



# Prehistoric Archaeology in Tennessee

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# Why do Archaeology in Tennessee?





# Academic Study



MTSU summer field school, 2012

# Development



House footprint, ca. 1000 AD, Williamson County



# Disaster Response



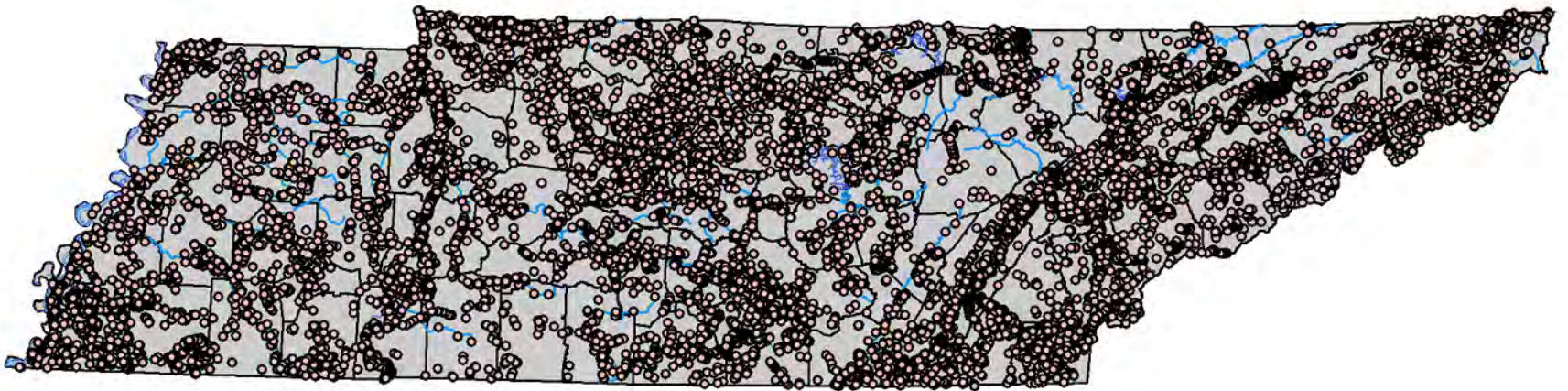
Prehistoric midden exposed by 2010 flooding along the Cumberland River



# Human Remains Concerns



Looted rockshelter, Overton Co.

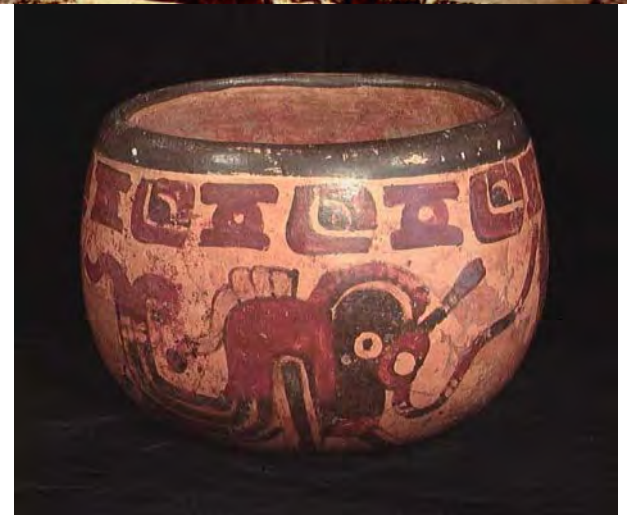


~30,00 archaeological sites!



# Arifacts

- Buildings
- Tools
- Toys
- Jewelry
- Art
- Garbage







Castalian Springs



Williamson Co.

