



River Past, River Future: The Importance of Archaeology in River Valley Restoration

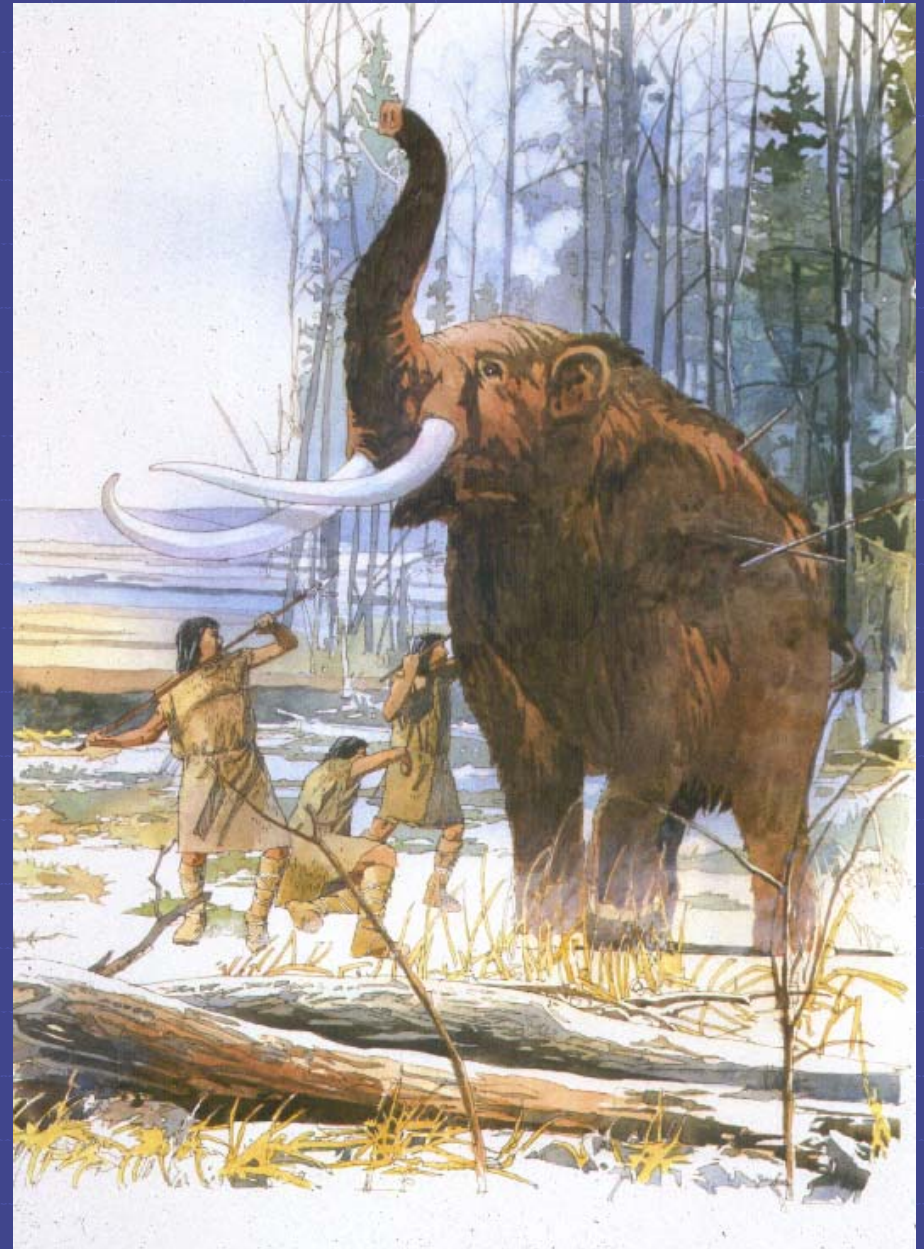
Michael Wiant

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

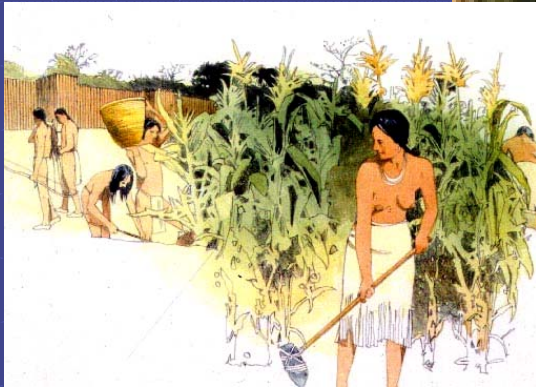
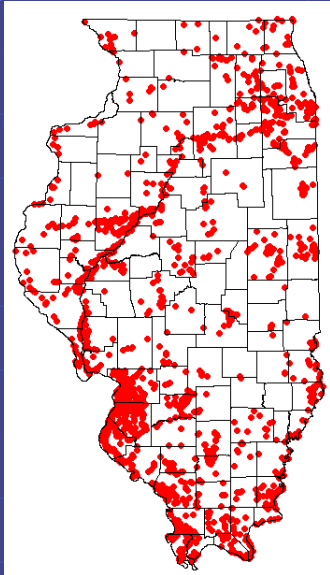
Illinois State Museum—Dickson Mounds



