

A Force of Nature: Native Peoples and the Making of the South Central Wisconsin Landscape



William Gustav Gartner
Department of Geography
Wednesday, 13 June 2018

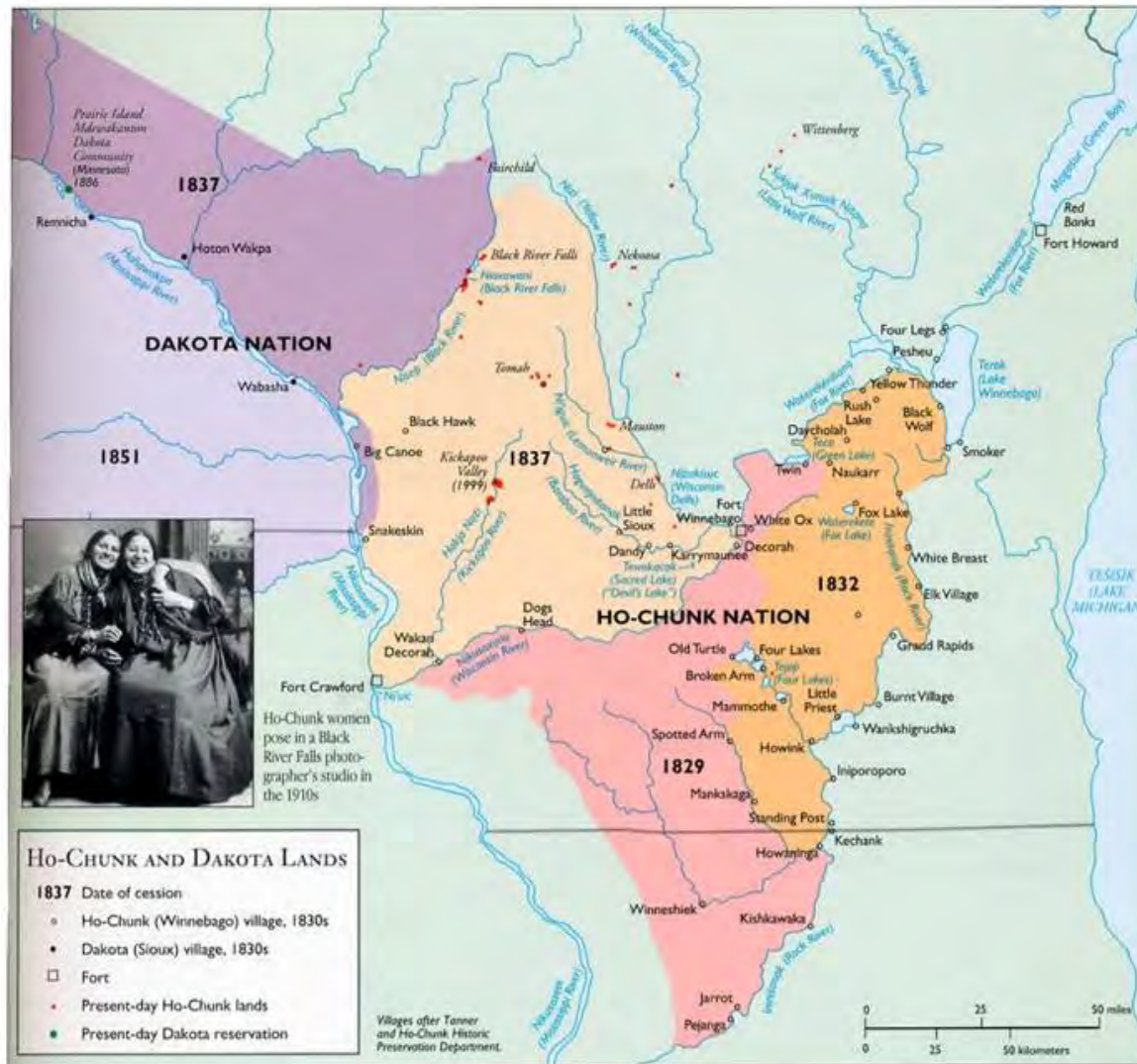
AGROECOPROSPECT
The Politics of Integrating Values, Food, and Farming

AHVS/ASES · 2018 | June 13 to 16, 2018
University of Wisconsin-Madison | Madison, Wisconsin

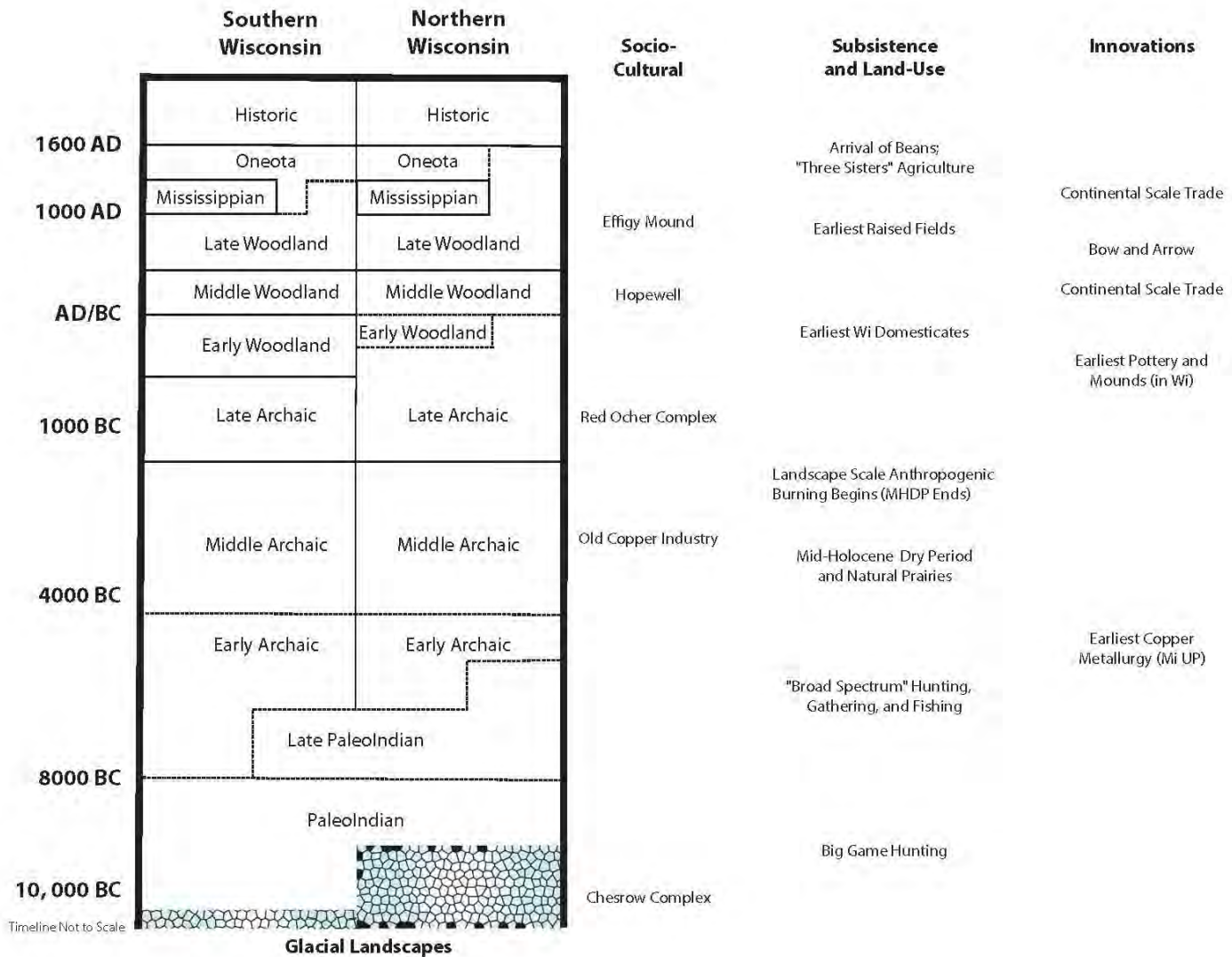
Field Trip Synopsis

Native peoples, such as the Ho Chunk Nation, have long called south central Wisconsin home. The ancestors of Ho Chunk, and other native peoples, also played an important role in shaping land and life here, from the time of the receding Late Quaternary ice sheets to Euro-American settlement of the area in the mid-19th century. This tour will highlight the roles of nature and culture in shaping the surprisingly diverse ecosystems of south central Wisconsin, including prairies, oak openings, closed-canopy deciduous forests, mixed coniferous-deciduous forests, riparian forests, and wetlands. Native peoples used hundreds of plants from these communities for food, fiber, medicine, and myriad other uses. Archaeological and paleoecological evidence suggests that native peoples have actively managed their botanical resources since mid-Holocene times, primarily through planting, tending, selective tree felling, and burning. We will also see Pre-Columbian components of the built landscape in south central Wisconsin such as effigy mounds (ca 700-1050 AD) and relict agricultural fields. As we will see, native peoples were the original organic and sustainable agriculturalists in Wisconsin, practicing sophisticated raised field agriculture in marginal environments by 1000 AD. This session will make multiple stops from the bus including the scenic overview of Lake Mendota, effigy mounds, Natural Bridges State Park and a short forest hike, Hulburt Creek Raised Fields, and more

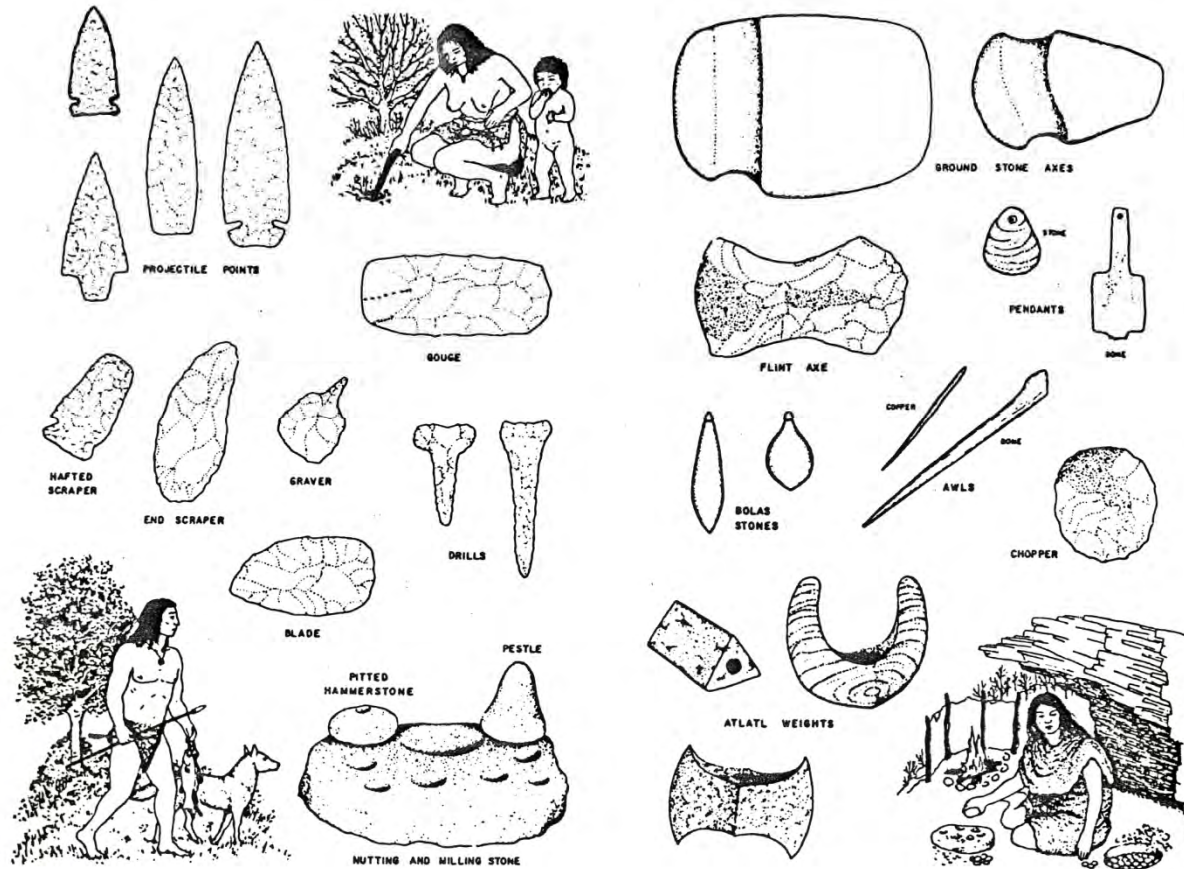
Ho Chunk Land Cessions



Wisconsin Archaeology



Archaic Stage Assemblage (ca 8000 BC – 600 BC)



