear: Perfect, flat-topped mounds block the vistas out of the open corners so that inside we are both contained and released, with subtle shifts in these effects as we move around inside. The distance across the Octagon is even larger than that of the circle; views from one gateway to its opposite are nearly lost, especially when the air is hazy. Yet sighting along these walls, and point to point across the geometric figure and on to the horizons beyond, was a major function of this place. Drs. Hively and Horn of Earlham College have demonstrated the immense sophistication of this geometric arrangement, in which specific point-to-point alignments, or lines along walls, mark all eight of key locations along the horizon during the moon’s complex 18.6-year cycle.



Inside the Octagon at Sunrise



Avenue, Newark, Alice Weston photo

Walls and Gateways: The northernmost sides of the Octagon skirt the edge of the upper river terrace on which it is built. Views down over the narrow lower terrace and into Raccoon Creek remind us how carefully the ancients sited their monumental geometric earthworks, on perfectly level, well drained gravelly terrain, safely out of the reach of erosion and flooding. The eastern, somewhat overgrown gateway of the Octagon touches the modern road; the southern opens to a small stretch of grass that also contains an exquisite small circular enclosure. This is one

of many that accompanied the Newark Earthworks, as recorded on 19th century plans.

The Great Hopewell Road: From near this small circle, remnants of other low embankments are the beginnings of a long straight roadway that headed off to the southwest. Early maps show these continuing as perfectly straight parallel lines, about 180 feet apart and about 3 feet high, for at least six miles. If indeed this monumental pathway, as wide as a modern interstate highway, continued at this angle for sixty miles, as Dr. Bradley Lepper has suggested is possible, it would have arrived exactly at Chillicothe, the other major Hopewell-era cultural center. Small traces survive in patches of woods south of town; several more segments have been confirmed on aerial photos from the 1930s.

Hilltop Views: The Newark Earthwork complex was so large, and so level, and designed with such precision, it begs the question of how its builders meant to see, appreciate, use, or understand it. Vantage points both high enough and close enough from which the whole arrangement might have been visible, are rare and difficult to reach. One is from a steep bluff above the South Fork of the Licking River (visible from the Great Circle parking lot), now in an undeveloped park owned by the neighboring town of Heath, which may be open to the public in the near future. Hively and Horn, and archaeologist Bill Romain, have recently been discovering complex relationships among the geometries and alignments of the earthworks themselves with the positions of prominent hills and ravines surrounding the site. This new research suggests that lunar and solar alignments also exist at a much larger scale in this overall sacred landscape, and that the ancients may have included these distant views among their design intentions.

Eating and Sleeping: On the Courthouse Square in Newark are the Dal Cielo and the Natoma restaurants. Conveniently located around the corner is the Place Off the Square (a modern inn affiliated with the famed Longaberger Basket Company, at 50 North Second Street; 740 322 6455). Many chain locations for food and lodging are positioned along SR 79 in Heath, heading south from the Great Circle.

FLINT RIDGE and COSHOCTON

Several worthwhile destinations are east of Newark, via SR 16 toward Coshocton. (This route passes a newer architectural “wonder”: the giant Longaberger Basket, probably one of the most startling examples of literally-iconic architecture in the US.) Farther out are Blackhand Gorge State Park and Flint Ridge State Memorial, as well as Coshocton’s Roscoe Village canal-era settlement.

Blackhand Gorge Nature Preserve: Eleven miles east of Newark, leave SR 16 via SR 146, then Toboso Road, to reach the Blackhand Gorge, a geological anomaly where glacial action caused the Licking River to cut precipitously through a high ridge of sandstone. This distinctive place has long felt sacred, as a place of healing, to Native groups even from far away. The Indian petroglyph for which the park is named (a black hand imprinted on the cliff face) was sacrificed in the 1820s when this section of the Licking River became part of the Ohio and Erie Canal. Impressive remnants of the canal towpath, locks, and a quarry remain. The Blackhand Trail is a level paved path following the old train line through its own cut (parallel to the river’s) in the sandstone ridge. The cut rock has been blackened by countless locomotive passages. Views from the Blackhand Rock overlook show the massive stone masonry built into the cliff face to create the towpath along the river. Farther down the trail, the quarry opens up on the left, with water pools and shining cliffs; the Quarry Rim Trail climbs to the top of the pits for dramatic views. Back at the parking lot, cross the river bridge on foot to take the Canal Lock Trail (left) into the woods to an intact sandstone ruin. Towpath remnants are obscured in the undergrowth, though the trail follows the canal route for some distance. There are abundant and diverse flora and fauna.

