

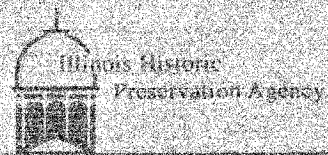
F.A. RTE.	SECTION	COUNTY	TOTAL SHEETS	SHEET NO.
		ST. CLAIR	18	15
STA. _____		TO STA. _____		
FED. ROAD DIST. NO. _____ ILLINOIS FED. AID PROJECT				
CONTRACT NO. 4496P				



Woodstock road design from the River Valley from Cahokia

Stockade

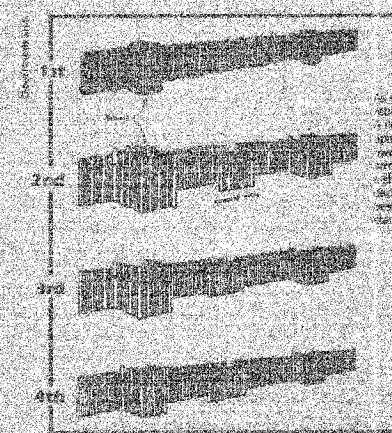
A Walled City



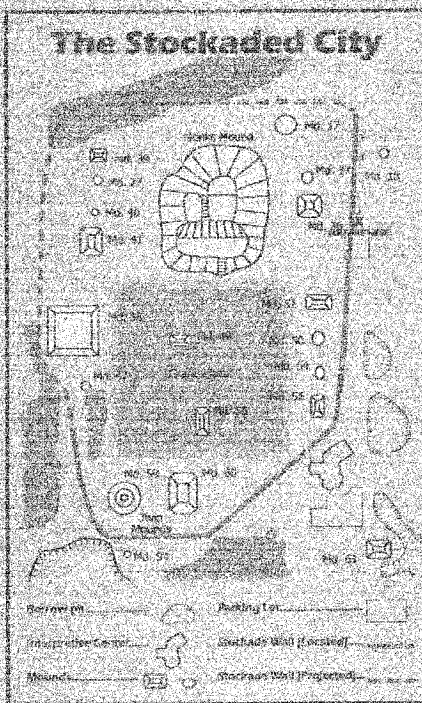
Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site



Aerial view of the Stockade wall and surrounding mounds at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site.



As shown in these illustrations, the wall was built in several stages between AD 1150 to 1250. A stock wall required an earthen ramp on the inside at 90 feet intervals. These earthen ramps were built on the inside of the wall and were built only as they were needed. The wall was built in stages, and the spacing between walls became more widely spaced, indicating a standard width of 100 feet had been determined.



The central ceremonial precinct of Cahokia was enclosed by a defensive wall, the Stockade (or Palisade). It was built of upright logs placed in 4-5 foot deep trenches and probably stood 10-15 feet high above the ground. It would take an estimated 15-20,000 logs to build this wall that was nearly two miles long. At regular intervals (about 95 feet, center-to-center) were bastions, guard towers with raised platforms for warriors to protect the front of the wall. I-shaped entrances were occasionally placed between bastions.

The Stockade would also serve a social function. The wall enclosed an area of nearly 200 acres, including Mounds 31 and 37

other mounds. Those living inside the sacred precinct were somehow different from those living outside, possibly related to the ruling elite. However, it is likely that all citizens would be allowed inside for festivals and ceremonies or to help defend, if needed. It is not known if the enemy were local or from distant areas, or if the site was ever attacked.

The word does not survive, but archaeologists can see dark linear stains in the soil marking where the trenches had been dug into the lighter substrate. Four constructions of wall are evident, often overlapping each other, with the size and shape of the bastions changing each time.



Trail map of the Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site showing the Stockade wall and the locations of the mounds.



Map of the Stockade wall showing the four construction stages of the wall and the bastions between the gates.

DISTRICT PROJECT ENGINEER - LANCE KIDD

REVISIONS	
NAME	DATE

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SIGN GRAPHICS 3

IDNR / IHPA STATEWIDE
SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS
CAHOKIA MOUNDS STATE
HISTORIC SITE

SCALE: NTS
DATE: 2-26-07

DRAWN BY: EJR
CHECKED BY: GWV