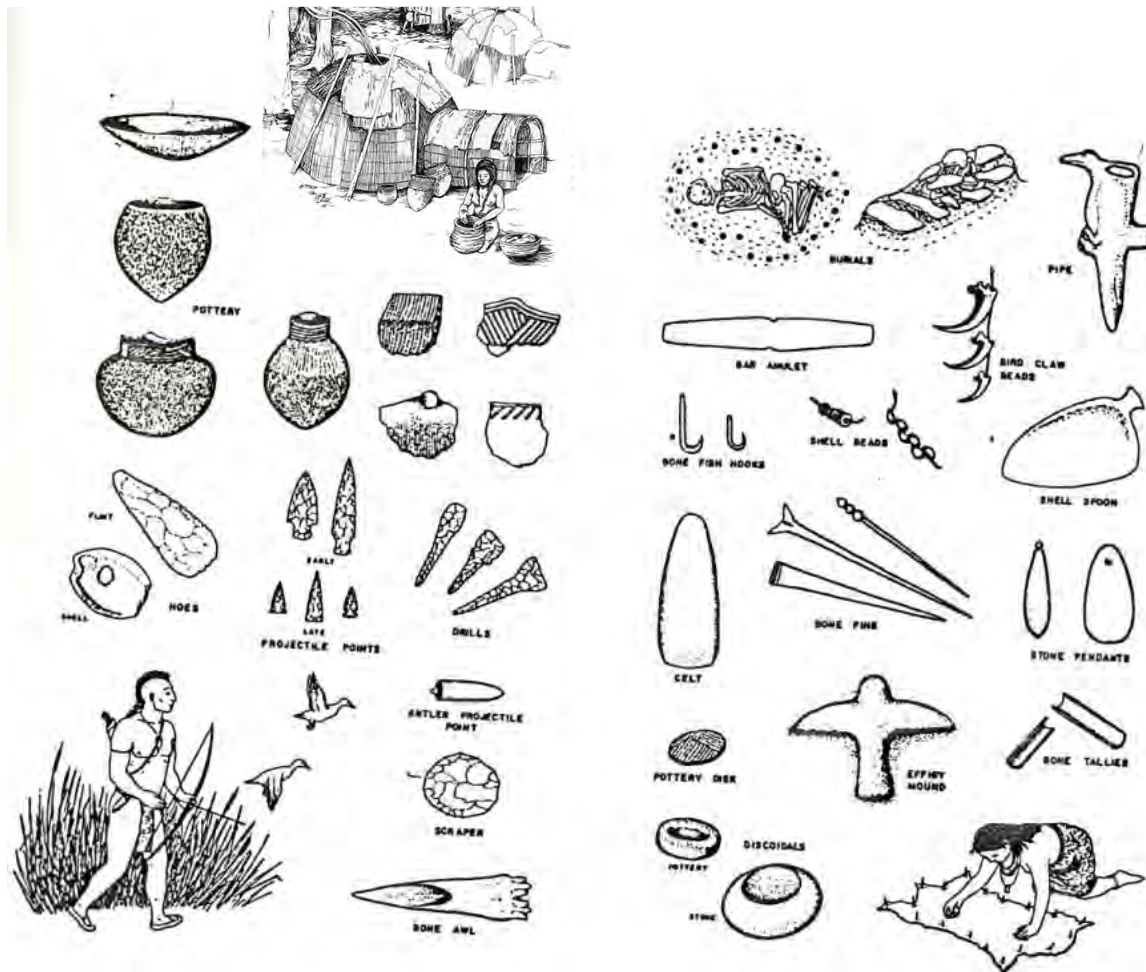
Sites: Raddatz Rockshelter
(Natural Bridges State Park)

Middle Woodland (ca 0 - 400 AD)



Sites: Kingsley Bend Mound Group

Wisconsin Late Woodland (600-1200 AD)



Sites: Mendota State Hospital Grounds, Hulburt Creek Raised Fields, Kingsley Bend Mound Group

Lake Mendota Scenic Overlook

Four Lakes of Madison (*Dejope*) Glacial History

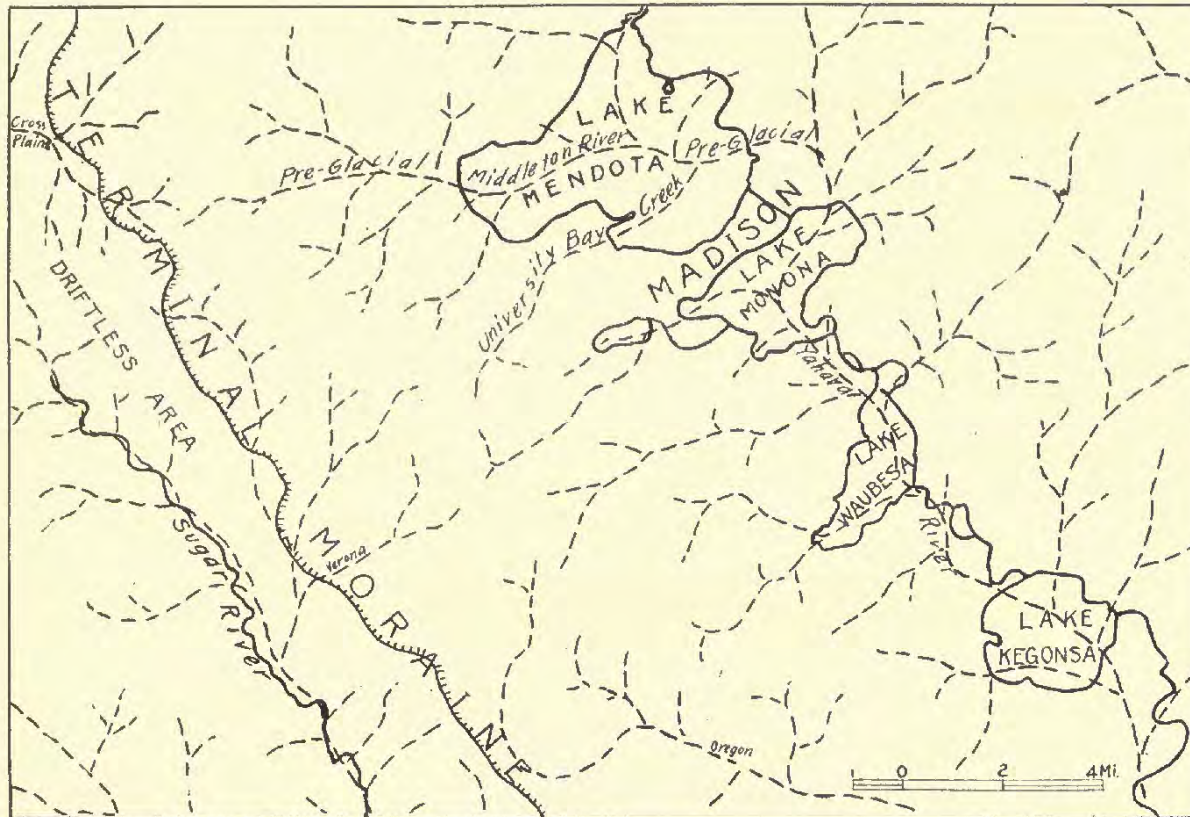


Fig. 103. Preglacial and present drainage near Madison. (Thwaites.)

Four Lakes of Madison (*Dejope*) Glacial History

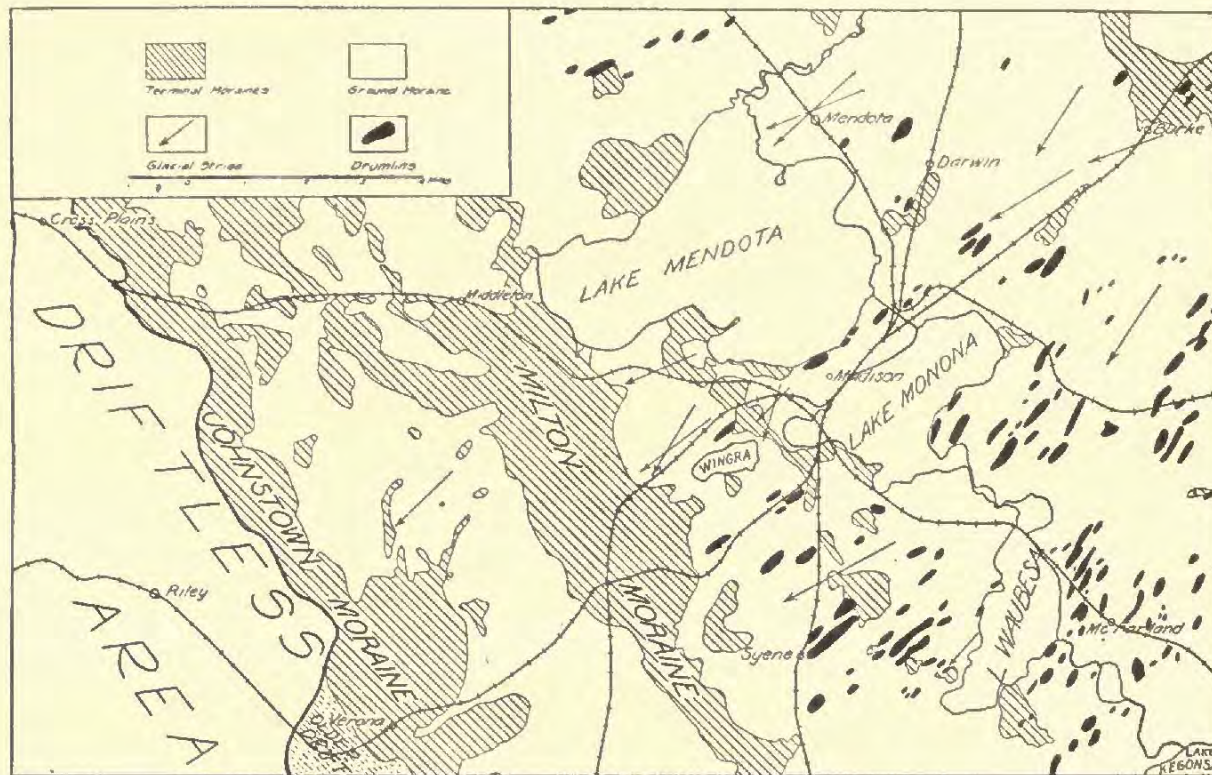
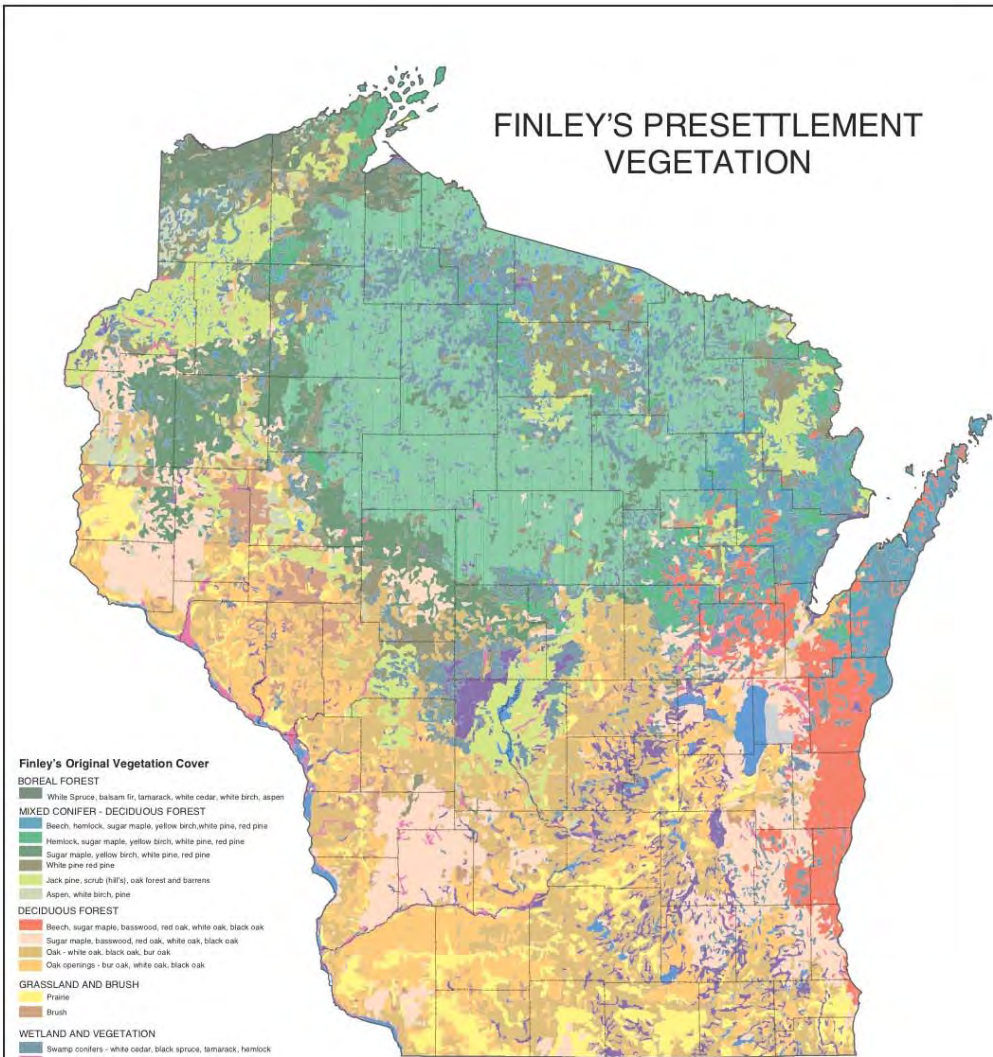


Fig. 95. Terminal and recessional moraines and drumlins near Madison. (Alden and Thwaites.)

FINLEY'S PRESETTLEMENT VEGETATION



Finley's Original Vegetation Cover

BOREAL FOREST

White Spruce, balsam fir, tamarack, white cedar, white birch, aspen

MIXED CONIFER - DECIDUOUS FOREST

Beech, hemlock, sugar maple, yellow birch, white pine, red pine

Hemlock, sugar maple, yellow birch, white pine, red pine

Sugar maple, yellow birch, white pine, red pine

White pine red pine

Jack pine, scrub (hills), oak forest and barrens

Aspen, white birch, pine

DECIDUOUS FOREST

Beech, sugar maple, basswood, red oak, white oak, black oak

Sugar maple, basswood, red oak, white oak, black oak

Oak - white oak, black oak, bur oak

Oak openings - bur oak, white oak, black oak

GRASSLAND AND BRUSH

Prairie

Brush

WETLAND AND VEGETATION

Swamp conifers - white cedar, black spruce, tamarack, hemlock

Lowland hardwoods - willow, soft maple, box elder, ash, elm

Marsh and sedge meadow, wet prairie, wetland shrubs

OTHER

Area with vegetation cover type not interpreted on the source map

Hydrographic area from 1:250,000-scale land use and land cover layer



Scale 1:2,750,000
Wisconsin Transverse Mercator NAD83(01)
Map Creator: Nina Janick

Data created by Robert W. Finley - 1976
Professor of Geography Emeritus, University
of Wisconsin Center System
Digital Data prepared by Manbeth Milner, and Steve Ventura
University of Wisconsin - Madison.

This data layer is included in DVGISib, a part of the DNRView
extension to ArcView. DNRView makes it easier to use and share
DNR geographic data. Trained ArcView users can obtain
DNRView from the appropriate regional contact listed in the
"GIS" Datasaring" section.

The data on this map are available on a
cost of resources basis from WDNR, GIS Services Section.
See the "GIS Datasaring" section.
Visit <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/at/et/geo>.