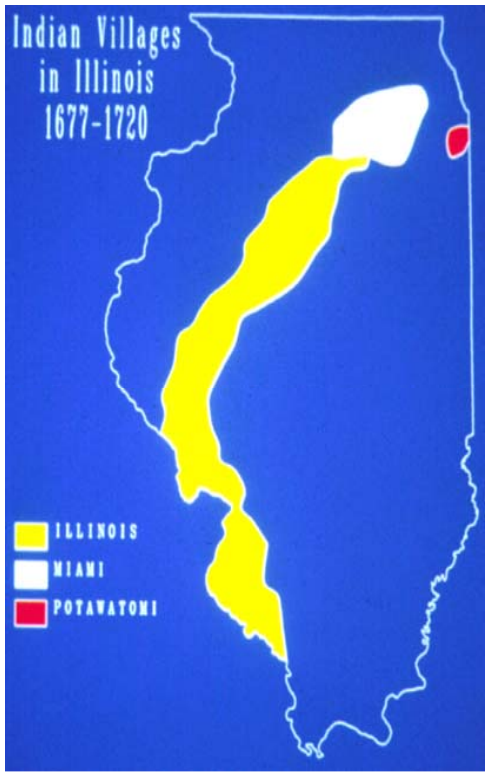
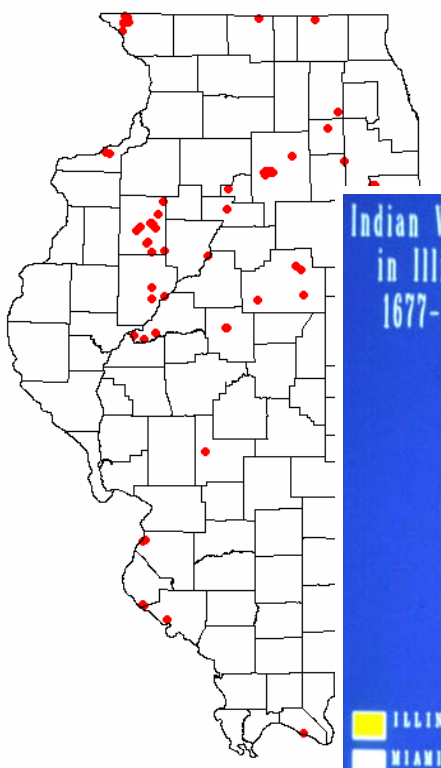
Paleoindian Period (12,000 – 10,000 ybp)



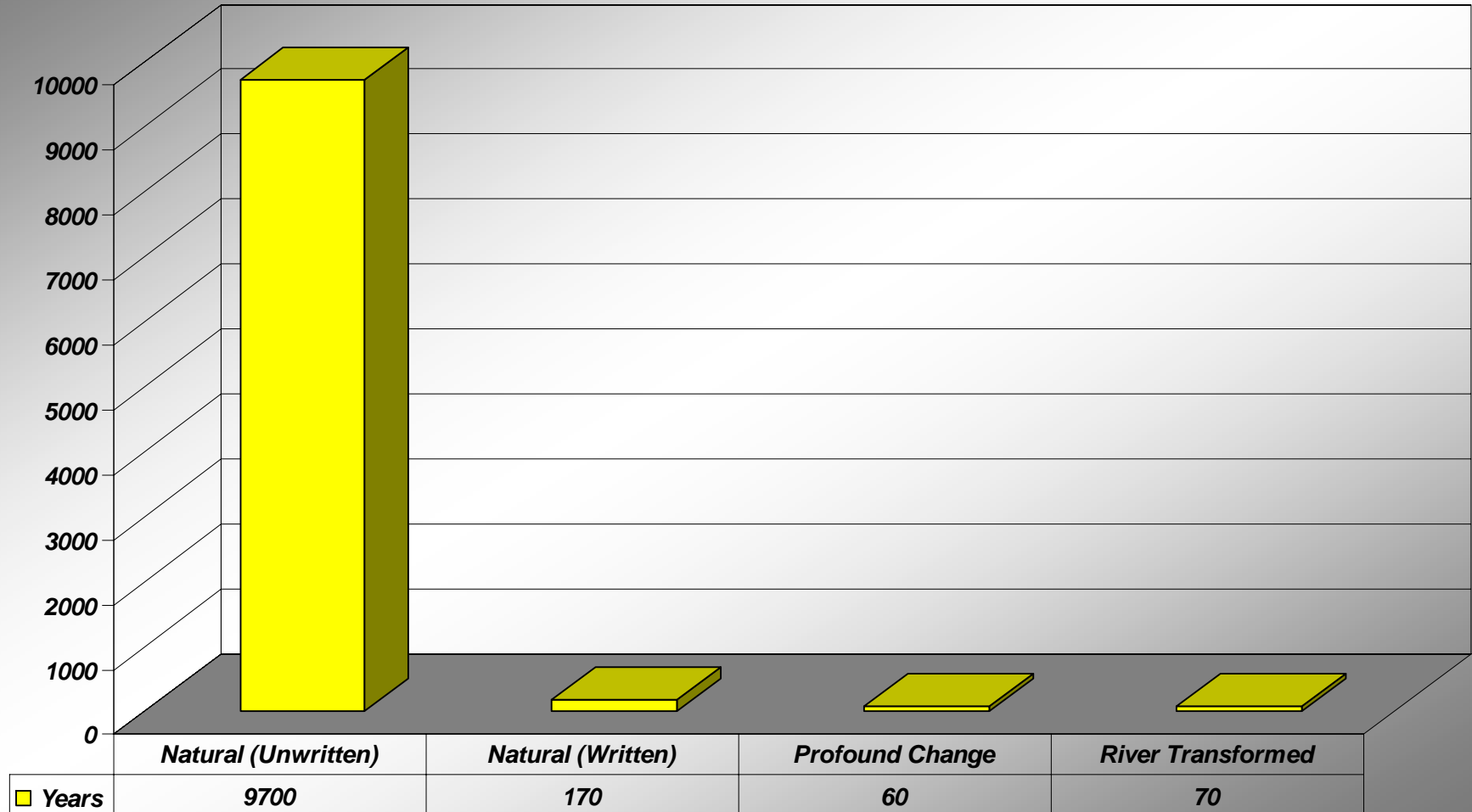
Mississippian Period (1000 - 600 ybp)