Marine shell gorgets



Effigy vessel, Travellers Rest





Historic bottles, Rutherford County





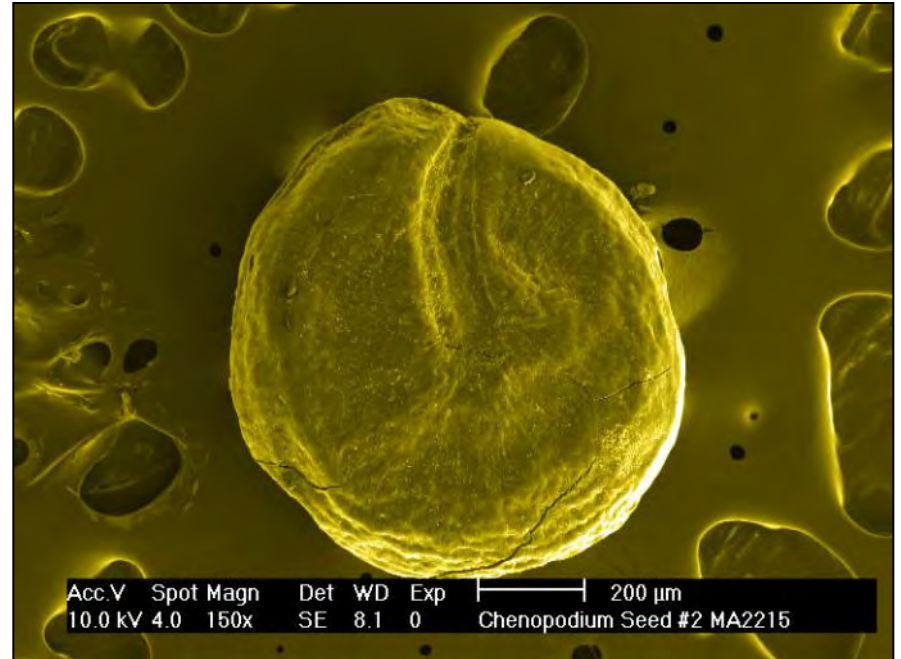


Stone tools

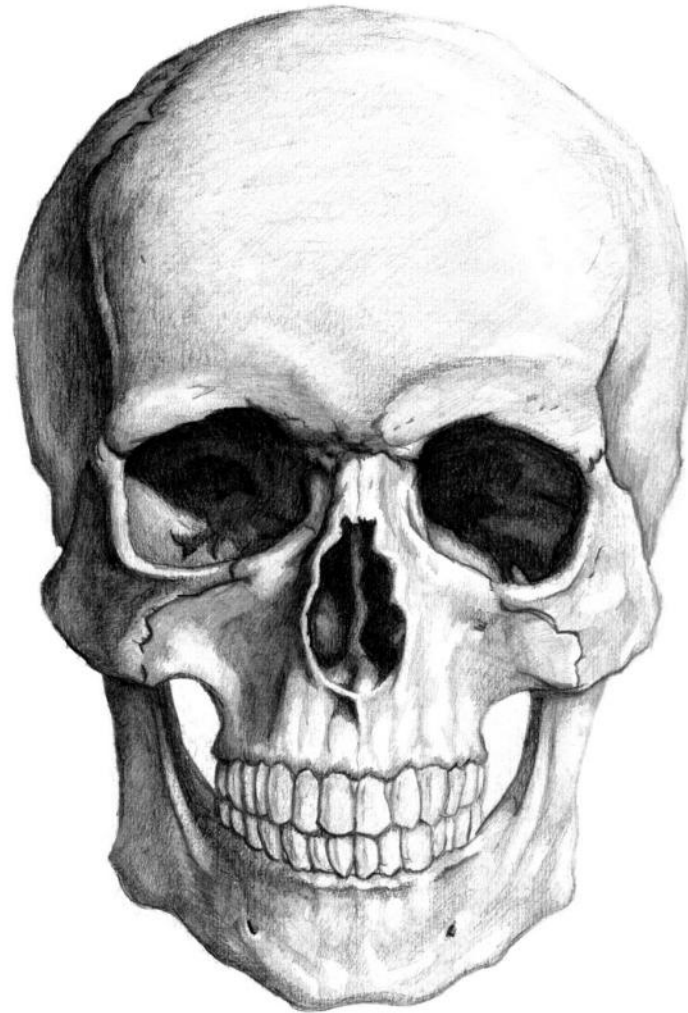


Animal remains



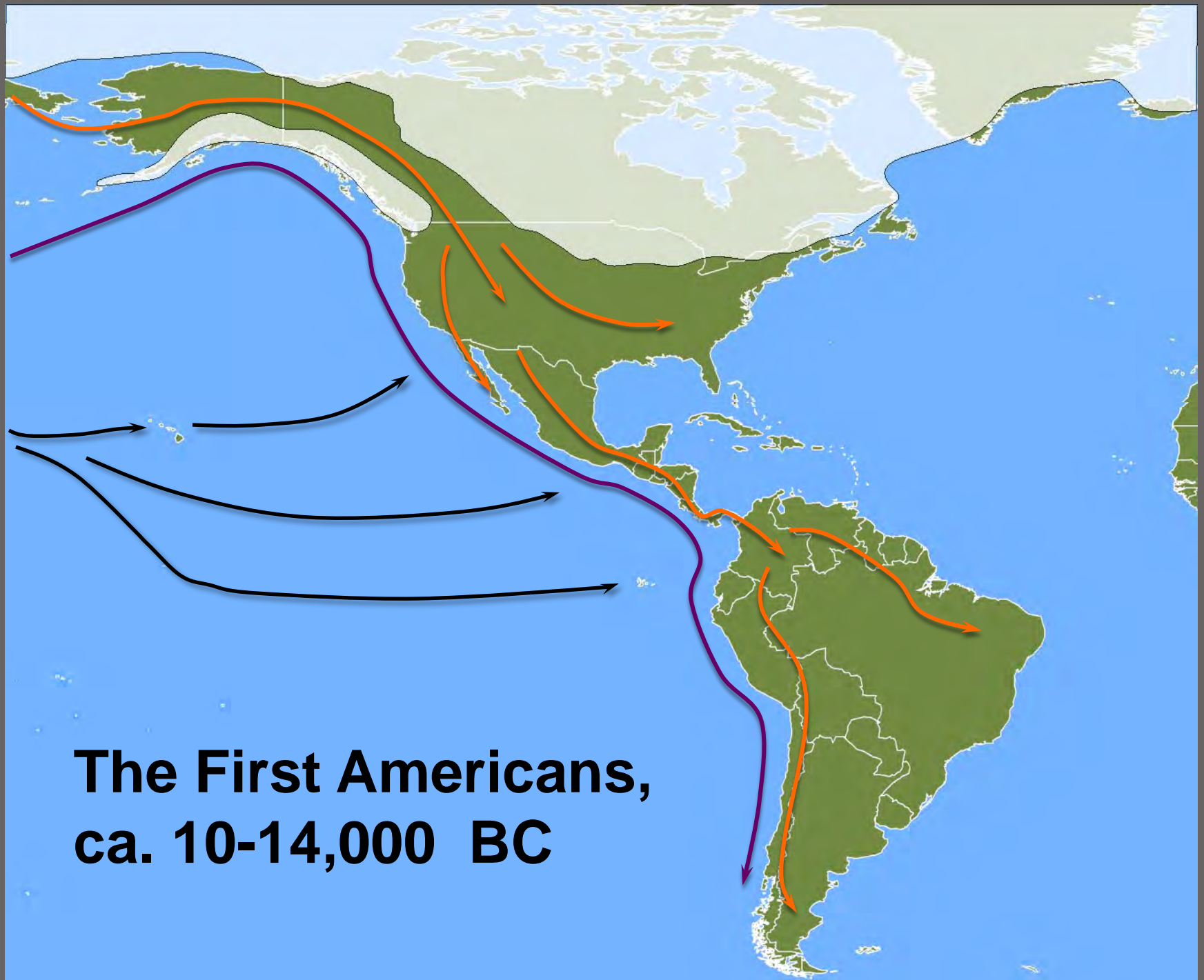


Plant remains, Cheatham County



Human skeletal remains





**The First Americans,  
ca. 10-14,000 BC**