Four Lakes of Madison (*Dejope*) Vegetation History

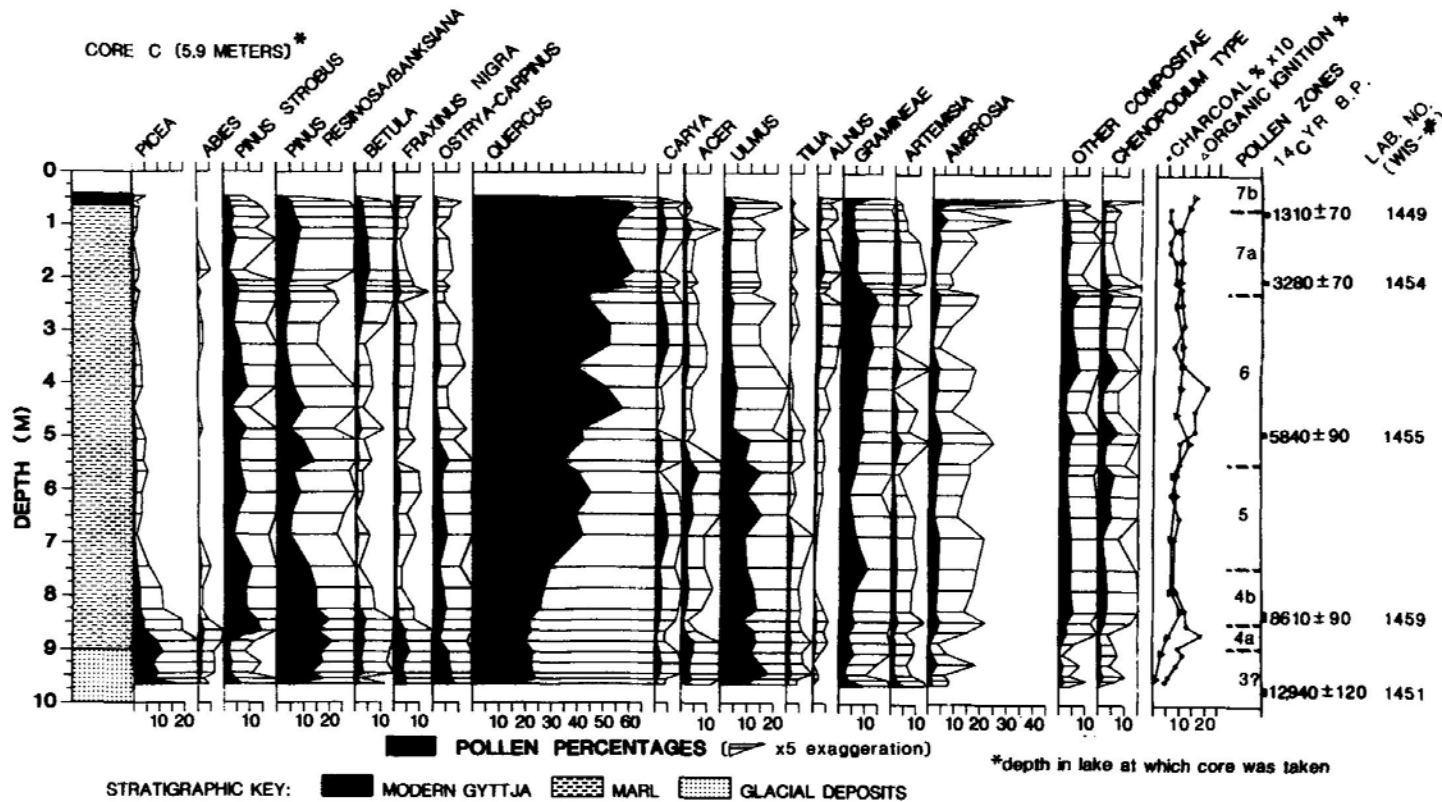
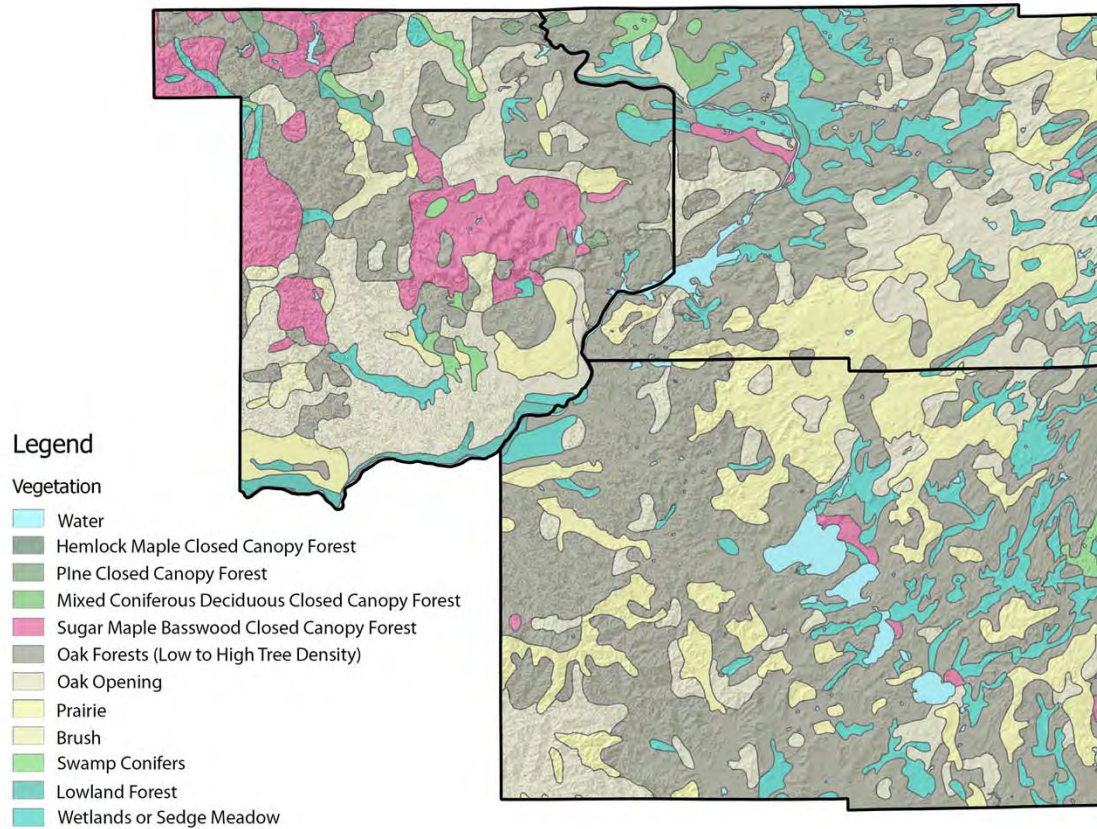


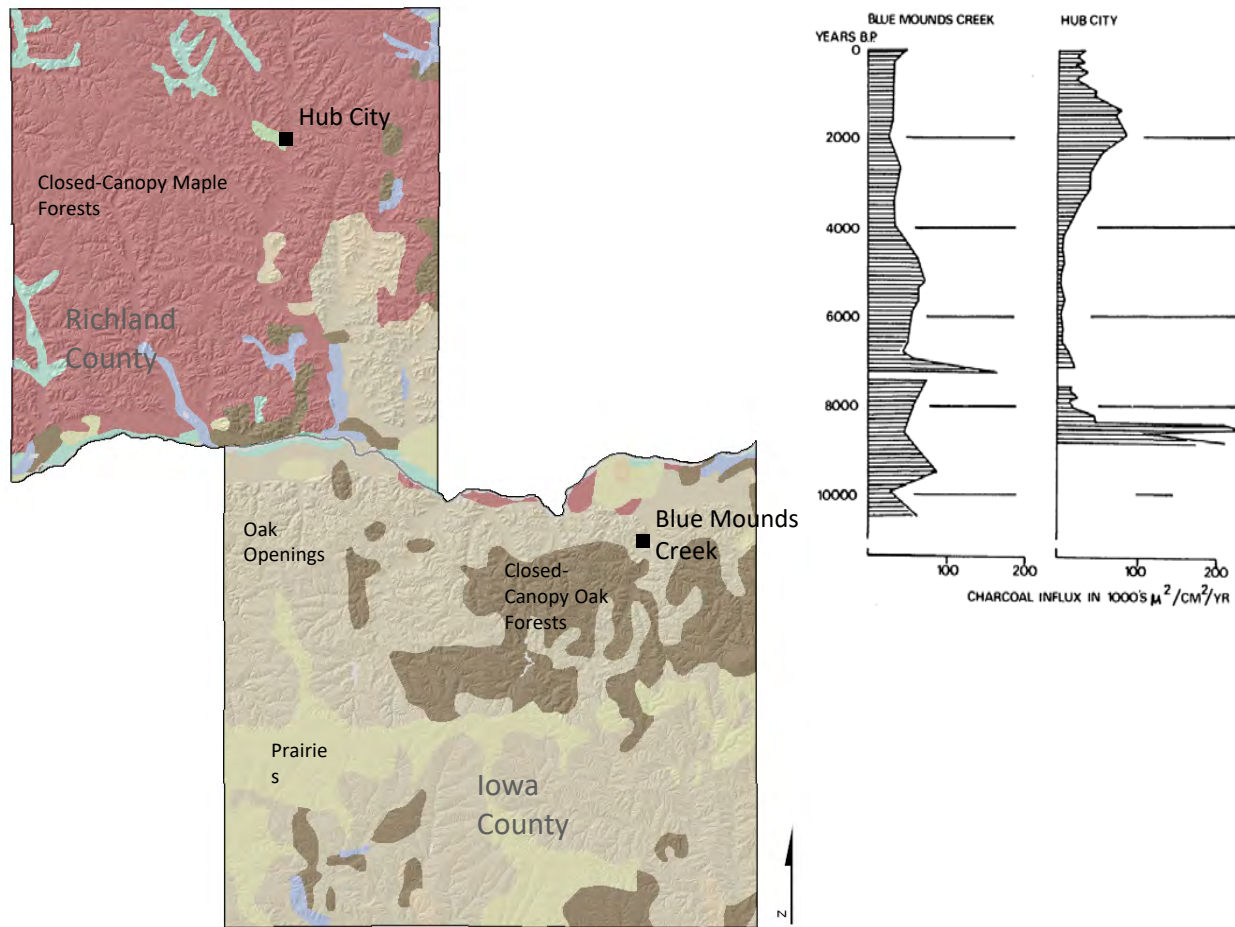
FIG. 5. Percentage pollen and charcoal diagram: Lake Mendota University Bay core C. (Depth in lake at which core was taken: 5.9 m.)

Mid 19th Century Vegetation in South Central Wi



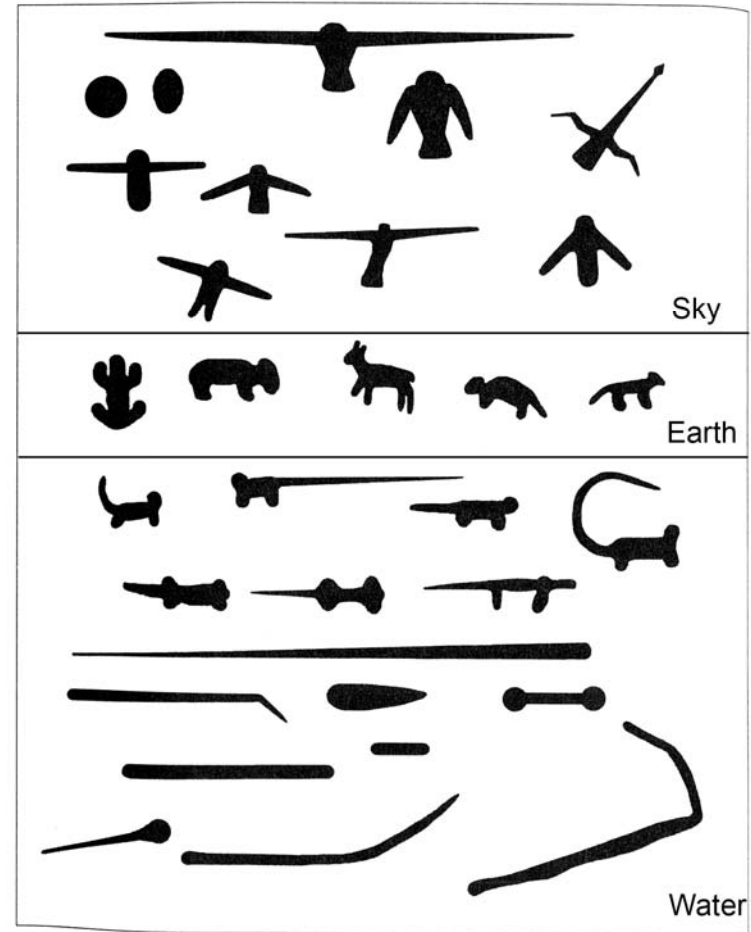
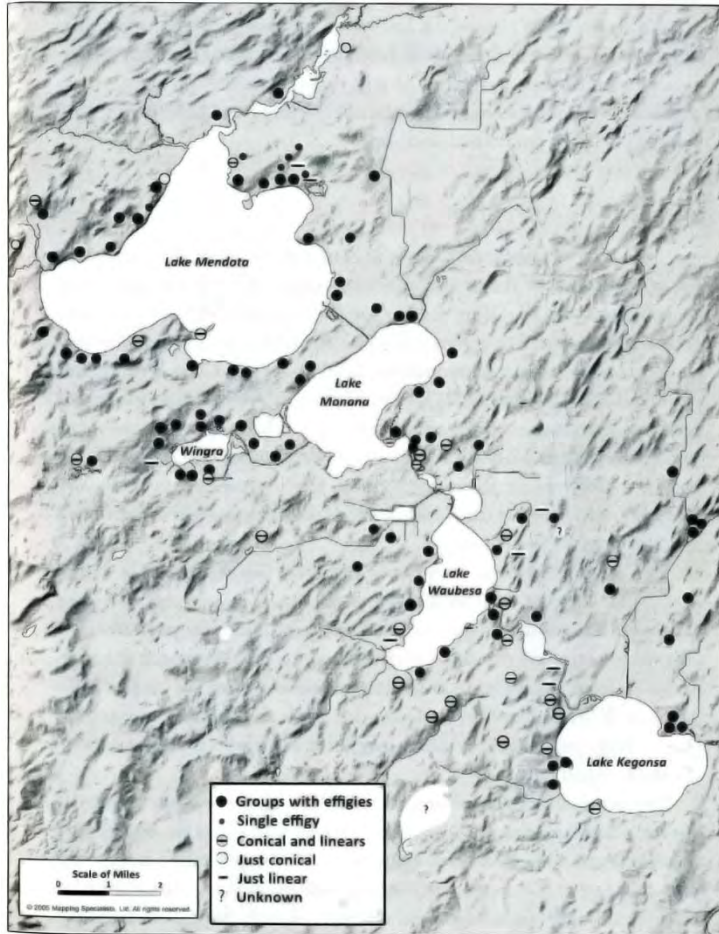
1:500,000