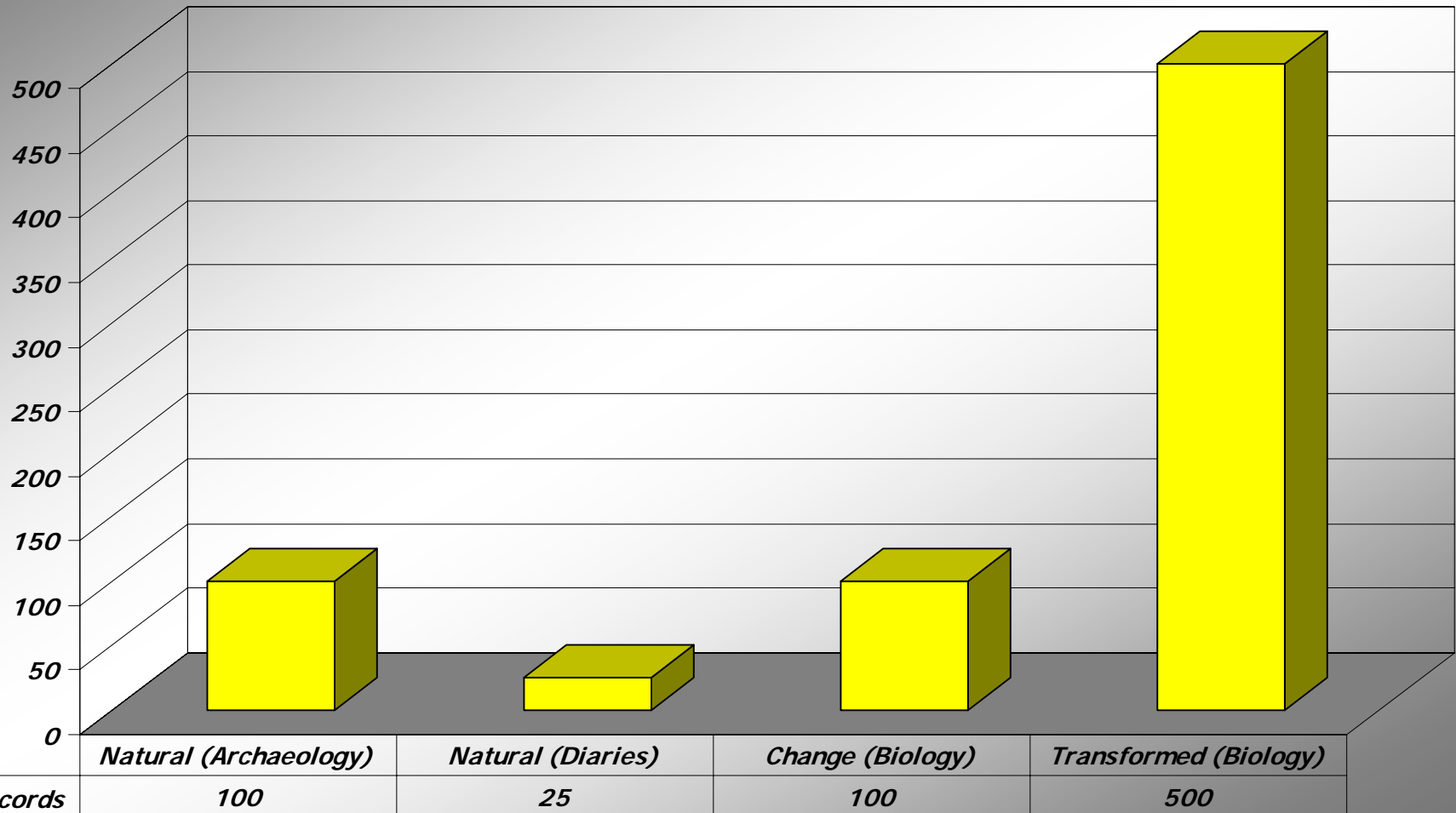
Native American Tribes



River Records



Records



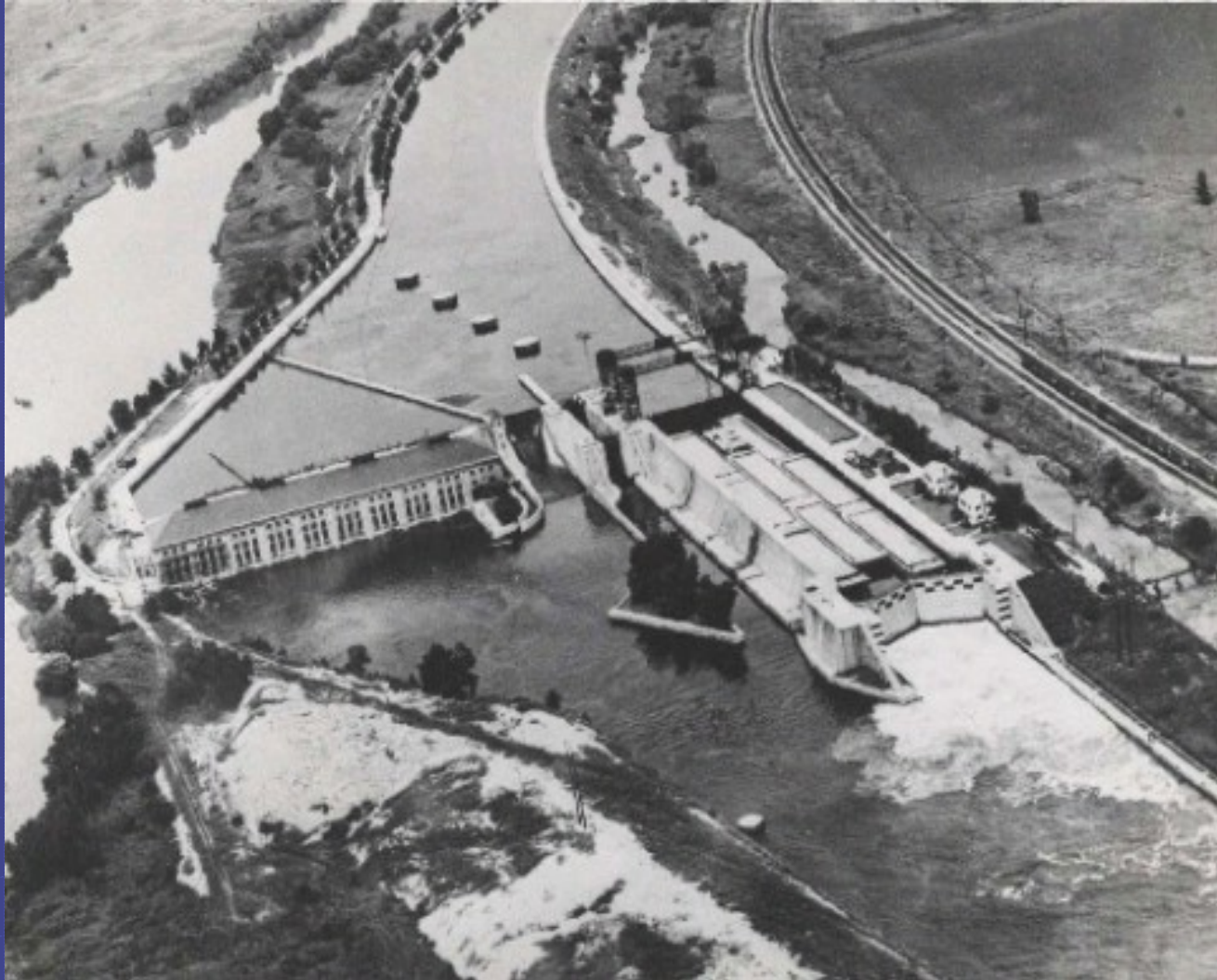
1835 Illinois River Channel Survey

- 19 or 20 bars where lowest stage was one to two feet of water
- 71 shoals upon which water averaged two to three feet
- In low water the river channel was quite narrow, in some places scarcely wide enough for two boats to pass

