The **Middle Archaic Period** (ca 6000-3000 B.C.) is marked by a major climatic drying period throughout most of the central United States. Larger village sites, occupied yearlong, became more common during this period. The first evidence of fabrics, basketry, and cordage along with new tool types, appear.

In the **Late Archaic Period** (ca 3000-750 B.C.) the earlier drying period ended. The earliest pottery in the Midwest appears. Gourd and squash remains from the period are the earliest evidence of midwestern horticulture. While not widespread, Late Archaic burial mounds are found in some areas of the state.

The **Early Woodland Period** (ca 750-150 B.C.) is not well documented. Evidence of campsites from this period has been found in major river valleys. Increased use of ceramic pots to prepare food characterizes Early Woodland remains.

Middle Woodland Period (ca 150 B.C.-A.D. 400) remains reflect an increased use of pottery with varied decorative styles. The number of year-round occupied villages and hamlets, and the cultivation of plants increased further. Burial mounds became more numerous.

The **Late Woodland Period** (ca A.D. 400-1000/1400) is characterized by the introduction of the bow and arrow and the widespread cultivation of a number of plants, including maize. Typical site types include villages or hamlets along stream valleys with small earthen mounds and stone cairns located on overlooking hills and ridges. Late Woodland pottery styles become less decorated. Along with the population increases and more settled lifestyle, Indian social organization changes from the loosely organized hunter/gather bands of the Archaic periods to a more complex tribal societies. In much of Missouri, Late Woodland culture continued parallel to the develop of Mississippian culture.

During the **Mississippian Period** (ca A.D. 1000-1600) a culture develops based on maize agriculture with complex social, political, and economic structures. Cahokia, near the confluences of the Mississippi, Missouri and Illinois Rivers, was one of the greatest aboriginal cultural centers in North America. Small notched, triangular arrowpoints and fragments of shell-tempered pottery vessels in a variety of shapes are common at these sites. Around A.D. 1350 Oneota groups migrated south into Missouri. The historic Missouria Tribe who lived in the Big Bend area in the Missouri River valley have been linked to the Oneoto.

Missouri's **Historic Period** (post A.D. 1673) is also reflected in archaeological sites. From the first European exploration of this territory to the Civil War, Missouri's archaeological sites consist mostly of early trading centers, river settlements, and rural farmsteads. While pre-Civil War historic American Indian sites are not common, tribes living in or passing through the state include the Osage, Otoe-Missouria, Iowa, Delaware, Shawnee, Kickapoo, Sac-Fox, and Cherokee. After the Civil War, historic sites reflect an increase in rural populations and farming. By the beginning of the 20th century, the shift toward industrialization and urbanization began.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN MISSOURI

WHAT IS ARCHAEOLOGY?

Archaeology is the study of past human behavior and culture. MoDOT archaeologists perform research, investigations, and excavations necessary to identify sites located within the project area. The goal of archaeology is to expand our knowledge of history by exploring how people adapted to their environment, and have responded to contact with new people and ideas.

WHY IS MODOT CONCERNED ABOUT ARCHAEOLOGY?

MoDOT makes every effort to comply with federal and state laws, address citizen concerns, and to be a good steward of the state's cultural resources. The primary legislation that requires archaeological investigations is Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Section 106 requires that federally funded or permitted projects consider the impact of the project on archaeological sites, buildings, bridges, and other structures, and lessen any negative effect on significant historic resources. Failure to comply with Section 106 could jeopardize Federal funding and result in delays or stoppage of a project.

WHAT TYPE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES ARE FOUND IN MISSOURI?

Prehistoric archaeological sites consist of villages and campsites, cave/rock shelters, mounds and cemeteries, petroglyphs (i.e., rock art), and specialized resource procurement sites. Historic archaeological sites include, post-European contact Indian villages and hamlets, homesteads, farmsteads, trails, early roads, trading posts, forts, shipwrecks, and early industrial sites (e.g., mills & factories).

MISSOURI HISTORY

Missouri's archaeological record reflects over 12,000 years of human adaptations to changing environments, technologies, and social and population conditions. Archaeologists have divided the overall sequence into a number of temporal "periods" based on identifiable large-scale cultural or technological changes.

The **Paleo-Indian Period** (ca 12,000-8500 B.C.) is generally recognized as representing the earliest human occupation in North America. Paleo-Indians probably lived as small bands of nomadic hunters whose quarry included now extinct large game such as mastodons, mammoths, and giant bison. Paleo-Indians probably followed animal herds, while also collecting nuts, berries and other foodstuffs. During this time period glacial ice covered large portions of the North American continent.

The **Dalton Period** (ca 8500-7500 B.C.) represents the transitional from the Paleo-Indian big game hunting tradition to the broader hunting-gathering tradition of Archaic peoples. During this time period the glaciers retreated, and the hunted megafauna became extinct.

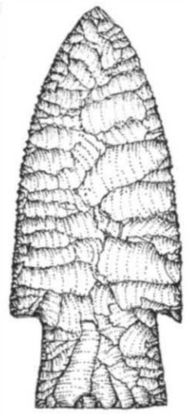
The **Early Archaic Period** (ca 7500-6000 B.C.) saw a further broadening of the subsistence base as the climate warmed. This increased utilization of fish, shellfish, waterfowl, small game, and wild plants led to diversification of Early Archaic tools. Bands would move as plants and animals became seasonally available.

Projectile Point Types of Missouri

Points are reduced to approximately 80% of actual size

3 cm

Note: Points may have different names in different parts of the state


Hardin

St. Charles

Raddatz

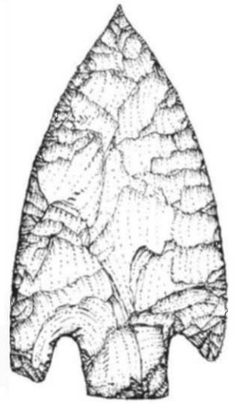
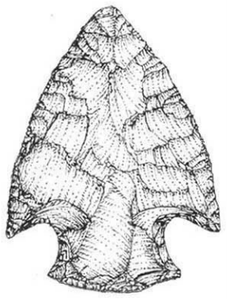

Smith basal-notched

Table Rock

Kramer


Snyders

Lowe

Scallorn

Crisp ovate

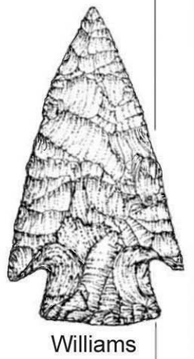
Reed side-notched

Madison

Huffaker

Rice side-notched

Etley


Williams

Belknap

Manker

Clovis

Dalton

Graham Cave

Rice Lanceolate

Jakie

Nebo Hill

Sedalia

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9500 B.C.	8500 B.C.	7500 B.C.	5000 B.C.	3000 B.C.	(Years B.C. and A.D. based on uncorrected radiocarbon dates)	600 B.C.	200 B.C.	A.D. 400	A.D.900	A.D. 1600
Paleoindian	**Dalton (Late Paleoindian)**	**Early Archaic**	**Middle Archaic**	**Late Archaic**		**Early Woodland**	**Middle Woodland**	**Late Woodland**	**Mississippian**	