Archaeological Resources in Indiana's Forest Lands



Image courtesy of IN DNR - DHPA

by AJ Ariens – Division of Forestry September 17, 2014

There're significant sites in Indiana?

- It's true there are no Egyptian pyramids, but we are not in Egypt.
- ➤ But there are sites indicating elaborate social/cultural dynamics while Europe was in the Dark Ages.
- ➤ There are sites showing cultural networks with MesoAmerica, the Rocky Mountains, The Gulf Coast, the Appalachian Mountains, and Canada.
- ➤ There are sites indicating a complex history dating back more than 10,000 years.

What is an Archaeological Site?

- A site is the presence of occurrence of one or more artifacts or features.
- An archaeological site is an instance of past human behavior or activity, where humans conducted some activity and left evidence of it behind, on, or in the ground.
- Some common types of archaeological site types are:

burials

camps

cemeteries

earthworks

lithic scatters

industies

quarries

villages

rockshelters

homesites/farmsteads Homesites Earthworks



Prehistoric Camp

Churches

What we expect to see...









What we really see...



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