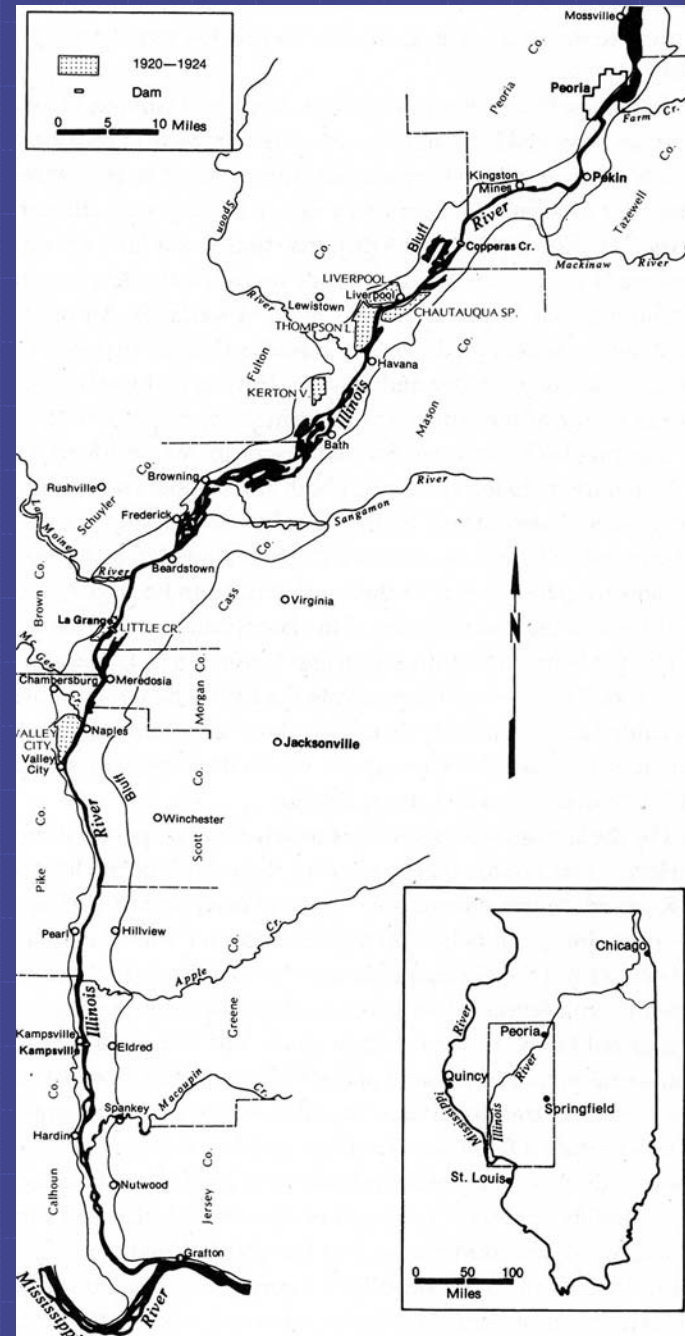
Copperas Creek Lock



Sanitary and Ship Canal



Levee Districts



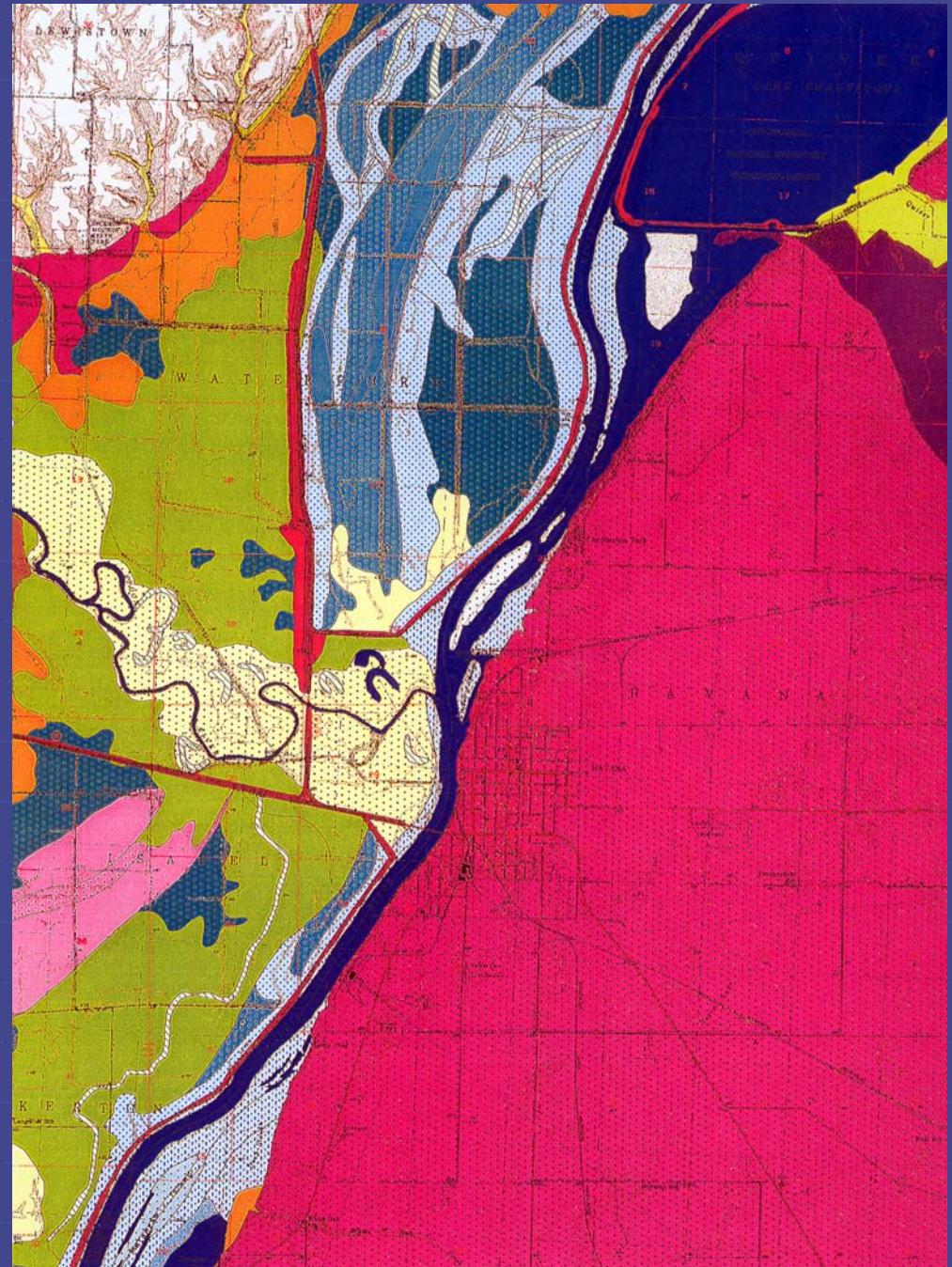