# First American Cave



**Construction of the First American Bank  
(now Regions Bank) in Downtown Nashville, 1971**





Bones recovered from the bank site







Sabertooth from the First American Bank site



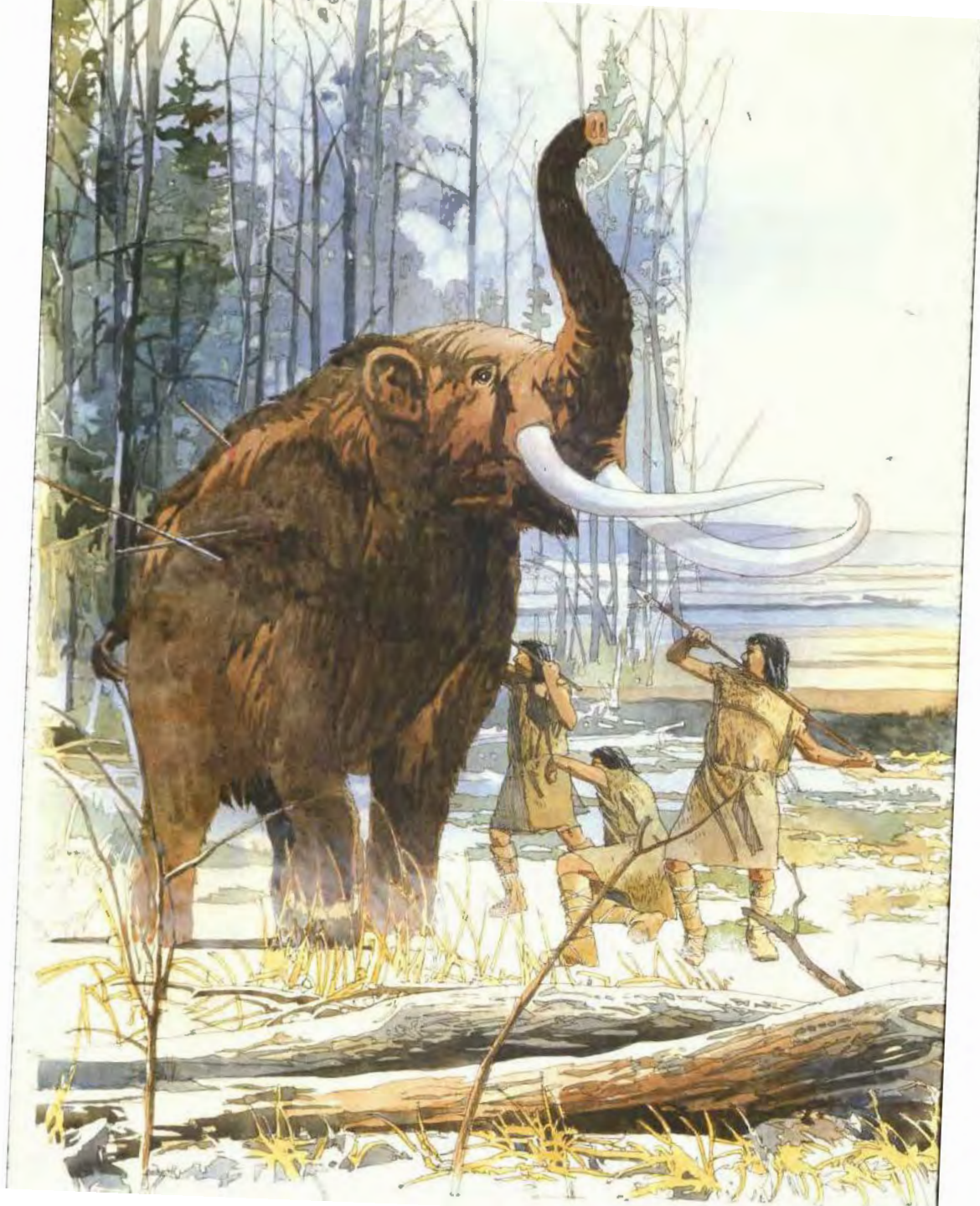




The First American Bank site today









The Coats-Hines archaeological site, Williamson County (12,600 BC)