Paleoecological Evidence for Natural and Anthropogenic Fire



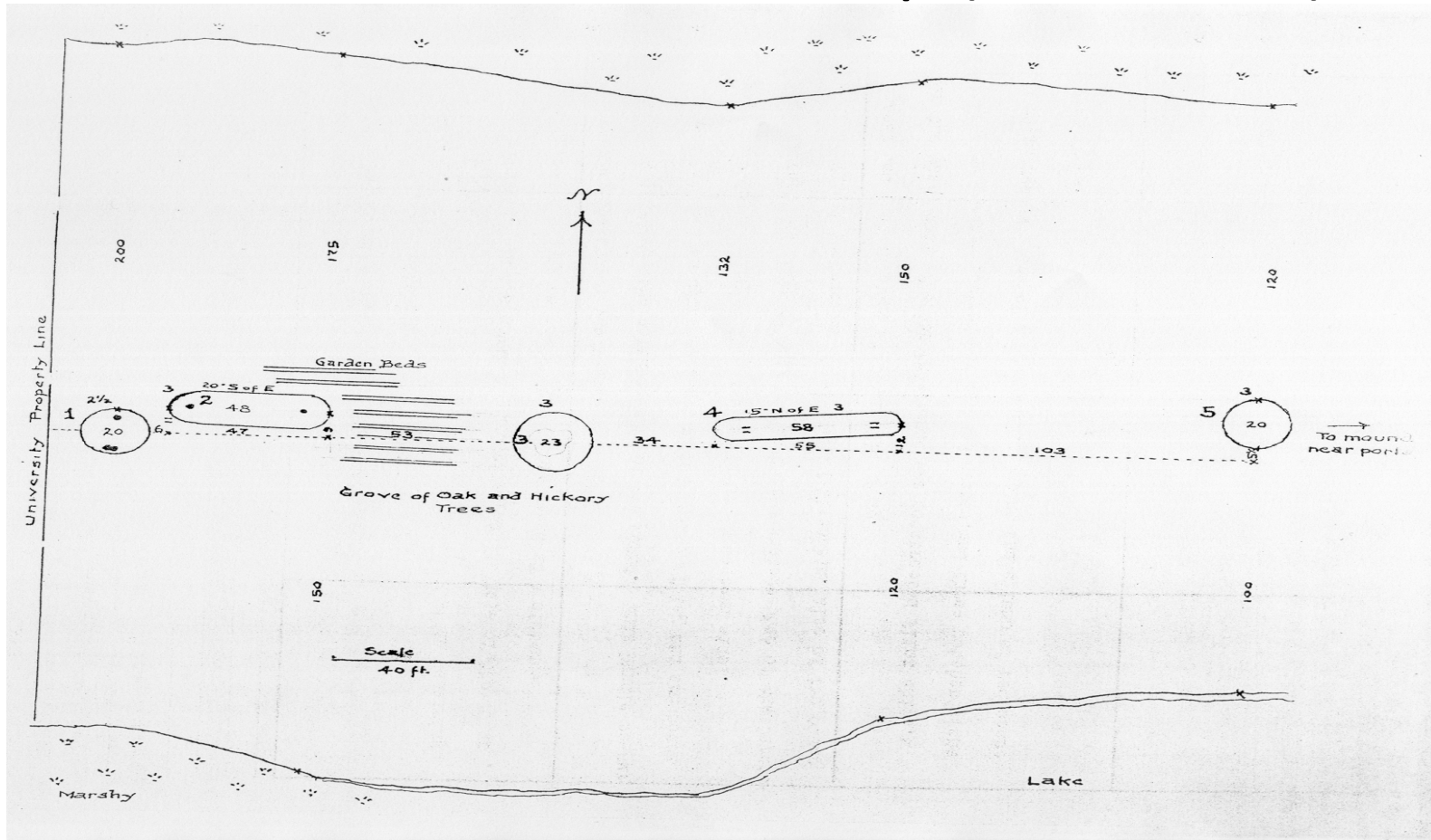
Sources: Davis 1977; Dorney 1981; Dorney and Dorney 1989; Loope and Anderton 1998; Anderton 1999; Toretti 2003; Wolf 2004; Arahms et al 2014, ...

Dejope Mounds



Source: Birmingham, Robert. 2010. *Spirits of the Earth: The Effigy Mound Landscapes of Madison and the Four Lakes*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press.

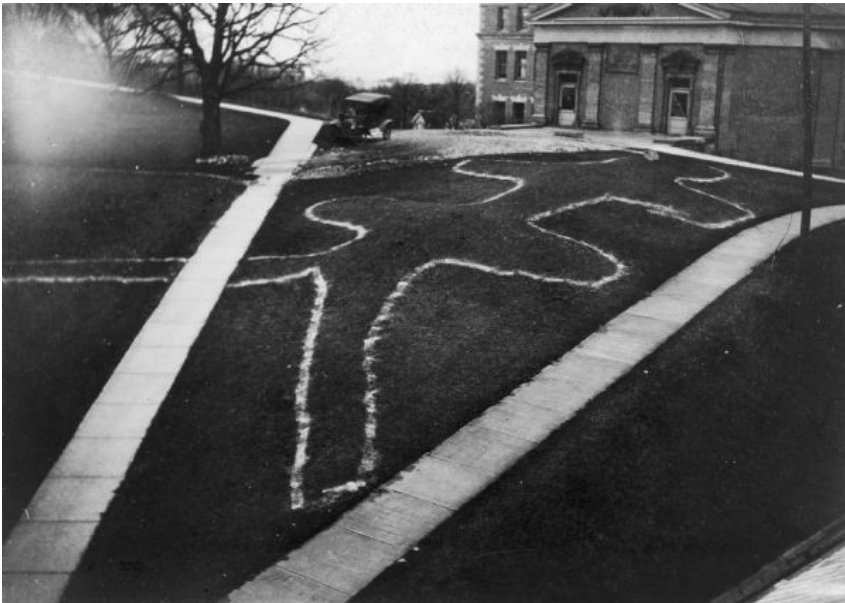
Picnic Point Mound Group (47-Da-121)



“Near the mounds are faint vestiges of the garden beds in which the villagers grew their corn, melons, beans, and squash, Brown said. Each bed is about 30 feet long and four feet wide, and separated by a narrow pathway.” - Charles E Brown, *The Wisconsin State Journal*, 25 August 1939.

Map Source: Charles E Brown 1939, *Field Notes from the Excavation of Mounds in the Picnic Point Mound Group*, Document on file in the Archives Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society.

Observatory Hill



Lake Mendota

"Wunk-sheek-ho-mikla"

(Where the Ho Chunk Man Lies with the (Cat-) Fish)

Lost Lake

White Eagle Village



Den of Water Spirits

Cheenuk Village

Merrill Wishing Spring

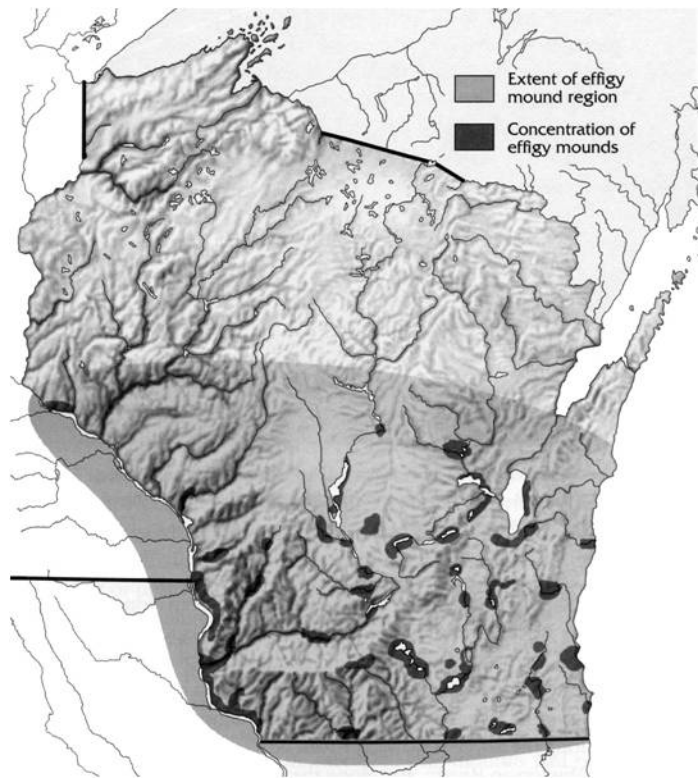
University Village

Pheasant Branch
Peenah Village

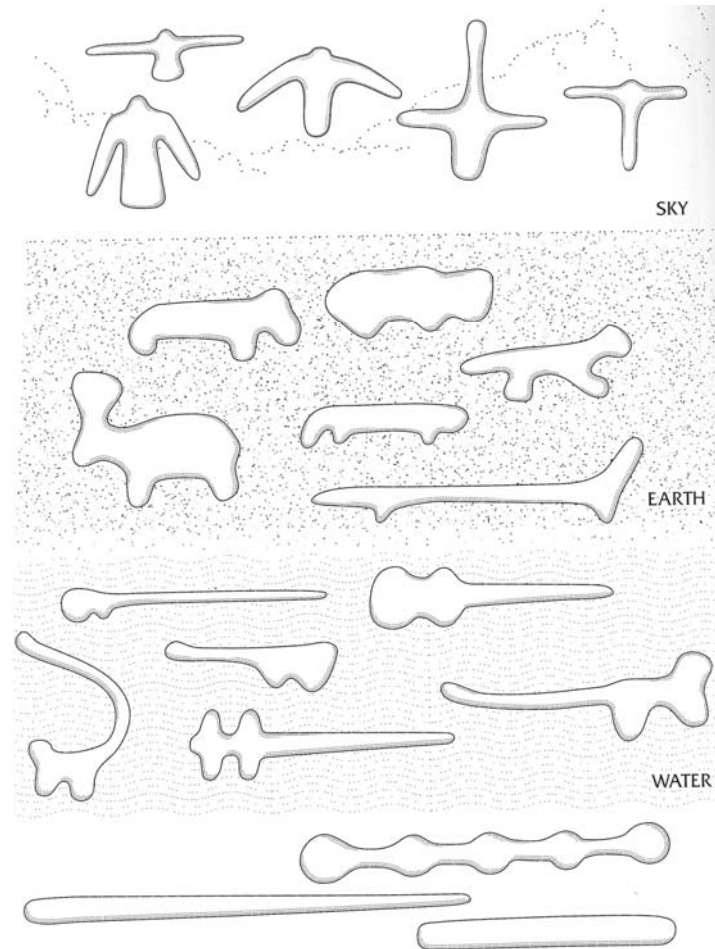
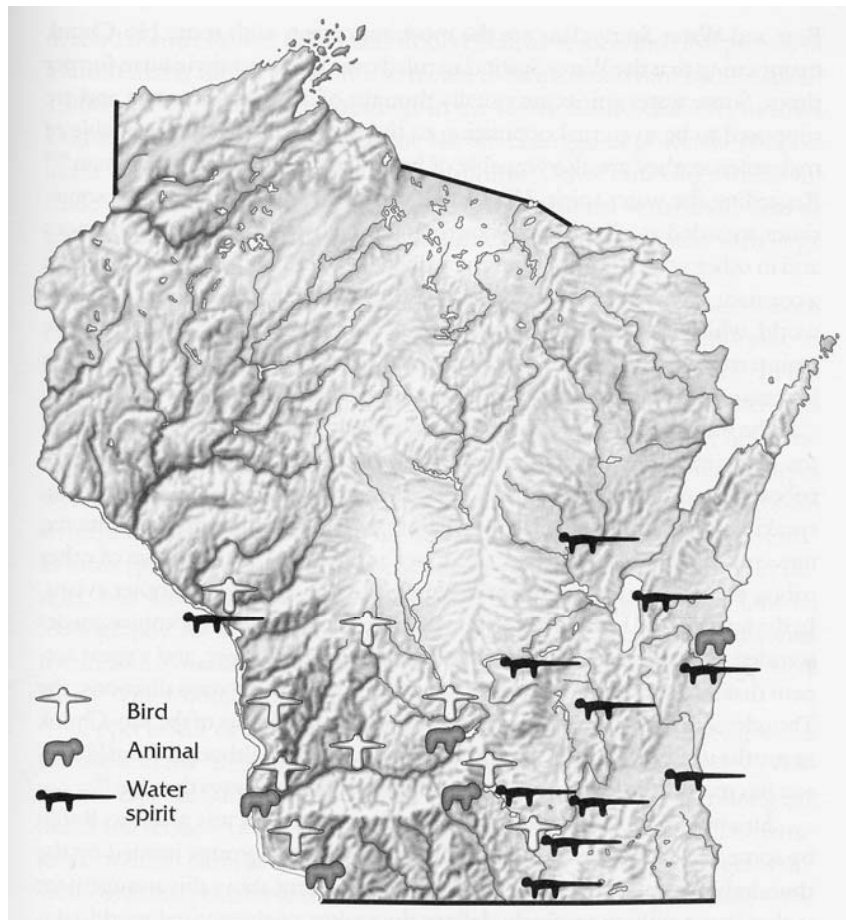
Oral Traditions: "Man Who Killed and Ate the Spirit Raccoon", "Spirit Horses on Horse Hill", "Flying Skull", "Big Beaver", Girl Whose Lover Went to War", Rattlesnake Myth", Wakanda Loses Lake", Wakanda Annoyed by Rabbit", "Thunderbird Roost" and Girl Who Married a Sky Man". WSHS: Image ID: 85412, Brown 1927.