Dresden Lock and Dam



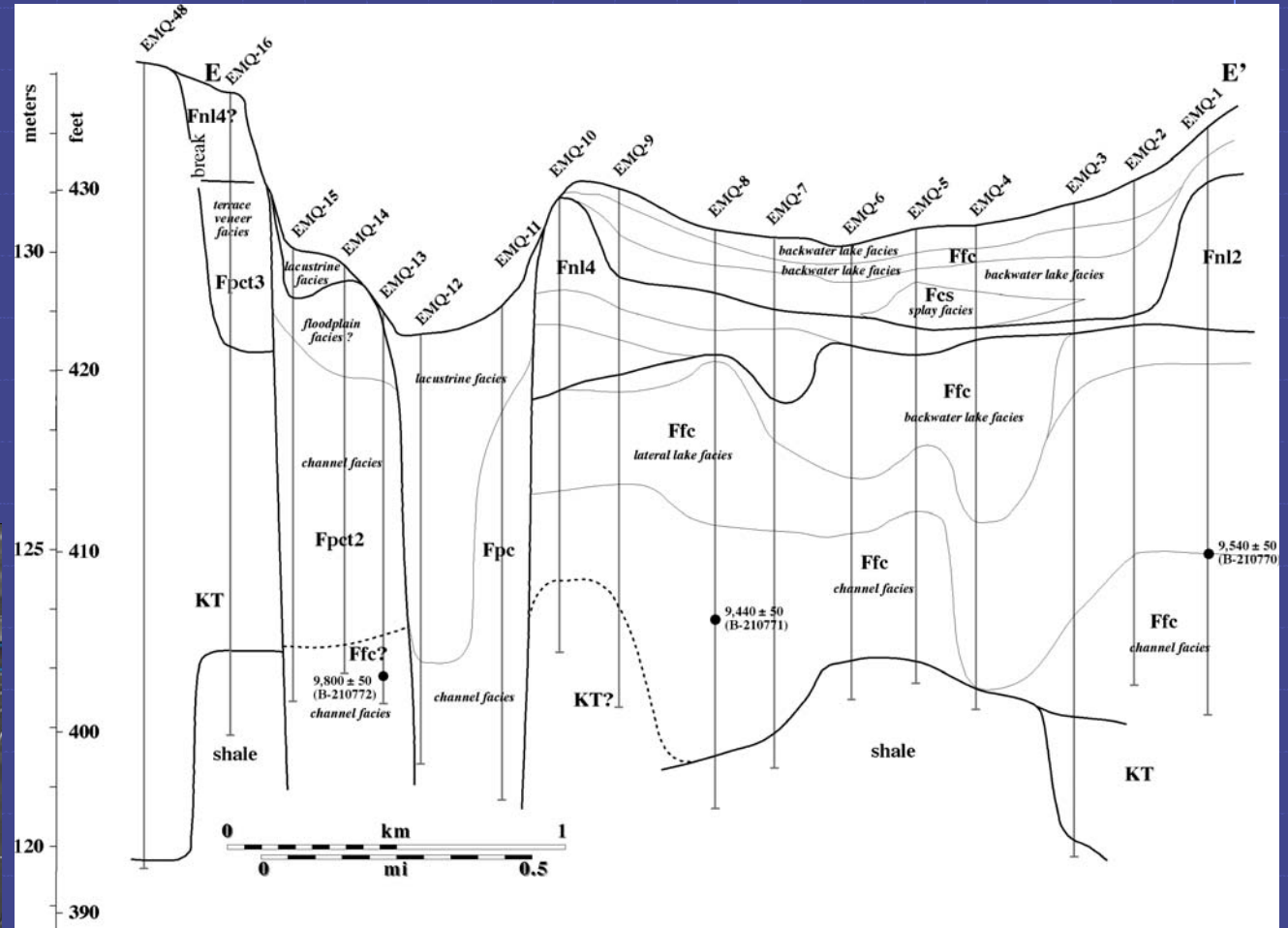
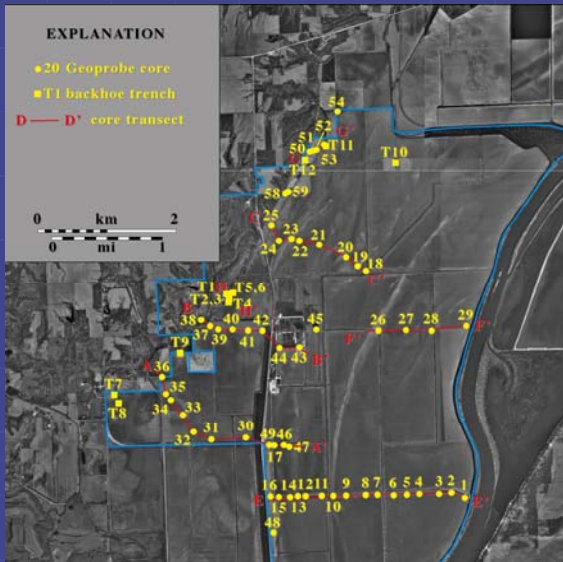
Environmental Data from Archaeological Research