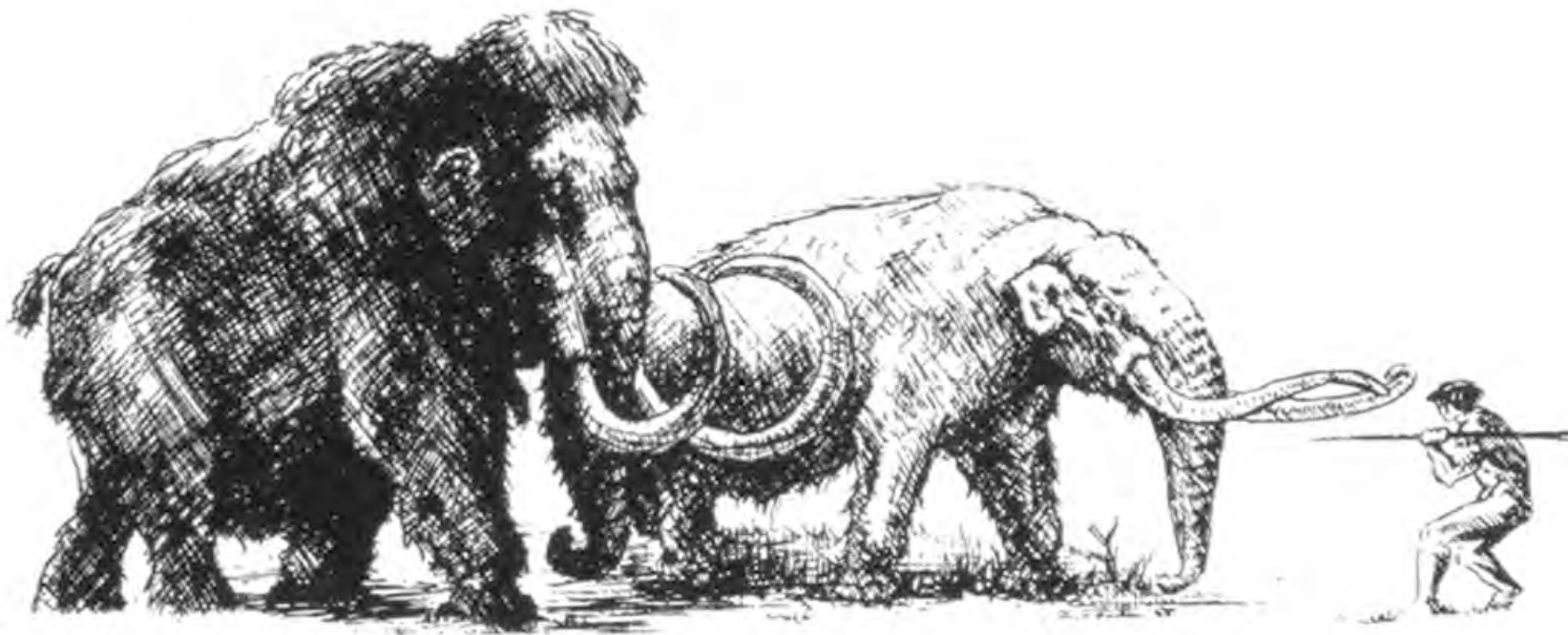




Mastodon tooth from the  
Coats-Hines archaeological site, Williamson County, TN







Mammoth

Mastodon

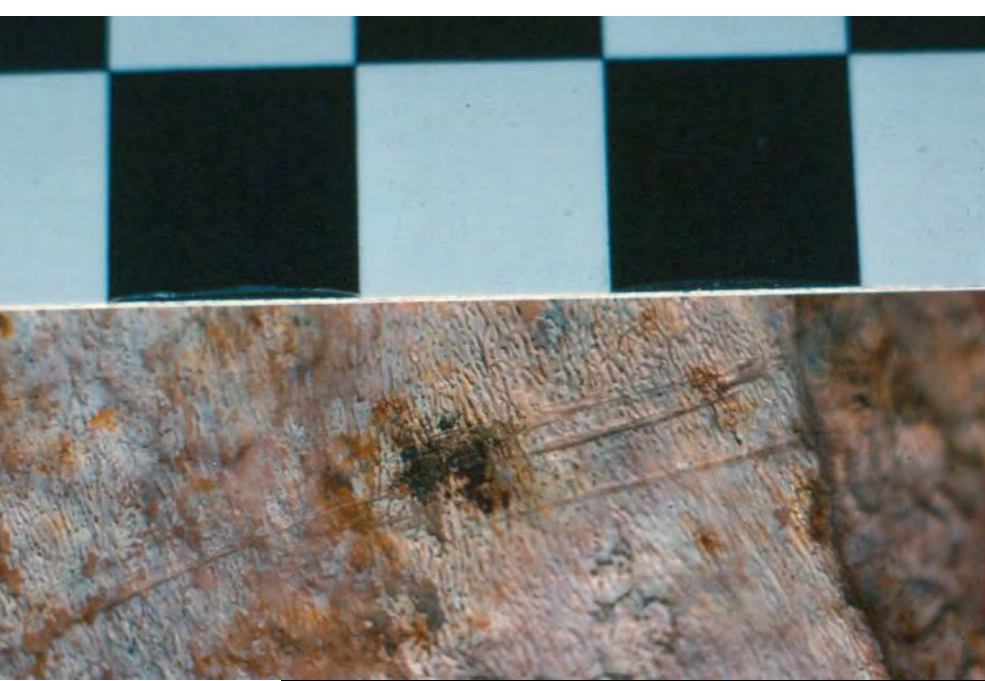
Unlucky

## Stone tools from the Coats-Hines site





Cut marks