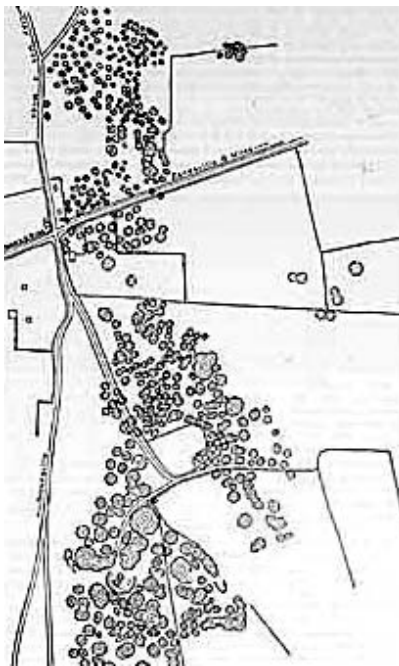


Towpath, Blackhand Gorge



Canal Lock Ruins, Blackhand Gorge

Flint Ridge State Memorial: Leaving the Gorge, follow the scenic back-roads to Flint Ridge. Here a several-mile-long deposit of beautiful, hard, sharp, rainbow-colored flint lies close to the surface, where Native peoples have been able to mine it for at least ten thousand years and fashion it into sharp tools, weapons, and ornaments. The presence of this rare resource was likely the reason such an elaborate geometric earthwork was laid out in the Hopewell era on the flat terraces of the nearby Licking River confluence (Newark) to the west. The forested ridge-top is strewn with the still-visible, water-filled pits where extraction has been taking place for millennia. Outcroppings are prominent; scraps line the pathways. A museum interprets the site, exhibits samples, and organizes public events where modern expert “flintknappers” demonstrate the ancient techniques of fashioning the stone into beautiful and useful shapes.



Flint Ridge Quarry Map, OHS



Roscoe Village Shops

Coshocton, Roscoe Village: Further northeast along SR 16 is Coshocton, where two rivers join to become the Muskingum. This was a capital of the Delaware (Lenape) Indians and a site of early Moravian missions. The historic Roscoe Village

on the west bank of the river is a wonderfully restored canal-era settlement and living history museum reflecting early nineteenth-century life in the region. In the lower level of its visitors' center, exhibits show an early treaty and tell the story of the life and encounters of the Delaware with the earliest settlers in the area. An historic marker downtown commemorates the Delaware Council of the 1760s. The new Johnson-Humrickhouse Museum (in Roscoe Village) displays the inauthentic but historically interesting "Newark Holy Stones" which figured so prominently in 19th century debates about the origins and significance of the earthworks, and the humanity of their makers. There are also many fine Native American artifacts, including Paleoindian points, plus a spectacular collection of Chinese lacquer ware and dioramas of early pioneer life. The Coshocton area boasts three good wineries.

Eating and Sleeping: For accommodations within walking distance of Coshocton's historic places, try the Apple Butter Inn at 455 Hill Street (740 622 1329), or the nearby Medbery Manor Bed-and-Breakfast (518 Hill Street; 740 295 0169), both restored structures from the 1840s.

www.ancientohiotrail.org

The Ancient Ohio Trail initiative is a collaboration of all the principal owners, managers, and interpreters of Ohio's ancient sites. Research and writing of this itinerary and the web site have been funded by the Ohio Humanities Council.