- Landform
- Sediment
- Flora
- Fauna

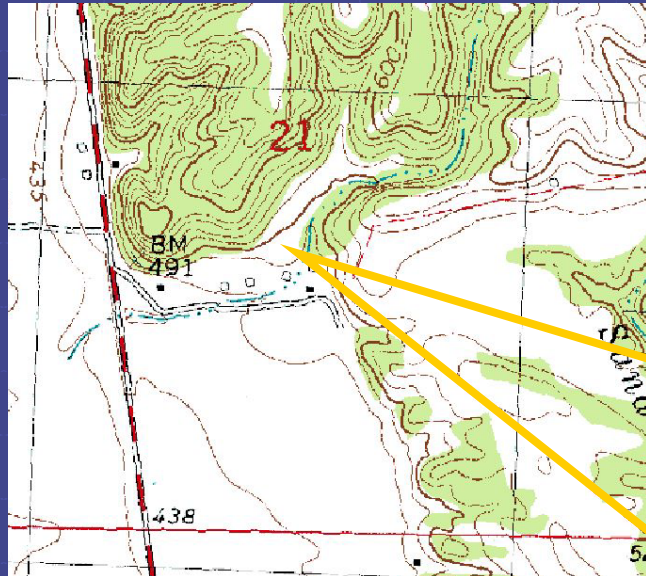
Landform Sediment Assemblages



Landscape History: Flood Plain Deposition

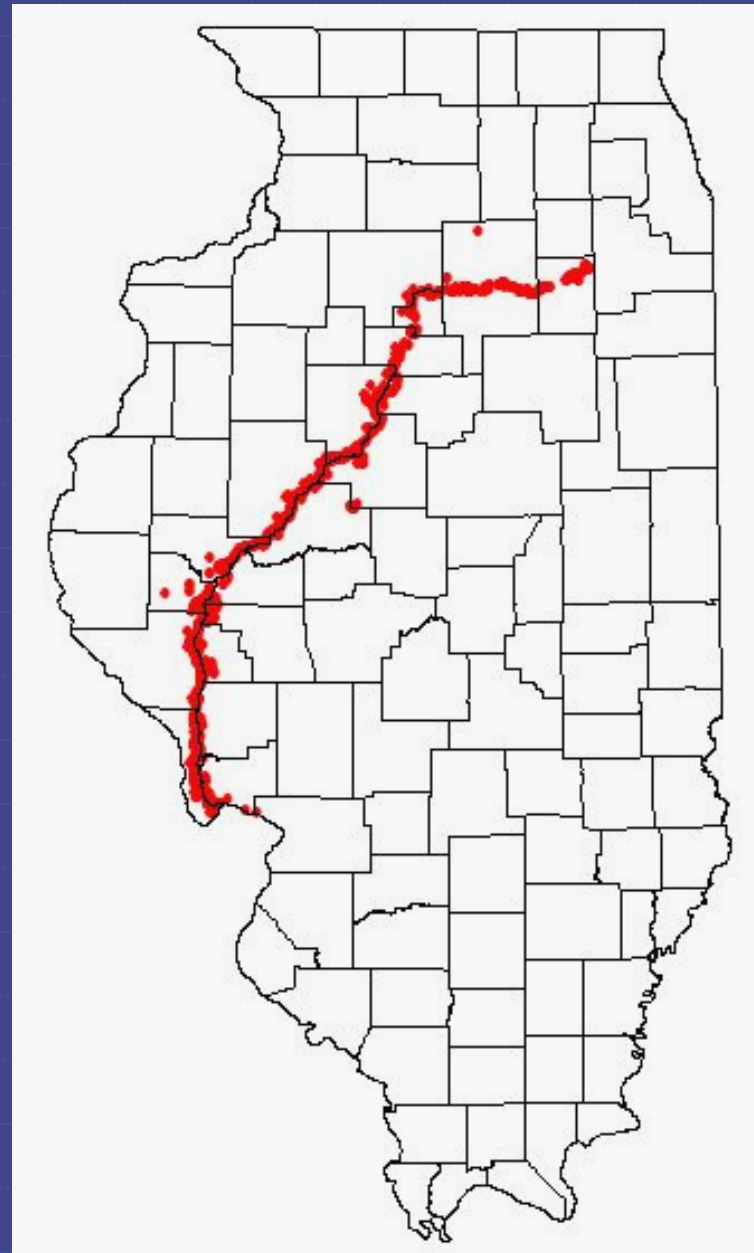


Landscape History: Valley Margin Deposition