The Coats-Hines archaeological site today





## 2010 excavations





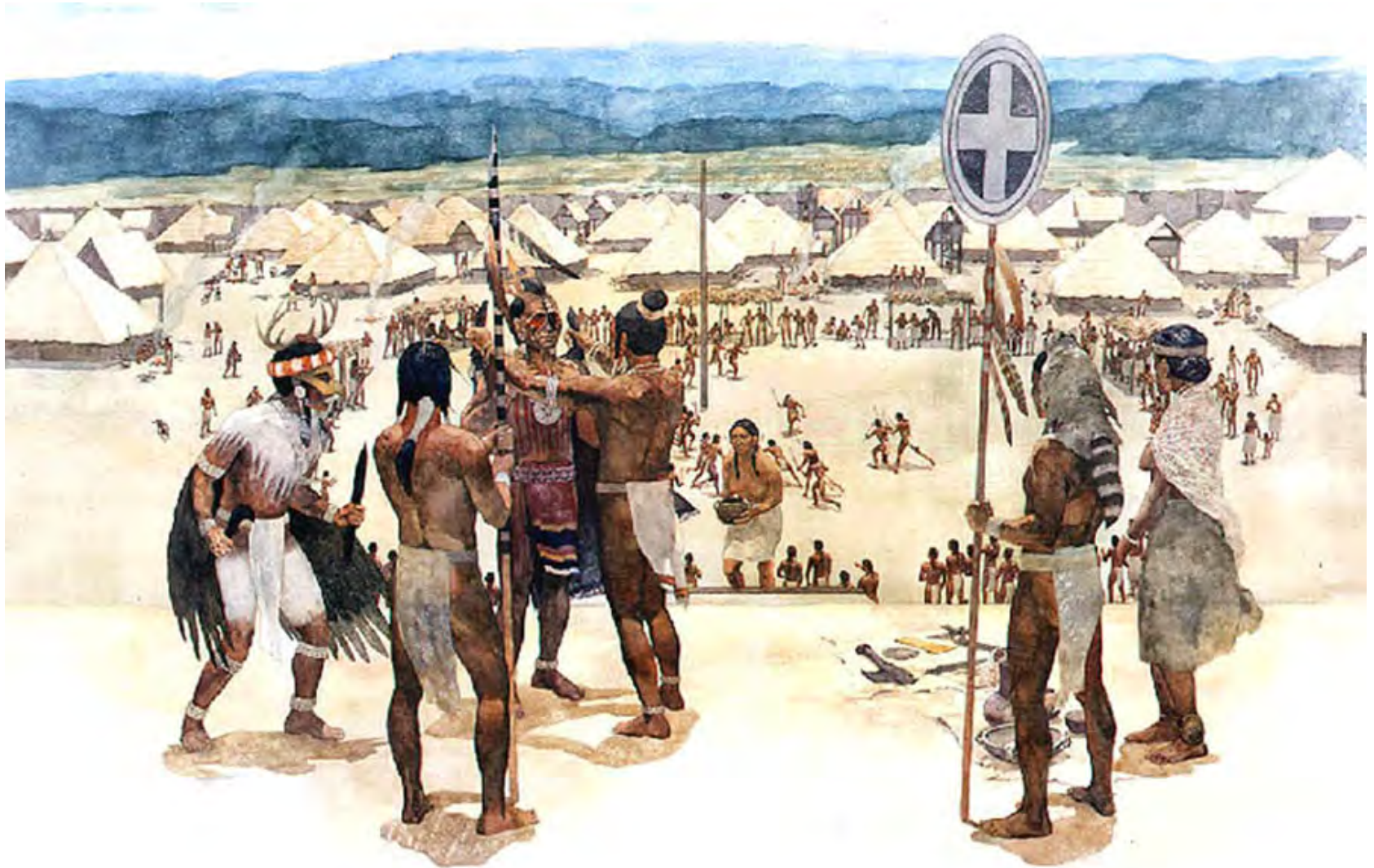


## What the First Americans ate

- Mastodon
- Jaguar
- Ground Sloth
- Horse
- Camel
- Bison
- Wolf
- Antelope
- Raccoon
- Alligator
- Pocket Mouse
- Badger
- River Mussel
- Frog
- Turtle

