

# **A Timeline of Prehistoric Native Americans and Mound Building Cultures in the Eastern Half of the United States**

## **Paleo-Indian Era 13,000 B.C. – 7000 B.C.**

- Lived in small mobile groups
- Hunted various animals with spears tipped with flint points
- May have collected plant food as deciduous forest replaced Ice Age coniferous forest
- Occupied small temporary camps in response to seasonal availability of food
- Made their distinctive tools in workshops located near outcrops of flint

13,000 B.C. – Glaciers retreat; land bridges open to North American Continent from Siberia

15,000 B.C. – 13,000 B.C. - First prehistoric tribes make the journey to North America

Circa 11,500 B.C. – Clovis spear points appear

Circa 10,500 B.C. – Folsom spear points appear

## **Eastern Woodlands Archaic Indian Era 7500 B.C. – 500 B.C.**

Early Archaic (7500 - 6000 B.C.)

Middle Archaic (6000 - 3000 B.C.)

Late Archaic (3000 - 900 B.C.)

3000 B.C. – Hunter-Gatherers shift to agriculture

2000 B.C. - 1000 B.C. - Red Ochre Culture appears

1700 B.C. – Mound building tradition begins at Poverty Point Louisiana

## **Woodland Period 1000 B.C. to 1000 A.D.**

1000 B.C. to 100 B.C. – Adena culture appears

200 B.C. to 500 A.D. – Hopewell culture appears

700 A.D. – Cahokia settlement first established

750 A.D. – 1100 A.D. – Effigy Mounds of the Upper Midwest

900 A.D. – Construction of Monks Mound, Eastern U.S.'s largest earth work, is begun at Cahokia

## **Mississippian Period 1000 A.D. to 1600 A.D.**

1000 A.D. – Mississippian Culture appears

1050 A.D. – Aztalan is occupied by Mississippians in Wisconsin

1070 A.D. – Construction of the Great Serpent Effigy Mound in Ohio

1200 A.D. – Monks Mound is Completed at Cahokia

1400 A.D. – Cahokia is abandoned

1600 A.D. – Mississippian towns in Ohio are abandoned

1650 A.D. - Mississippian culture vanishes

1650 A.D. – 1700 A.D. - Modern Native American Tribes move into Ohio and  
Mississippi River Valleys