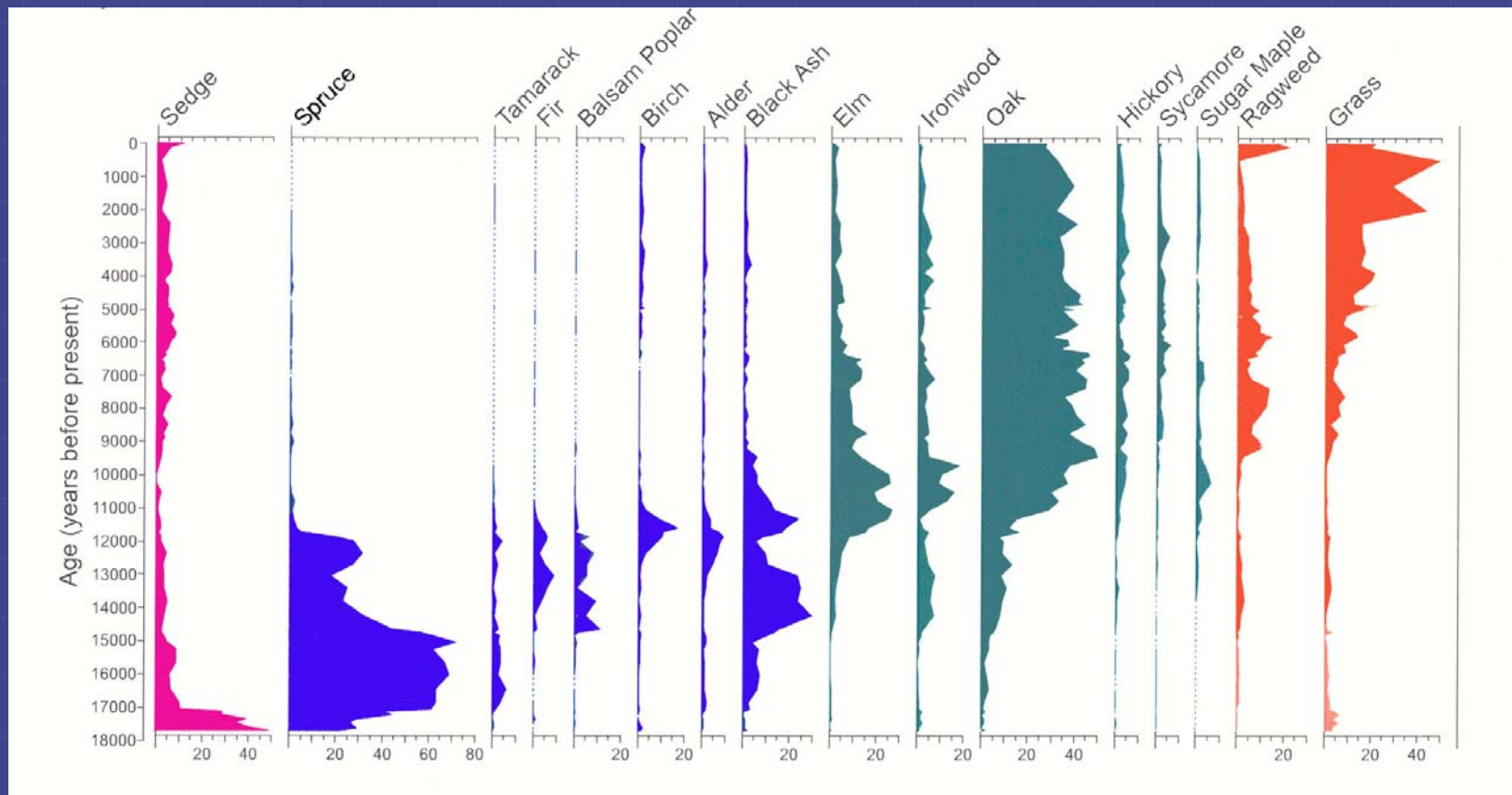


Settlements (n=972)

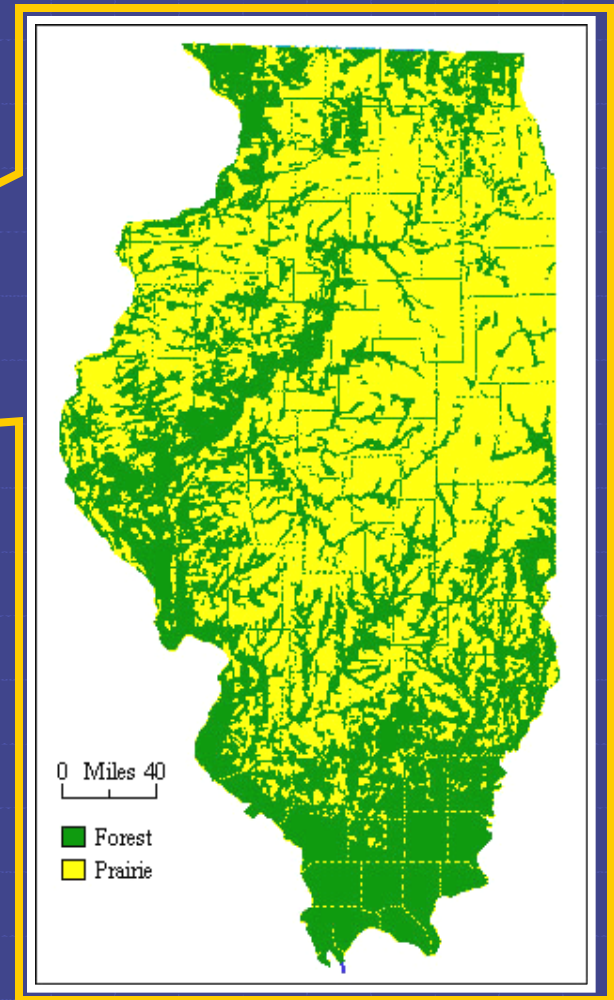
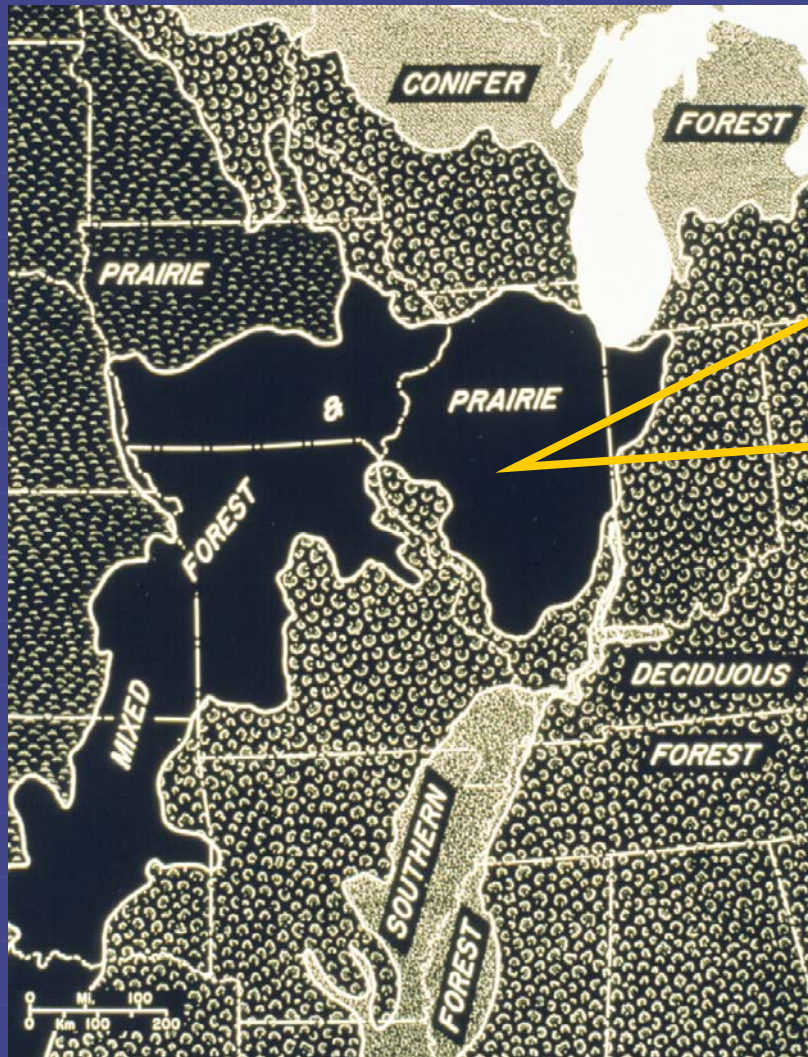
- Paleo — 1
- Archaic — 103
- Woodland — 411
- Mississippian — 12
- Historic — 8