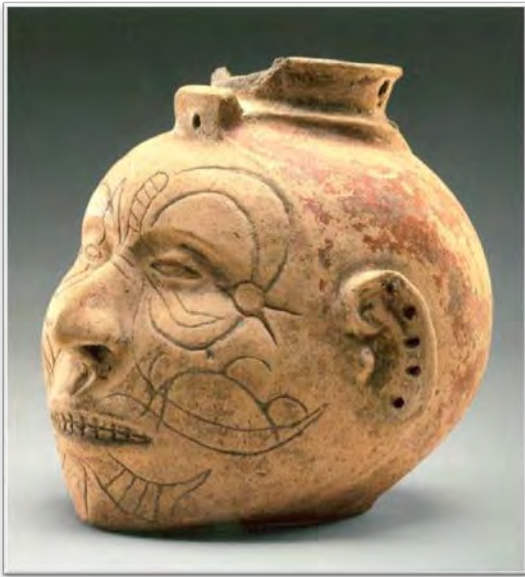


# Fast Forward 11,000 years...





# The Mississippian Period (1100-1500 AD)







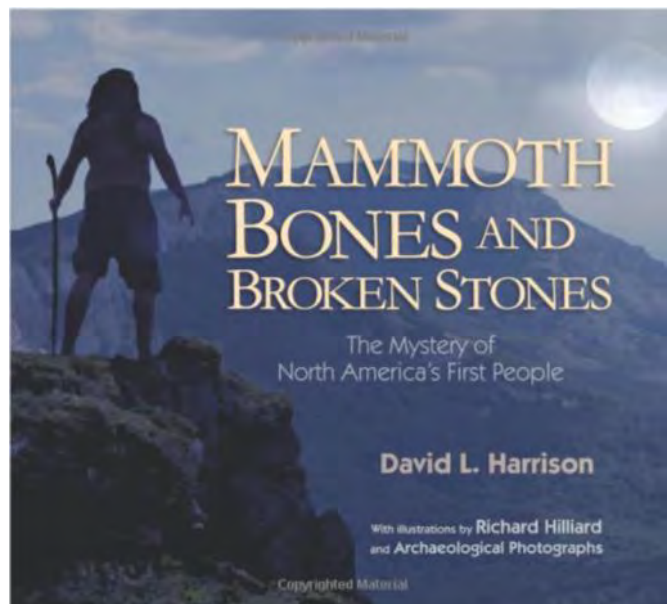
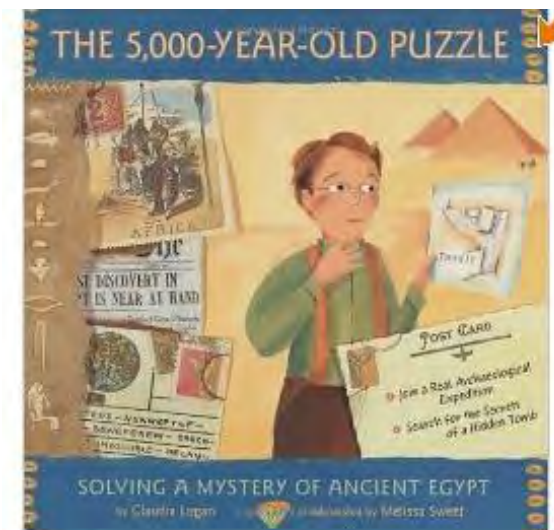