Mendota State Hospital Grounds

Effigy Mounds



Effigy Mounds



Source: Birmingham and Eisenberg 2000

Ho Chunk Clans

Name	Translation
<i>Wakaja</i>	Thunderbird
<i>Wonqǫire</i>	Wąąkšik People of War
<i>Caxšep</i>	Eagle
<i>Rucge</i>	Pigeon

<i>Hyc</i>	Bear
<i>Šykjak</i>	Wolf
<i>Ca</i>	Deer
<i>Huwq</i>	Elk
<i>Cexjj</i>	Buffalo

<i>Wakjexi</i>	Water-spirit
<i>Ho</i>	Fish
<i>Wakq</i>	Snake

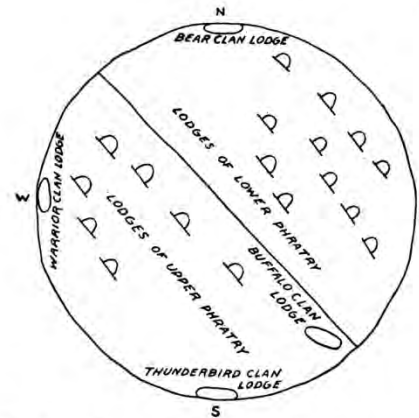


FIG. 33.—Plan of village according to Thundercloud, of the Thunderbird clan.

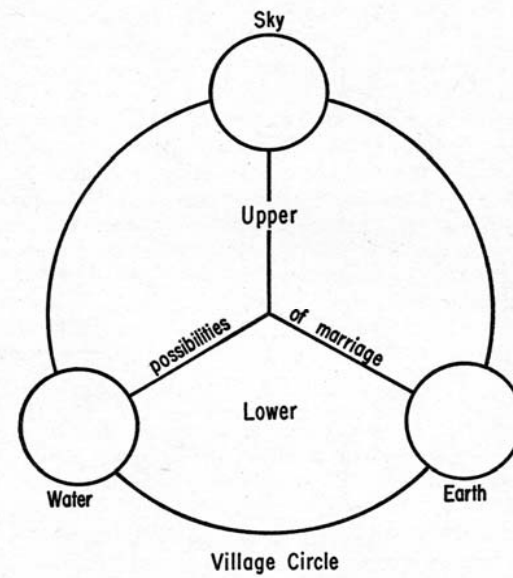
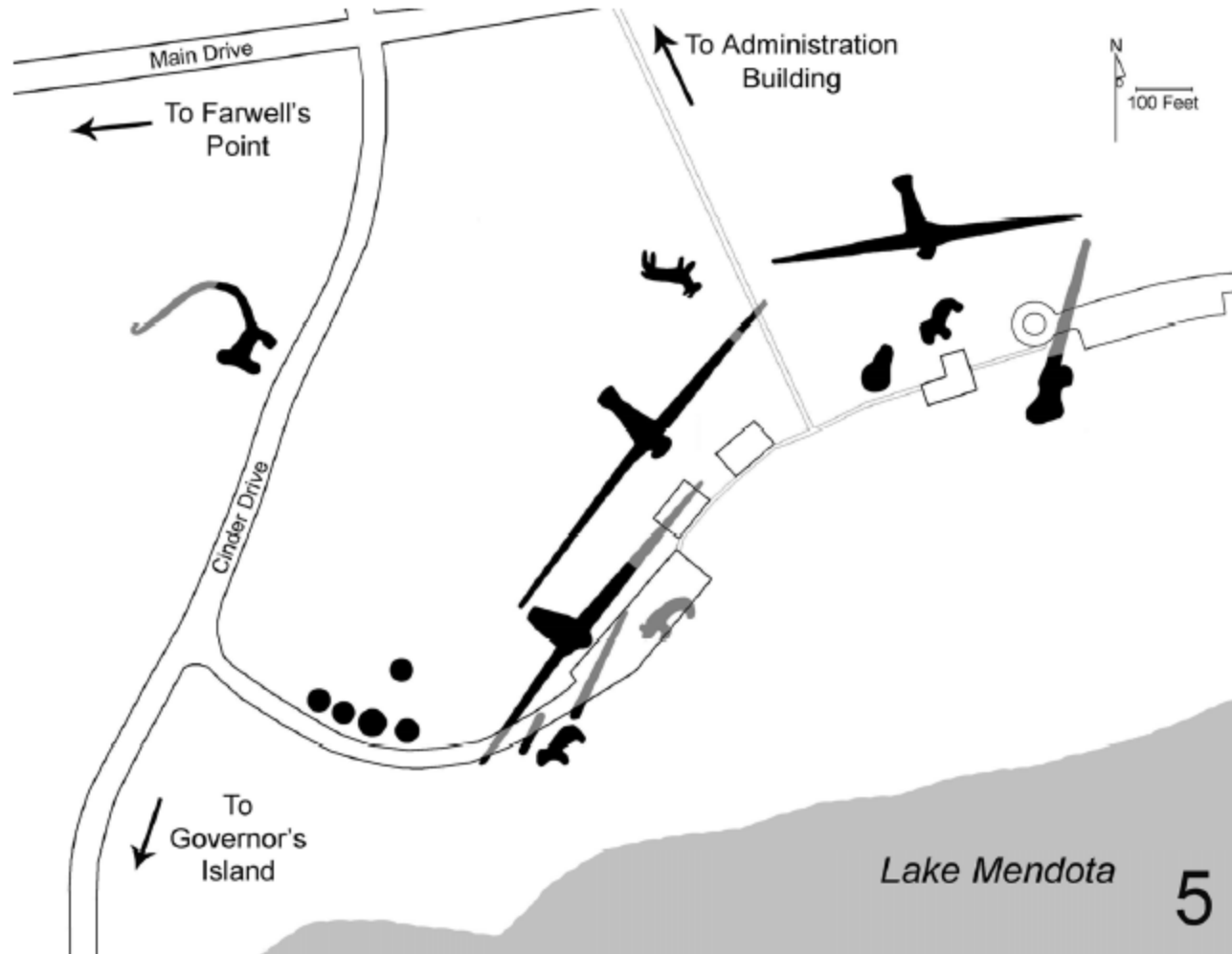


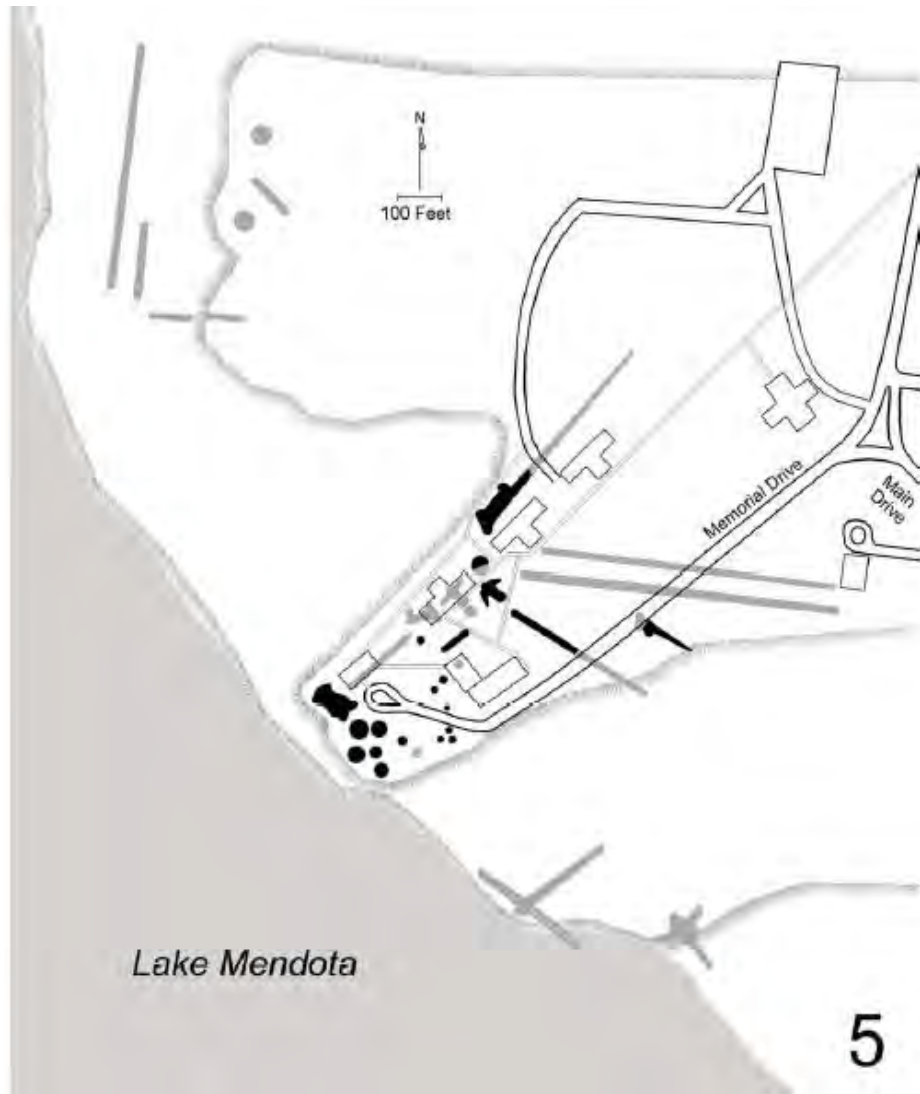
FIGURE 13. Diagram of the Winnebago social structure.

Source: Radin 1990 [1915]

Mendota State Hospital Grounds



Mendota State Hospital Grounds (Farwell's Point)



Prairie du Sac: The Great Village of the Saukies

The Great Village of the Sauk Indians at Prairie du Sac

F902S2
SK

From -
Baraboo News
July 16, 1921

**SKELETONS ARE FOUND WHILE DIGGING FOR
WATER MAINS AT SAUK CITY—LOCALITY ONCE
HOME OF INDIAN TRIBES—VISITED BY CARVER**

Several skeletons of persons, presumably those of Indians, have been found while digging for water mains at Sauk. What disposition was made of the bones has not been learned. A number of years ago the skeleton of a woman was found, a silver bracelet. The skeleton and bracelet now repose among the relics of the Sauk County historical society.

Jonathan Carver, noted English traveler, visited the Indian village at Sauk City in 1766 and in his account says it was the largest and best-built town he ever saw. The Saukies had about ninety houses, each large enough for several families. They were built of hewn plank, neatly jointed, and covered with bark, so compactly as to keep out the most penetrating rains. Remains of garden beds, where they grew squaw corn and other vegetables, may be seen in the grove by the roadside just west of the village. No doubt the Indians had great sport hunting wing game on Sauk Prairie as well as on the bluffs and when this grew tame they made adventures into adjacent territory in the quest of a few scalps. No doubt many warriors, squaws and papposes sleep in the sand on the bank of the silently flowing Wisconsin where the thriving village of Sauk City is located. The name of the post-office is now about the only thing that links the red people of years ago with the generation of the present.

F902S2
SK

18th Century Descriptions of the Great Village of the Sauk Indians at Prairie du Sac



... and the next day [we] arrived at the Great Town of the Saukies. This is the best built Town I ever saw. It contains about ninety houses, each large enough for several families. ... The land near the town is very good. In their plantations, which lie adjacent to their houses, and which are neatly laid out, they raise great quantities of Indian com, beans, melons, &c. So that this place is esteemed to be the best market for traders to furnish themselves with provisions of any within 800 miles of it.... a few groves of hickory and stunted oaks covered some of the vallies” (Carver 1781 (1766): 47-48).

“Twelve Leagues down the Ouisconsang, on the west shore is a large town of Sackin, in which there are three hundred warriors. ... Behind the Town is a very extensive Plain, on which the Indians raise large quantities of Indian Com, squashes, mellons &c., tobacco: they raise sufficient to supply themselves and sell vast quantities to traders” (Goddard 1766: 5).

“ [The houses are} Sixty feet [18.3 m] Long and Contanes several fammalayes”. ... “This being the last Part of September, these people had every artikle of Eating in thare way in Abunans. ... The women rase Grat Crops of Com, Been, Punkens, Potatoes, Millans and artikels - the Land is Exalnt - and clear of Wood Sum Distan from the Villeag” (Pond 1908 (1773): 335).

[The Sauk village] appears to have been several years deserted when I first saw the place in 1795, as there were then only a few remains of places and posts to be seen.” (August Grignon, Recollections, in Wis. Hist. Colls. (3) 206.

19th and 20th Century Descriptions of the Great Village of the Sauk Indians



“... there was a large settlement of the Sacs on the lower end of Sauk Prairie. I have often examined the remains of their tillage there, and should suppose they raised corn in one lot of at least 400 acres; the town of Westfield [Sauk City] is laid out on part of this ground, and the whole quantity of land, the 400 acres, is covered with well formed, regular, corn hills. In the vicinity are a number of irregular Indian mounds.”

JAMES M. BURGESS 1851 (In *Transactions of the Wisconsin Agricultural Society* 1852 (1): 215).

“Of these extensive fields only about an acre remain undisturbed. This small area is on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12, on land belonging to Mr. John Riche. Stout 1906: 278.

“The children of these pioneers grew up in the Sauk Prairie country, playing among the Indian mounds, among the com hills that were left to mark the village Carver had visited in 1766. (‘When we were little girls’, remembered my grandmother Derleth, ‘we went out in the evenings ... and we played a little game there among the com hills - that’s what they were, those mounds - and we played we were Indians, and jumped from one to the other of them, daring each other, boys and girls together, like children will. Oh those days!’)” - August Derleth 1942: 342.

