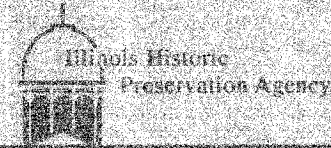


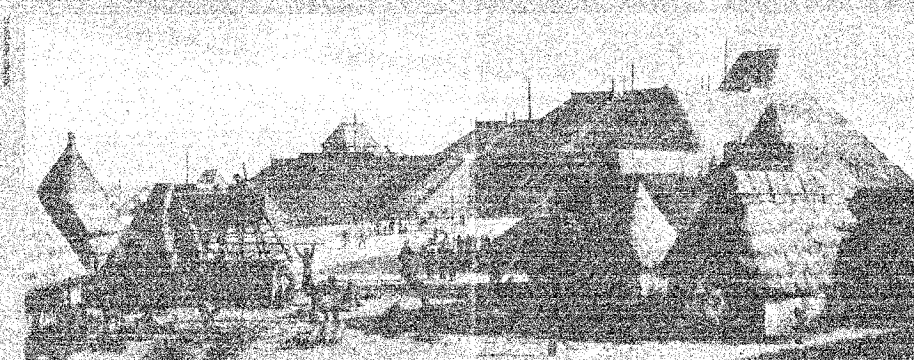
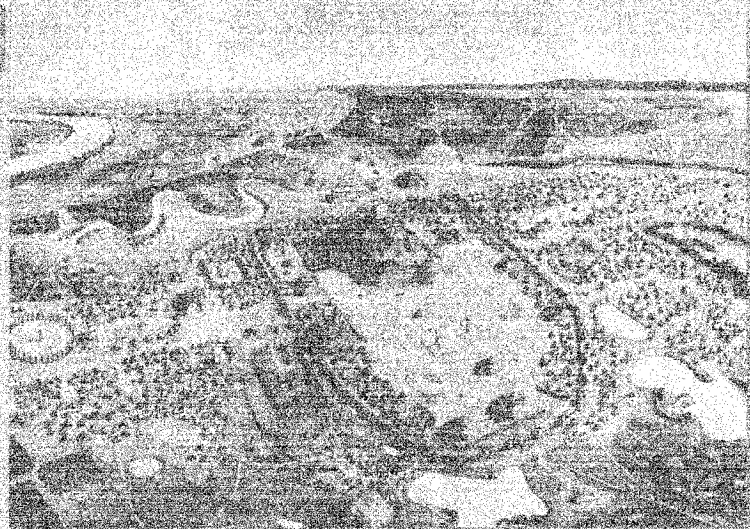
Cahokia

City of the Sun

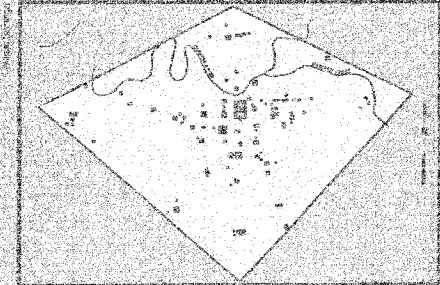


Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site

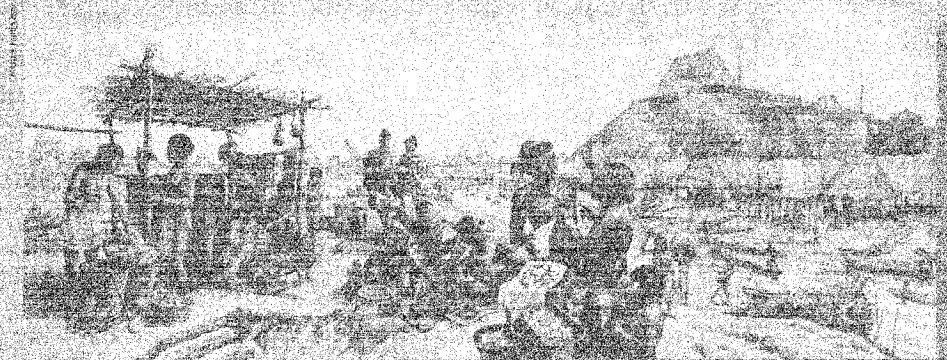
Archaeological site of Cahokia Mounds, Illinois, featuring a large earthen mound complex.



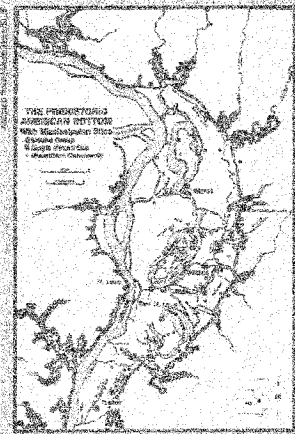
Reconstruction drawing of a large earthen building at Cahokia, showing the complex structure and surrounding area.



Map of the Cahokia Mounds site showing the layout of the mounds and surrounding area.



Reconstruction drawing of a village scene with people and simple dwellings.



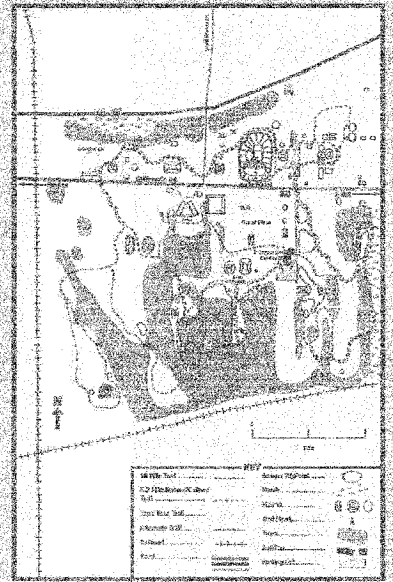
Map of the Mississippi River system showing the location of Cahokia.

Cahokia was the largest prehistoric Indian community in America north of Mexico. It covered an area of six square miles, including at least 120 mounds of different size and function. Initial occupation during Late Woodland times (AD 700-800) included small settlements along Cahokia Creek. These expanded and merged during early Mississippian times (AD 900-1000) and the population and complexity increased, reaching a peak between AD 1050-1150 with an estimated population of 10,000-15,000. A period of change and population decline began in the 1200s and by AD 1350-1400, Cahokia had been abandoned.

Indians of the Mississippian culture built this community and many other large and small ones throughout the Mississippi floodplain and the adjacent uplands. Cahokia was the center of a large complex chiefdom that had ceremonial and trade connections to other Mississippian sites throughout the Midwest and Southeast.

The decline of Cahokia may be attributed to a combination of many factors, including depletion of resources in the region, internal social and political unrest, extensive friction and conflicts with other groups, climatic changes affecting crops and local flora and fauna, soil exhaustion due to intensive agriculture, and loss of control and influence over contemporary sites and groups.

Site Trail Guide



F.A. RTE.	SECTION	COUNTY	TOTAL SHEETS	SHEET NO.
		ST. CLAIR	18	16
STA.		TO STA.		
FED. ROAD DIST. NO.		ILLINOIS FED. AID PROJECT		

CONTRACT NO. 44966

NOTES:
FULL-COLOR, ELECTRONIC FILE GRAPHICS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO CONTRACTOR FOR EMBEDDED FIBERGLASS SIGN PRODUCTION.

DISTRICT PROJECT ENGINEER - LANCE KIDD

REVISIONS	
NAME	DATE

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
SIGN GRAPHICS 4
IDNR / IHPA STATEWIDE SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS CAHOKIA MOUNDS STATE HISTORIC SITE

SCALE: NTS
DATE: 2-26-07

DRAWN BY: EJR
CHECKED BY: GWW