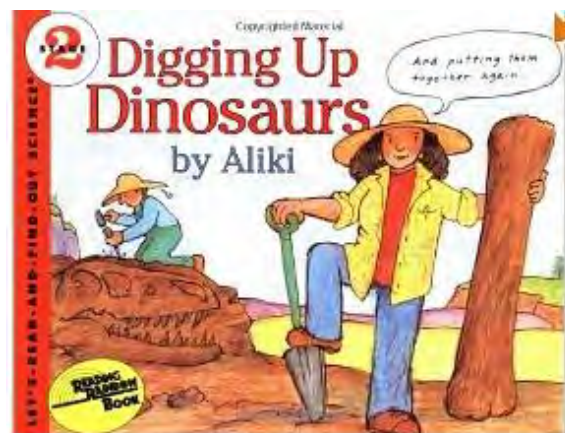
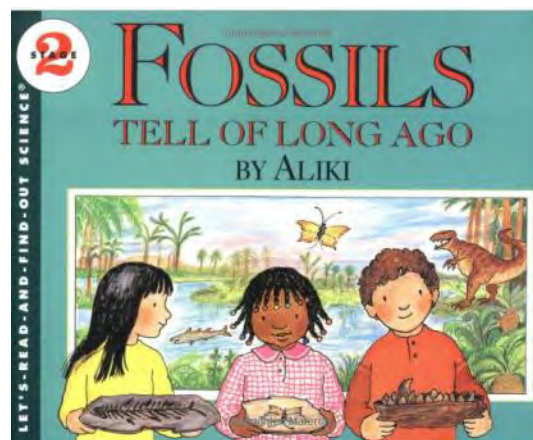
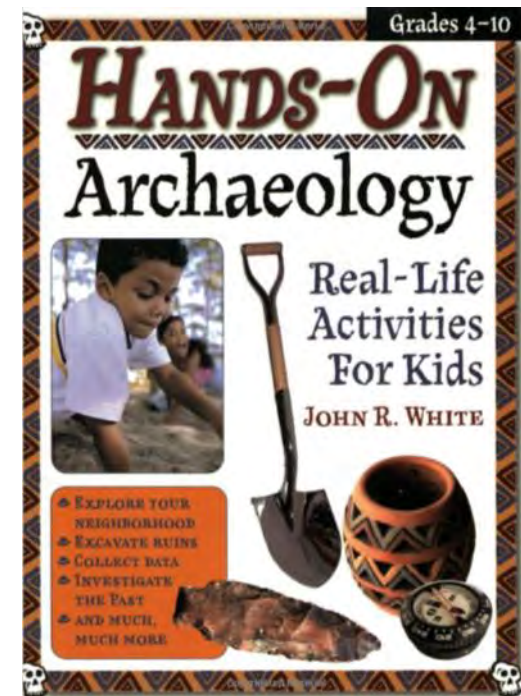
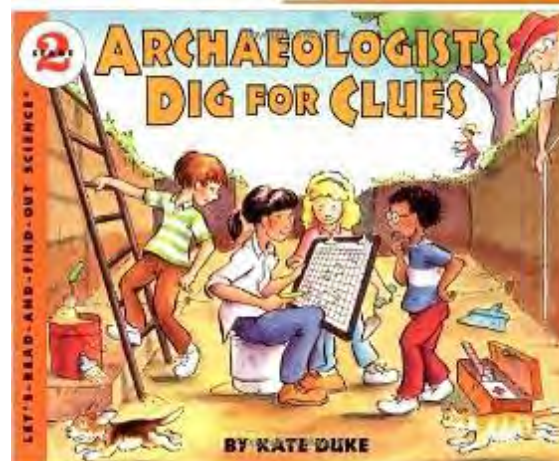
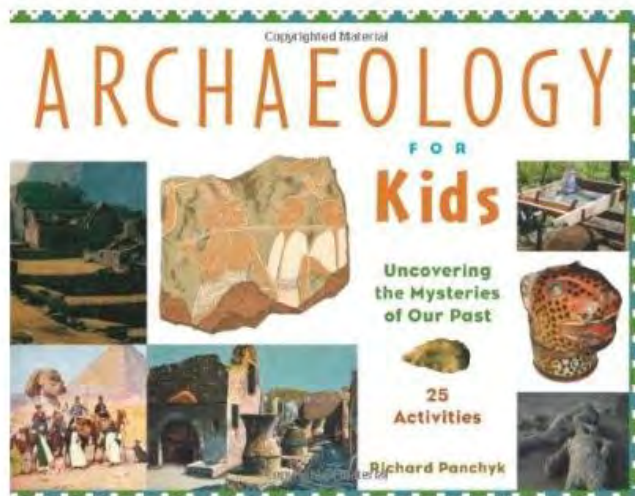