Climate: Nelson Lake Pollen Diagram

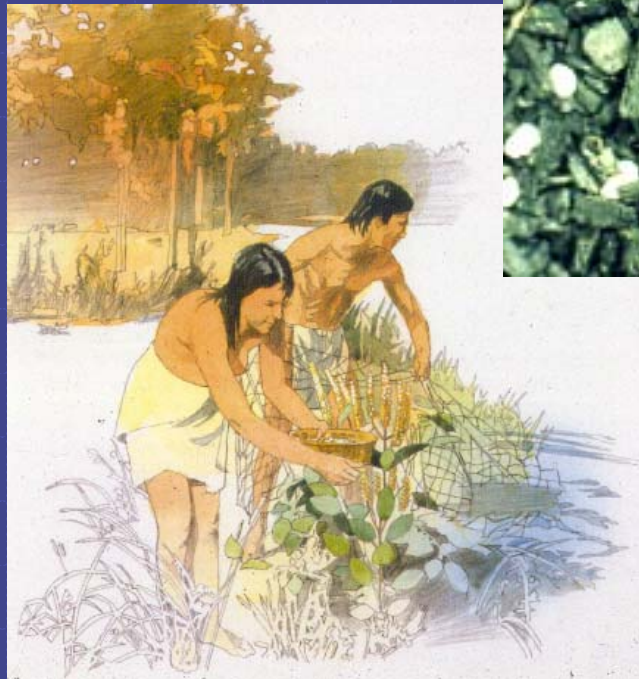


Prairie Peninsula circa 6,000 ypb

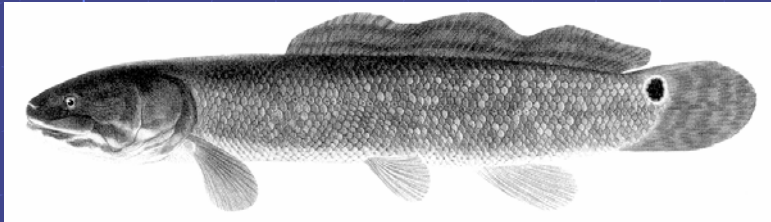


Flora

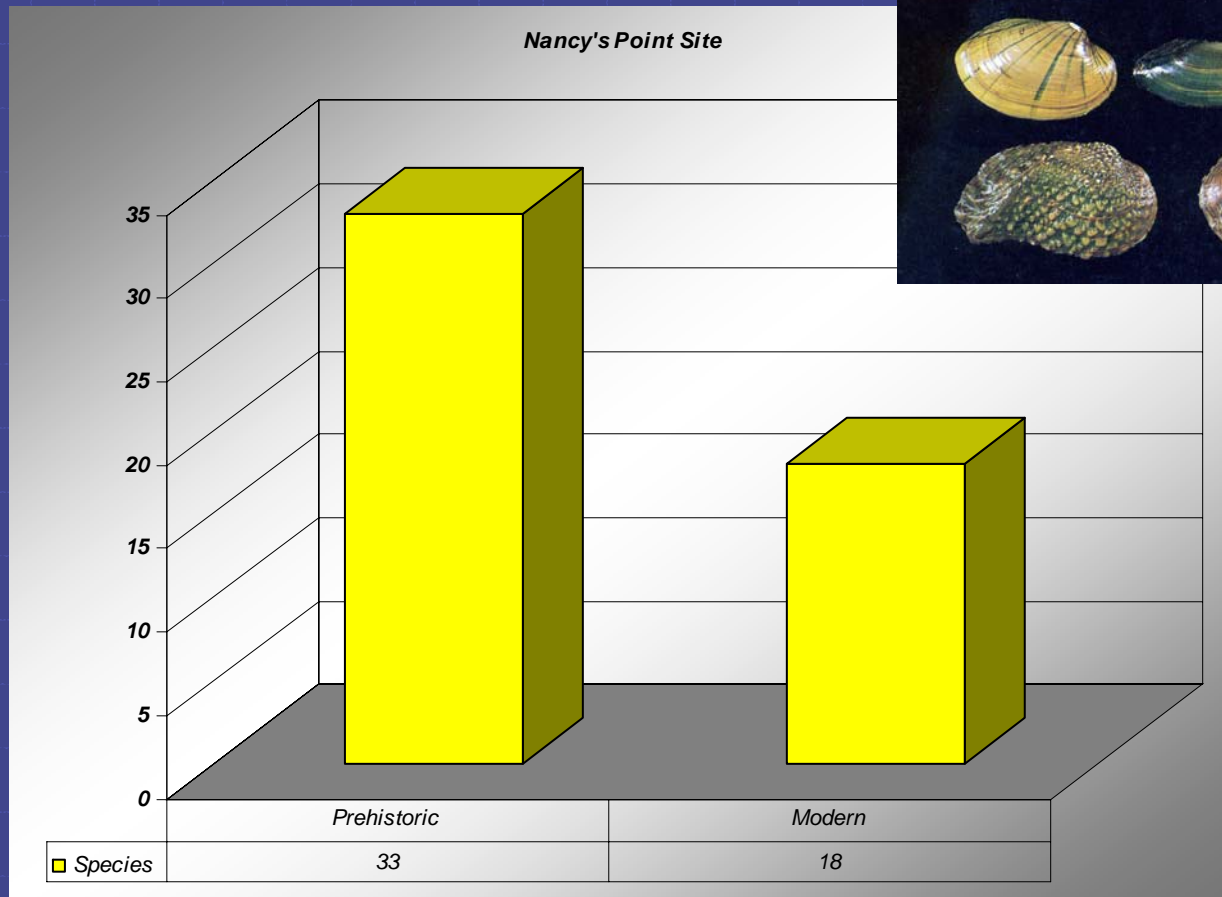
- Wood
- Nutshell
- Seeds
- Tubers



Fauna: Fish



Fauna: Freshwater Mussels



After Warren (1995)

Fauna: Terrestrial



Wetland Restoration