Schluckebier Prairie

Schluckebier Prairie

Endangered/Threatened Species



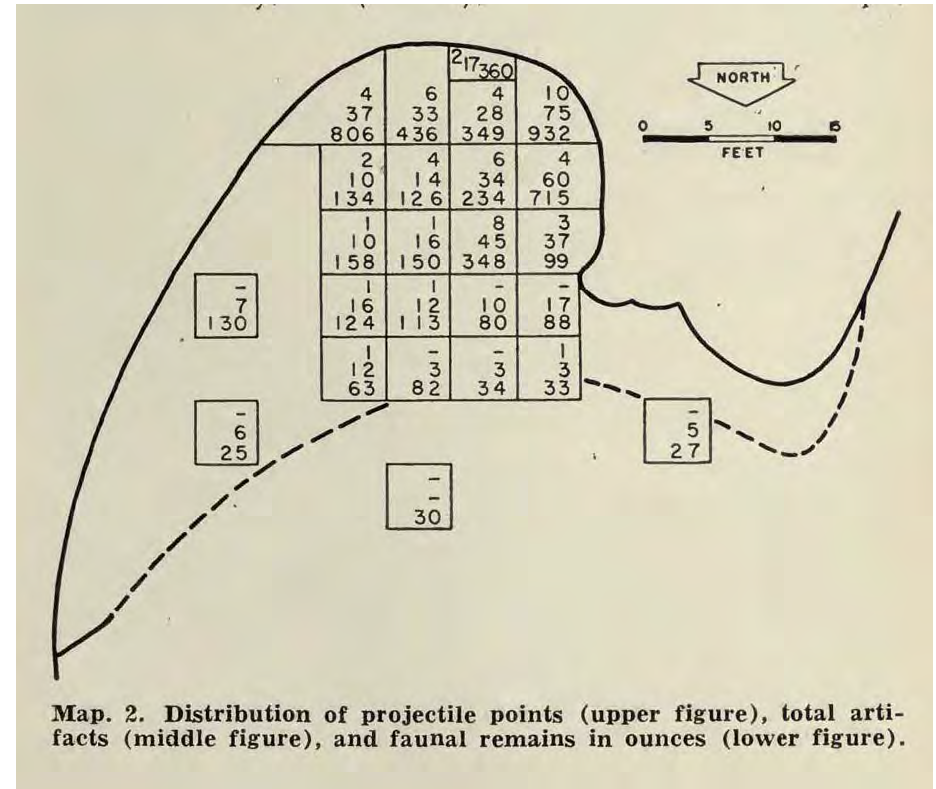
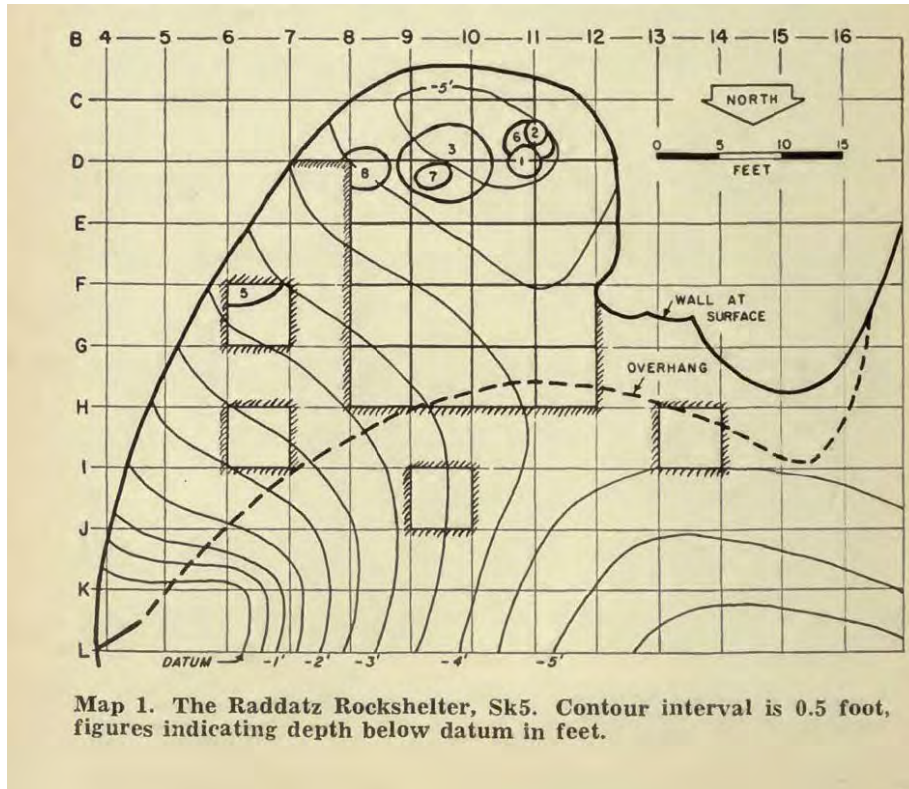
Prairie Bush Clover
(*Lespedeza leptostachya*)



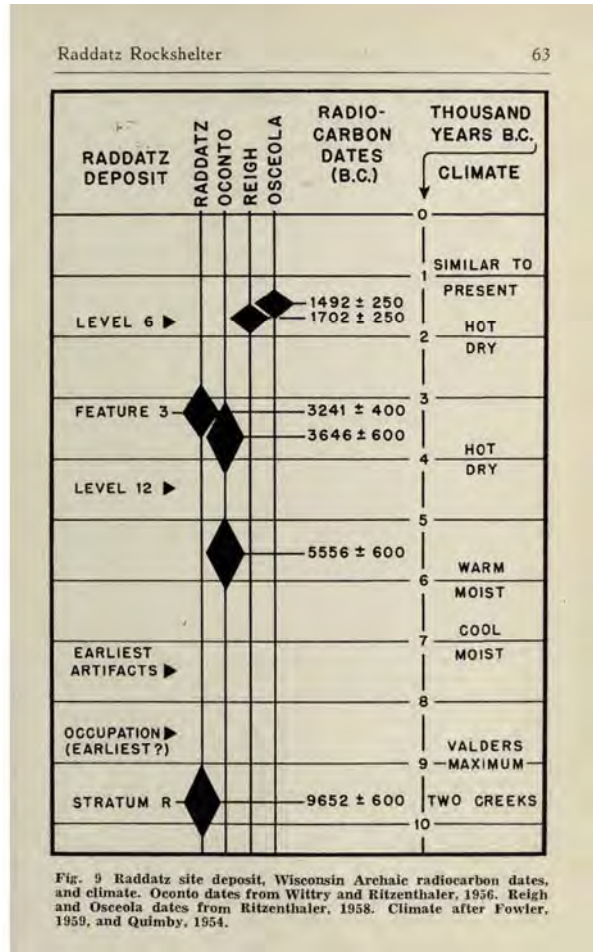
Red-Tailed Leafhopper
(*Aflexia rubranura*)
Host plant is prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*).

Natural Bridges State Park (Raddatz Rockshelter)

Raddatz Rockshelter



Raddatz Rockshelter



Raddatz Rockshelter

TABLE 1. Frequency of Faunal and Cultural Remains

Level	Faunal Remains (ounces)		Cultural Remains																												
	Chert Blocks	Chert Flakes	Utilized Chert Flakes	Chert Implement Frags.	Raddatz Side-notched Proj. Pts	Straight-stemmed Proj. Pts.	Corner-notched Proj. Pts.	Dorst Stemmed Proj. Pts.	Unclassified Proj. Pts.	Symmetrical Knives	Unclassified Knives	Scrapers	Drill	Ground Stone Frags.	Grinding Stone	Hammerstones	Split Bone Awls	Deer Ulna Awl	Polished Bone Awls	Cut Bird Bone	Ground Wolf Teeth	Split Beaver Incisor Chisel	Turtle Shell Bowl Frags.	Shell Spoon Frags.	Antler Flaking Tools	Barbed Antler Proj. Pts.	Antler Drift	Antler Anvil	Antler Rubbing Tool		
1	150	12	11	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2	319	29	12	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	
3	486	15	7	1	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	
4	536	18	7	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	
5	856	16	27	1	7	4	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	1	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	1	-	-	-	
6	901	7	30	-	5	16	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	
7	662	7	6	1	5	3	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	1	1	2	-	1	1	-	1	2	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	
8	340	5	7	1	3	2	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	
9	189	1	5	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	
10	154	3	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
11	100	2	2	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
12	78	3	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
13	70	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	48	3	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	48	3	7	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Below	91	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Features	134	4	4	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disturbed	648	9	12	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	5810	139	157	16	35	31	11	3	4	10	19	4	2	1	3	1	4	16	1	2	1	3	1	17	8	8	2	1	1	1	1

Raddatz Rockshelter

TABLE I

The Species and Number of Identified Remains of Mollusks Recovered at the Raddatz Rockshelter (Sk5), Sauk County, Wisconsin, 1957.

Species	Total Number of Identified Remains
FRESH-WATER MUSSELS:	
<i>Limnasilis ventricosa</i> (Pocketbook)	22
<i>Actinonaias carinata</i> (Mucket)	8
<i>Elliptio dilatatus</i> (Spike)	7
<i>Lampsilis siliquoides</i> (Fat Mucket)	2
<i>Quadrula metanevra</i> (Monkey-face)	2
<i>Lampsilis</i> sp.	2
<i>Anodonta</i> sp. (Floater)	2
<i>Ligumia recta</i> (Black Sandshell)	1
<i>Plethorobasus cyphus</i> (Sheepsnose)	1
<i>Amblema</i> sp. (Three-ridge)	1
SNAILS:	
<i>Anguispira alternata</i>	154
<i>Triodopsis</i> and/or <i>Mesodon</i> spp.	18
<i>Mesodon thyroidus</i>	9
<i>Stenotrema fraternum</i>	5
<i>Triodopsis multilineata</i>	3
<i>Helicina orbiculata</i>	2

TABLE II

The Species and Number of Identified Remains of Vertebrates Recovered at the Raddatz Rockshelter (Sk5), Sauk County, Wisconsin, 1957.

Species	Total Number of Identified Remains
AMPHIBIANS:	
Small Frogs and/or Toads	16
TURTLES:	
Snapping Turtle (<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>)	30
Box Turtle (<i>Terrapene carolina</i>)	28
Turtle spp.	18
Painted Turtle (<i>Chrysemys picta</i>), Blanding's Turtle (<i>Emys blandingii</i>) and/or Map Turtle (<i>Graptemys</i> sp.)	17
Painted Turtle (<i>Chrysemys picta</i>)	10
Blanding's Turtle (<i>Emys blandingii</i>)	2
SNAKES:	
Snake sp.	

BIRDS:

Passenger Pigeon (<i>Ectopistes migratorius</i>)	149
Ruffed Grouse (<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>)	84
Turkey (<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>)	14
Sharp-tailed Grouse (<i>Pedioecetes phasianellus</i>)	10
Small Passerines	9
Flicker (probably Yellow-shafted Flicker, <i>Colaptes auratus</i>)	7
Screech Owl (<i>Otus asio</i>)	6
Woodpecker spp.	5
Cardinal (<i>Richmondia cardinalis</i>)	4
Common Crow (<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>)	4
Blue Jay (<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>)	4
Turkey Vulture (<i>Cathartes aura</i>)	3
Red-tailed Hawk (<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>)	2
Barred Owl (<i>Strix varia</i>)	2
Sora (<i>Porzana carolina</i>)	2
Catbird (<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>)-probably	2
American Coot (<i>Fulica americana</i>)	1
Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	1
Canada Goose (<i>Branta canadensis</i>)	1
Wood Duck (<i>Aix sponsa</i>)	1
Red-headed Woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>)	1
Redwinged Blackbird (<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>)	1
Owl (<i>Asio</i> sp.; probably Short-eared Owl, <i>A. flammeus</i>)	1

MAMMALS:

Whitetail Deer (<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>)	4,409
Eastern Chipmunk (<i>Tamias striatus</i>)	55
Elk (<i>Cervus canadensis</i>)	34
Raccoon (<i>Procyon lotor</i>)	33
Gray Wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>)	33
Woodchuck (<i>Marmota monax</i>)	33
Red Squirrel (<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>)	27
Southern Flying Squirrel (<i>Glaucomys volans</i>)	26
Gray Squirrel (<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>)	25
Eastern Cottontail (<i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>)	24
Beaver (<i>Castor canadensis</i>)	20
Canis sp. (Probably Domestic Dog, <i>C. familiaris</i>)	20
Common Mole (<i>Scalopus aquaticus</i>)	15
Big Brown Bat (<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>)	7
Brown Bat (<i>Myotis</i> sp.)	6
Vole (<i>Microtus</i> sp.)	5
Deer Mouse (<i>Peromyscus</i> sp.)	4
Muskrat (<i>Ondatra zibethica</i>)	3
Bog Lemming (<i>Synaptomys cooperi</i>)	2
Bobcat (<i>Lynx rufus</i>)	2
Red Fox (<i>Vulpes fulva</i>)- probably	2
Martin (<i>Martes americana</i>)	1
Fisher (<i>Martes pennanti</i>)	1
Short-tailed Shrew (<i>Blarina brevicauda</i>)	1
Northern Flying Squirrel (<i>Glaucomys sabrinus</i>)	1
Weasel (<i>Mustela frenata</i>)	1
Mountain Lion (<i>Felis concolor</i>)	1

Raddatz Rockshelter



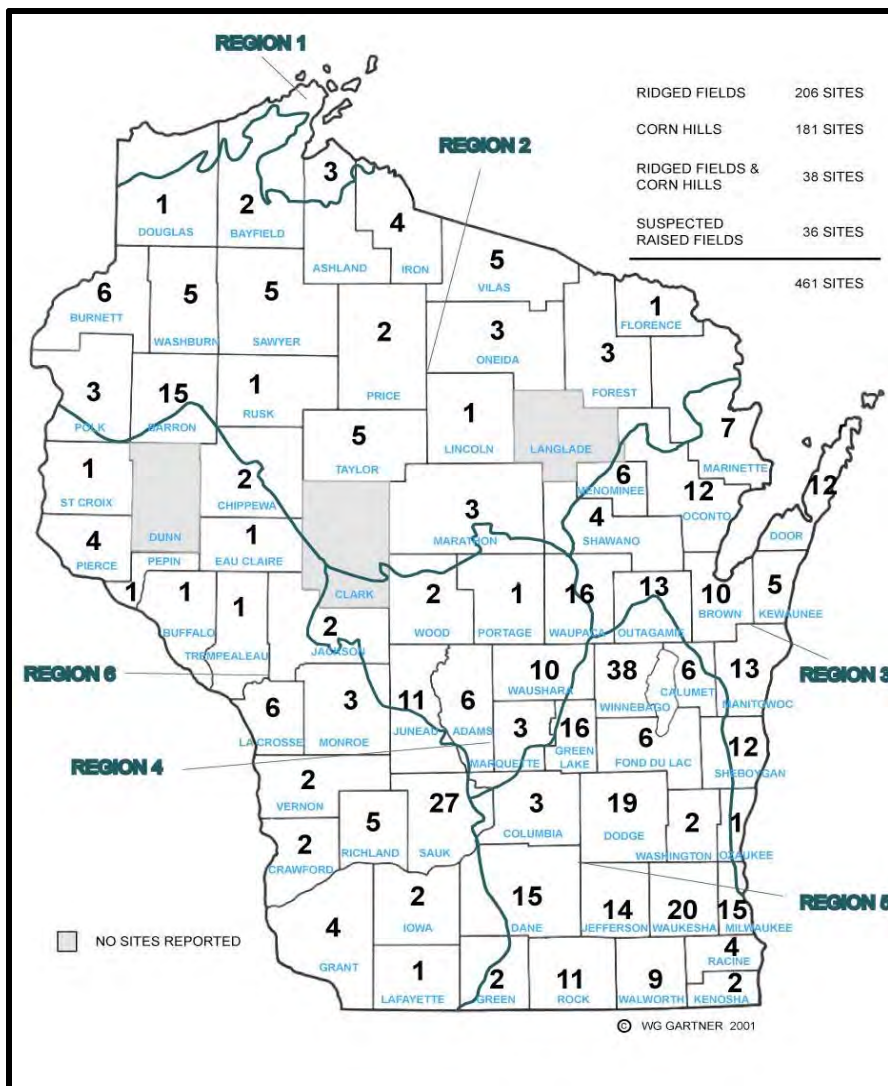
Fig. 7. A-1, split bone awls; J, deer ulna awl; K-L, polished bone awls; M, cut bird bone; N-P, ground wolf teeth; Q, split beaver incisor chisel; R-S, shell spoons.