# Mound Bottom, Narrows of the Harpeth State Park



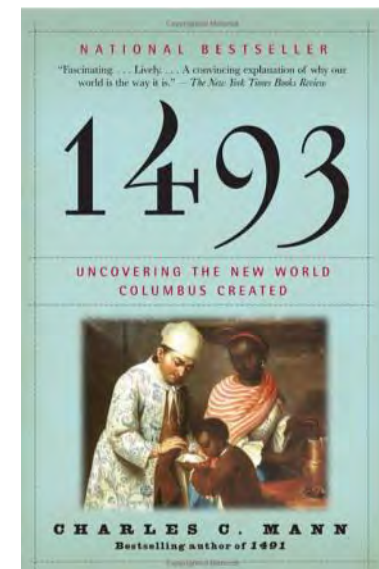
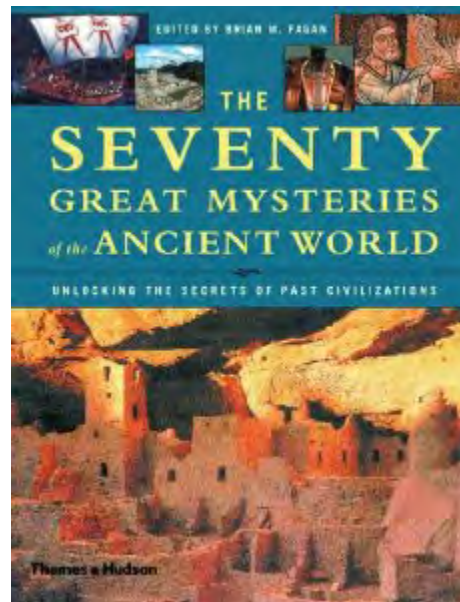
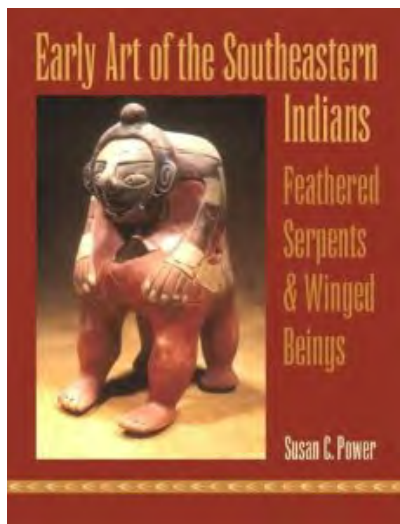
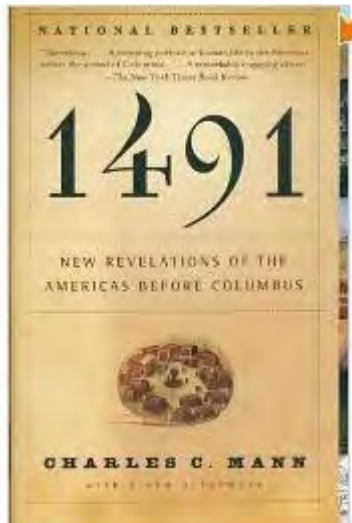


## Books for kids





## Books for adults





# **The Tennessee Archaeology Network**

**and the**

online journal *Tennessee Archaeology* :  
<http://www.mtsu.edu/~kesmith/TNARCH/>

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