

## Woodland 800 B.C. - 1630 A.D.

## Mississippian 1000 - 1200 A.D.

## Oneota 1000 - 1630 A.D.

### Potters, Gardeners, and Traders

Around 800 B.C., people living in Wisconsin and other places in eastern North America began to experiment with new ideas. These Woodland Indians started to make pottery, build burial mounds, and hunt with bows and arrows. Eventually they also began to farm. Around 1000 A.D., two other groups of people lived in Wisconsin: the Oneota and the Mississippian. Although all three groups shared the same environment, each had its own special traditions.



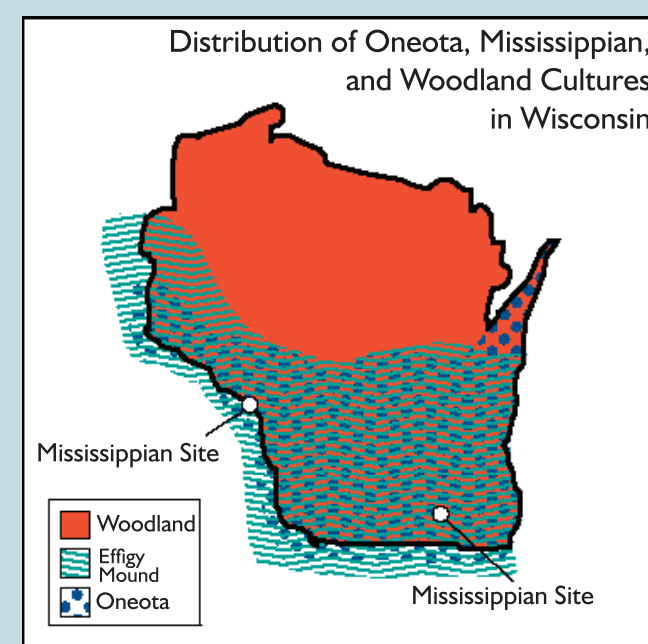
Woodland people built their houses in several shapes—round, square, and keyhole. The Indians covered the wood frames with hides, bark, and mats.

Archaeologists have found very few Mississippian sites in Wisconsin. The main one is Aztalan. People living there surrounded their village with high walls. Inside they built their homes and huge temple mounds.

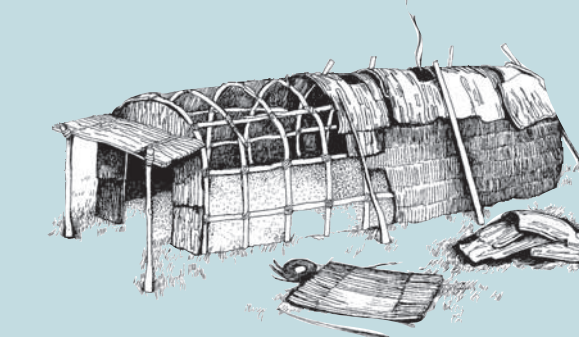


Archaeologists have found many Woodland sites across Wisconsin: small campsites, rock art sites, villages with walls around them, and thousands of animal-shaped effigy mounds. In fact, Wisconsin has more effigy mounds than anywhere else.

Potters in each group dug clay, added small pieces of rock (Woodland) or shell (Mississippian and Oneota) to strengthen the clay, then molded it into pots for cooking and storage. Each group made pots of different shapes, which they decorated with their own designs.



The Oneota generally lived in large villages on rivers and lake shores in the southern two-thirds of the state. They grew corn, beans, and squash as their main plant foods.



Some Oneota lived in long houses that were home to large extended families. Some houses at Aztalan were round, and others were rectangular.