Fig. 8. Antler artifacts: A, flaking tool; B-C, barbed projectile points (D is a waste section); E, cut section; F, drift; G, anvil; H, rubbing tool.

Hulburt Creek Raised Fields

Raised Fields



Source: Gartner 2003b



Corn Hills

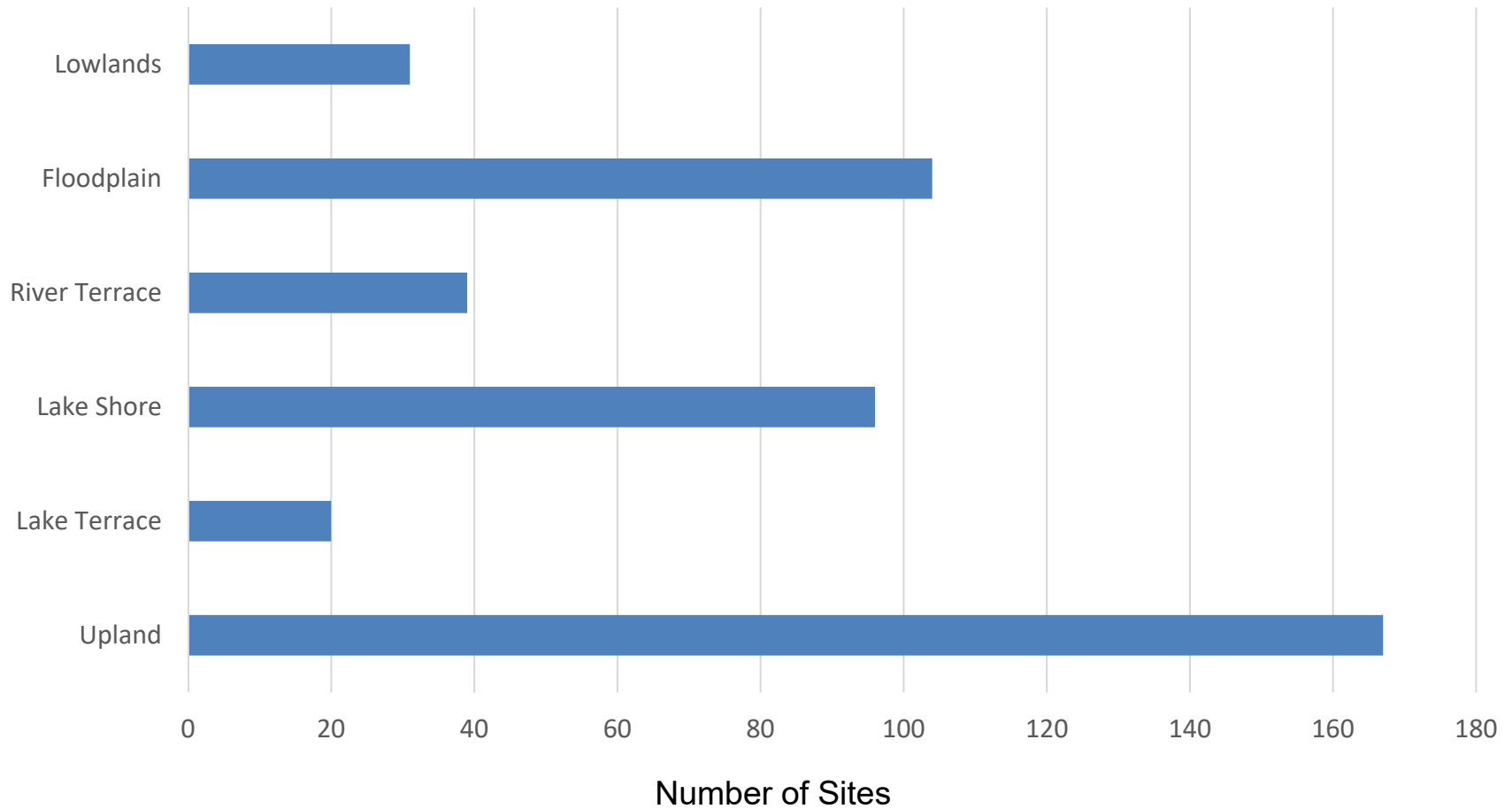
Carroll College, WI: Photo by George Fox 1902. Wisconsin State Historical Society WHi (x3) 44498, Lot 3700.



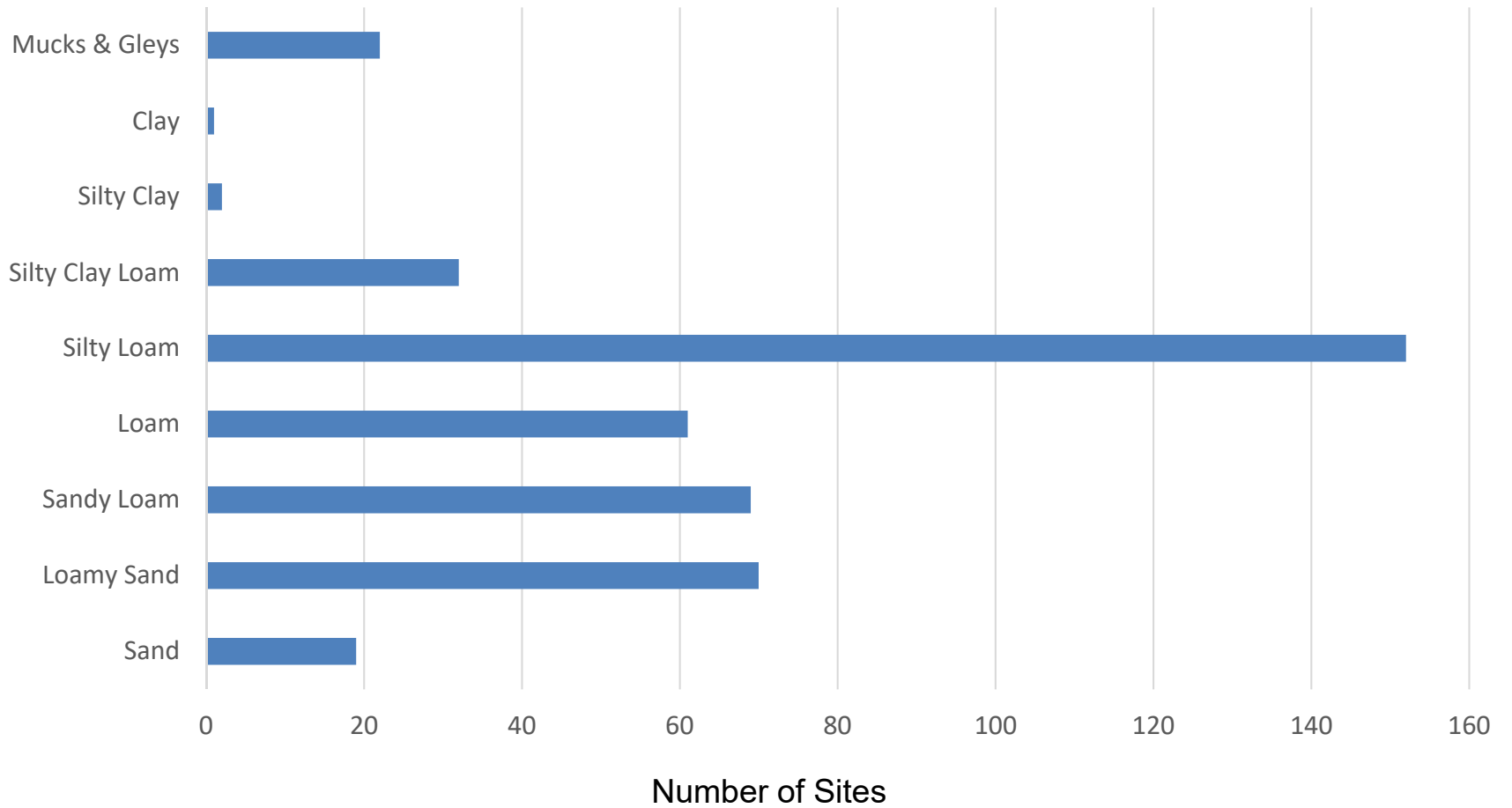
Ridged Fields

Eulrich Farm, WI: Photo by George Fox 1913. Wisconsin State Historical Society WHi (x3) 44500, Lot 3700

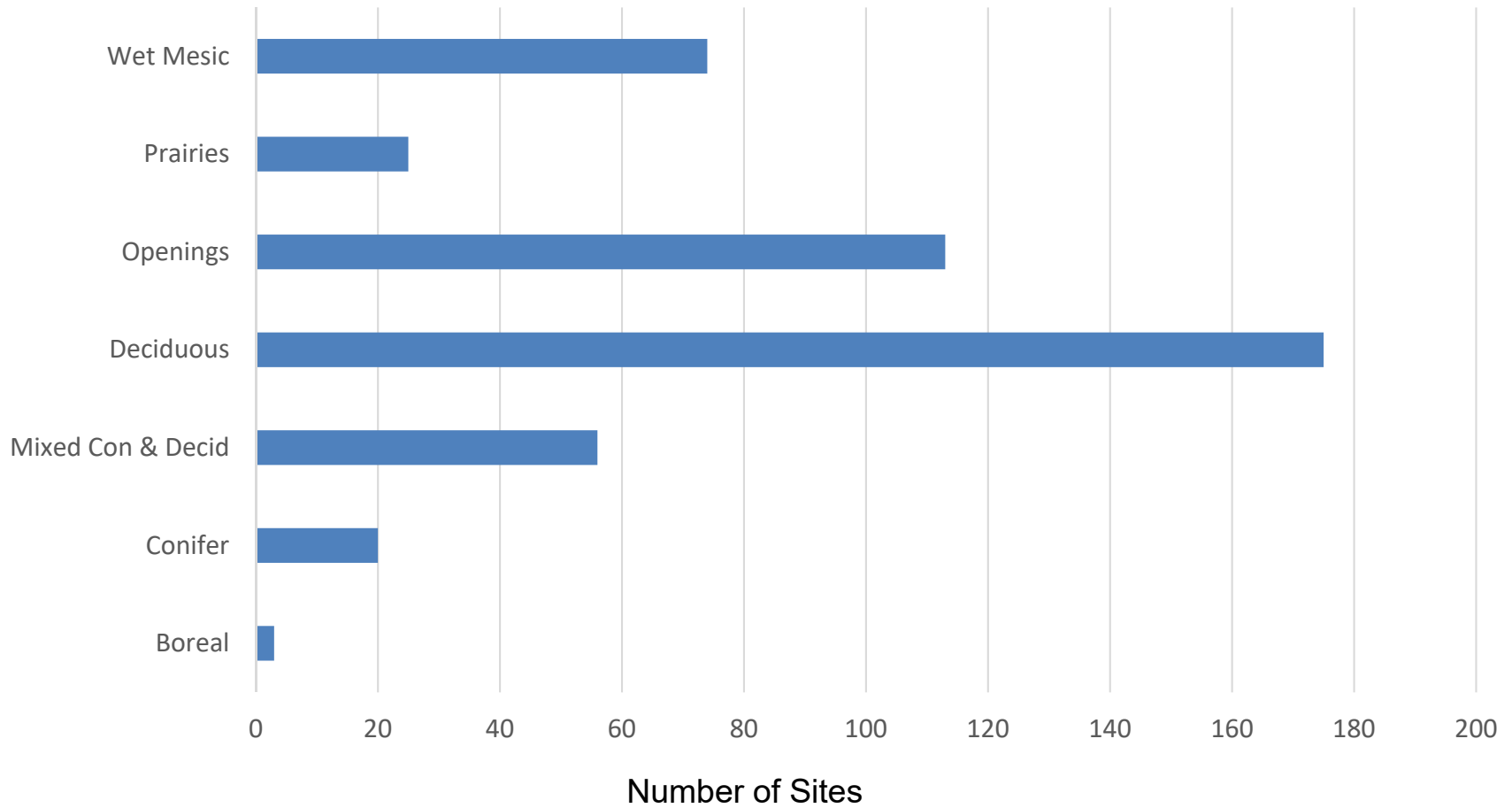
Landforms and Wisconsin Indian Agriculture



