



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Hopewell Culture
National Historical Park

16062 State Route 104
Chillicothe, OH 45601

740-774-1126 phone
740-774-1140 fax

Hopewell Culture News Release

Release date: Immediate
Contact: Rick Perkins
Phone number: 740-774-1126
Date: March 4, 2012

Archaeology at Pickawillany

Sunday, March 11, at 2:00pm, the Mound City Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Ohio, will be hosting a lecture given by Ohio Historical Society archaeologist, Bill Pickard. The lecture will take place at the Mound City Group Visitor Center and is free of charge. Bill Pickard will be speaking on his work at the Pickawillany site.

Pickawillany was a large Miami Indian town located just north of the town of Piqua in Miami County Ohio near the junction of Loramie Creek and the Great Miami River. In 1747 after a falling out with the French over trade policies, the Miami deserted their principal town at Kekionga (Ft. Wayne Indiana) and moved southwest to Pickawillany. In 1748 the Miami allowed the English to open a trading post at there in open defiance to the French who claimed as their domain all of the Ohio country north and west of the Ohio River. Over the next four years Pickawillany prospered as an English trading center and the French began to view what was going on there as a direct threat to their sovereignty in the western Great lakes and North America in general. However, despite repeated French protests and attempts to coerce them to return to the French alliance the Miami remained firmly attached to the English. In June of 1752, to settle the question once and for all, the French attacked and destroyed Pickawillany. They killed or captured most of the English traders on site and killed the Miami chief Memeskia also known to the English as "Old Briton". From that point forward Pickawillany ceased to exist and North America soon slid into a conflict known on this continent as the French and Indian War.

For the past ten years OHS archaeologists aided by field schools from Hocking College have been conducting a comprehensive research program at the site using technologies new and old as well as searching period journals and other accounts to view the site from as many points of view as possible. It's all part of an ongoing process to do archaeology properly in order to make sense of the place where written history in Ohio is said to have begun.

Hopewell Culture National Historical Park's Mound City Group Visitor Center is located at 16062 State Route 104, Chillicothe, OH. Please call the park at 740-774-1126 for more information.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.