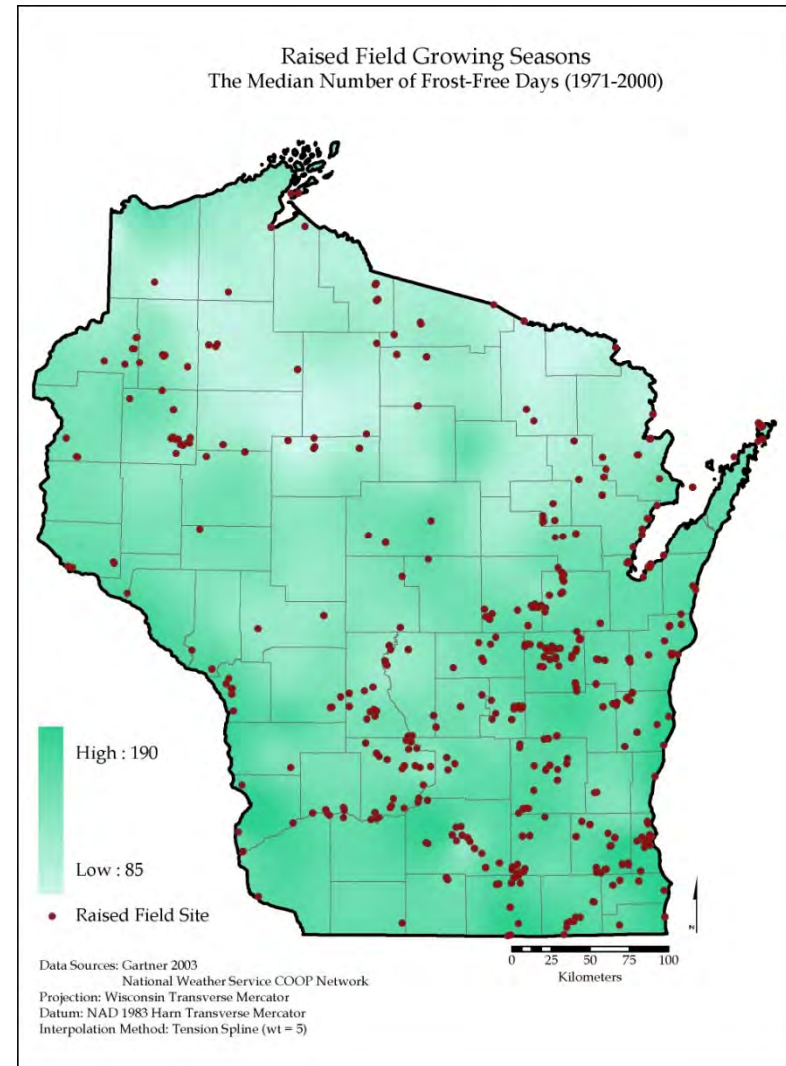
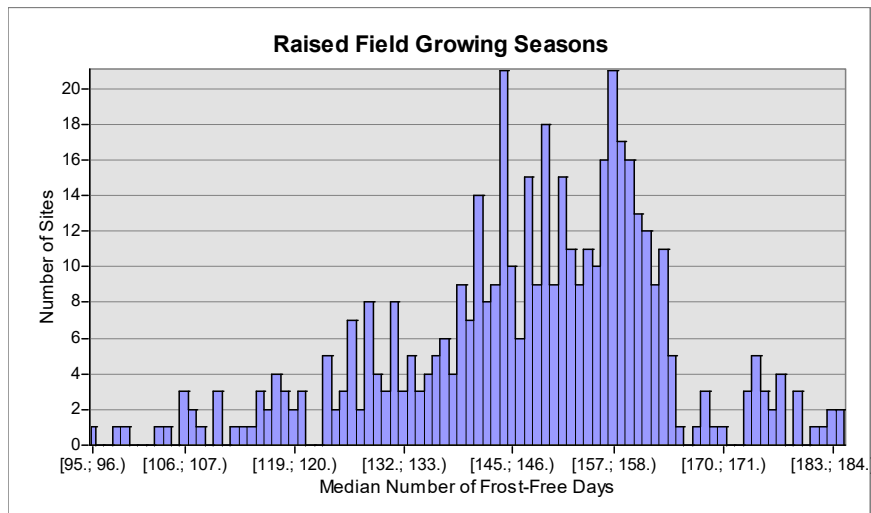
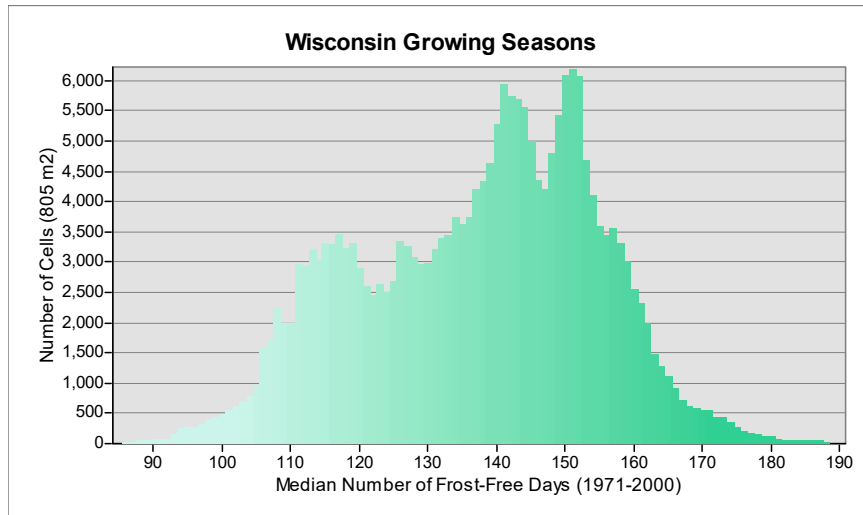
Soil Texture and Wisconsin Indian Agriculture



Vegetation and Wisconsin Indian Agriculture



Climate and Wisconsin Indian Agriculture



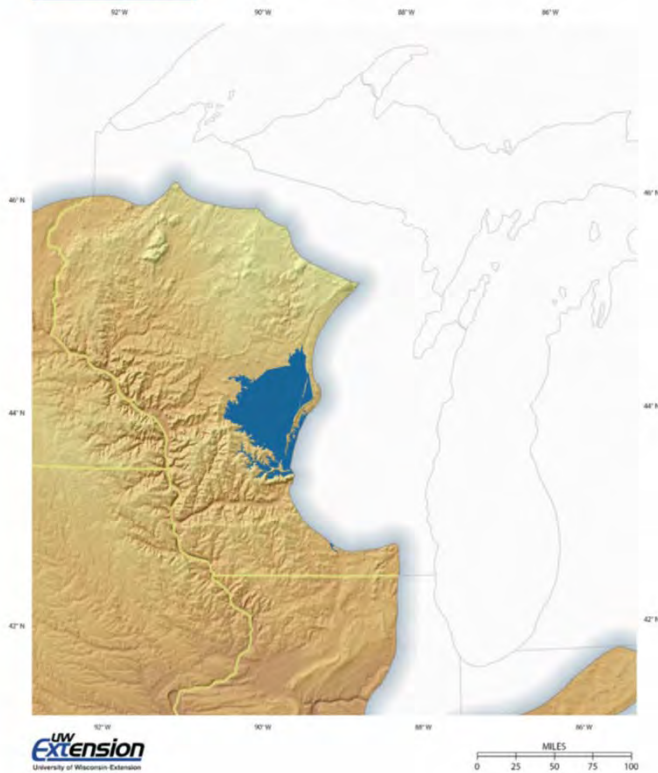
Glacial Lake Wisconsin

WISCONSIN GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

19,500
YEARS AGO

LAURENTIDE ICE SHEET: ICE-MARGIN POSITIONS

Little change in Wisconsin, Chippewa Lobe at Tiger Cat position, Wisconsin Valley Lobe at Willow position, and Langlade Lobe at Summit Lake position; advance to Minooka position in Illinois.



WISCONSIN GEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SURVEY

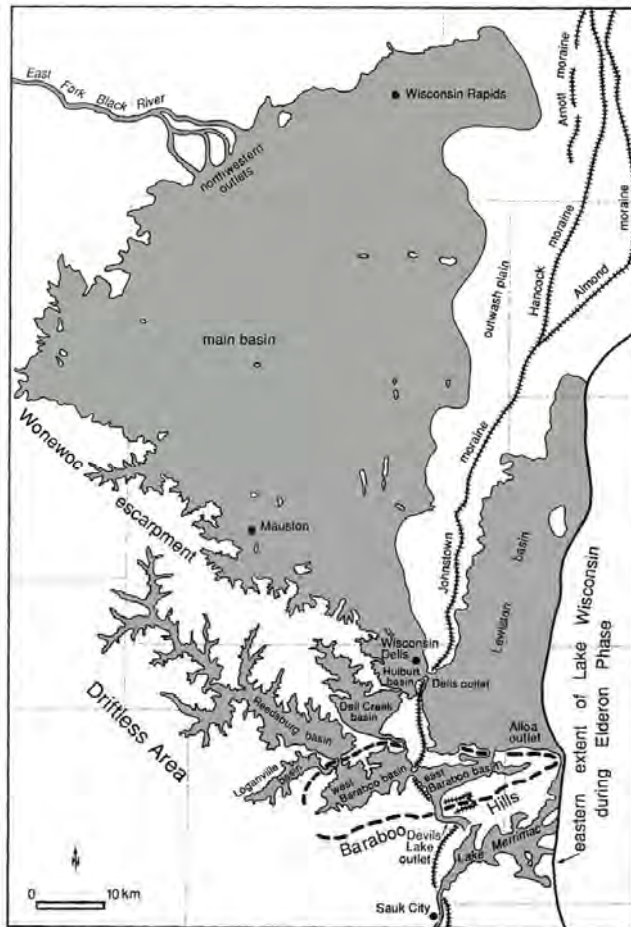
18,500
YEARS AGO

LAURENTIDE ICE SHEET: ICE-MARGIN POSITIONS

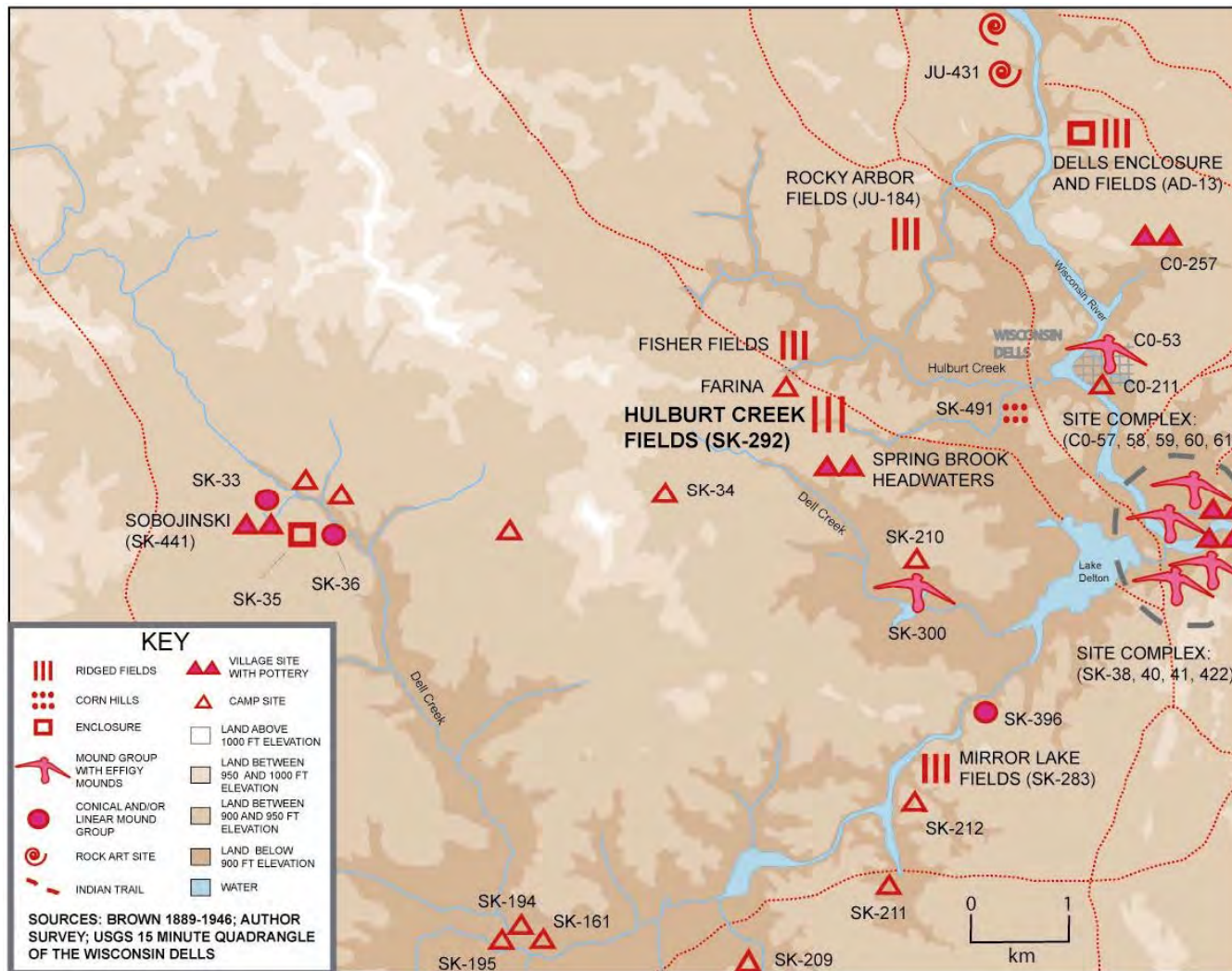
Recession from east end of Baraboo Hills, ice margin at Lake Mills, West Chicago, Iroquois, Champaign positions; glacial Lake Scuppernon forms—several optical ages for Green Bay Lobe from Devils Lake area.



Glacial Lake Wisconsin



The Hulburt Creek Raised Fields



Source: WG Gartner 2003

The Hulburt Creek Raised Fields



Raised Field

Original Surface

980 ± 50 RCYBP

Mottles

Bedrock



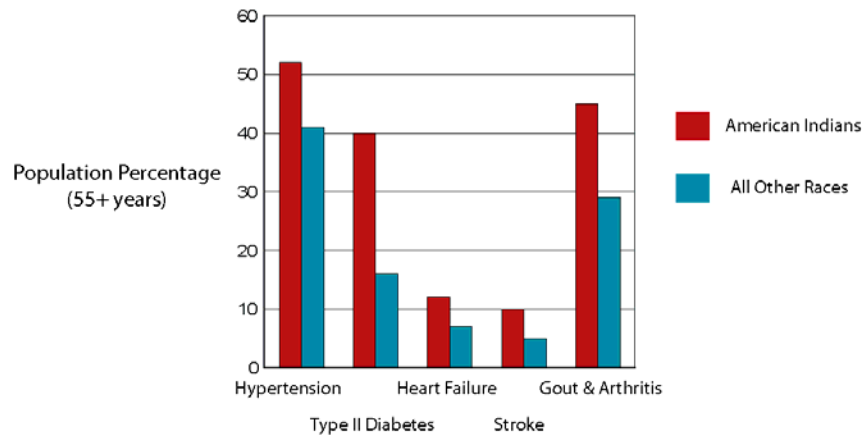
Rebuilding

Original Surface

Buried Ditch

Food Sovereignty and Restoration Subsistence Ecology

Prevalence of Diet Related Chronic Diseases



Source: National Center for Health Statistics (1990-1999)
Indian Health Services (1992-1999)



Kingsley Bend Mound Group

Kingsley Bend Mound Group

