

INDIAN LIFEWAYS OF PENNSYLVANIA

CULTURAL PERIODS

PROJECTILE POINTS

OTHER DISTINCTIVE TRAITS

HISTORIC

(Susquehannocks and other historically recorded tribes)
1550 A.D. - 1780 A.D.

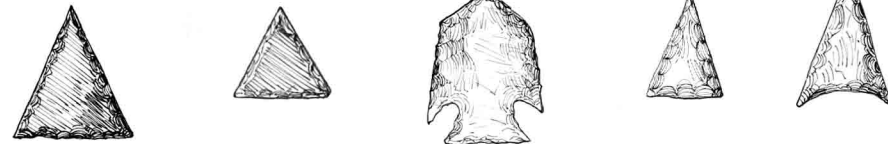


BRASS ARROWHEADS

This was a period of cultural transition, fragmentation and eventual collapse. Europeans moved into Pennsylvania and essentially displaced Native American cultures. Native made objects were replaced by European equivalents such as iron axes, brass kettles and glass beads. Extensive warfare occurred for control of the fur trade and land acquisition.

LATE WOODLAND

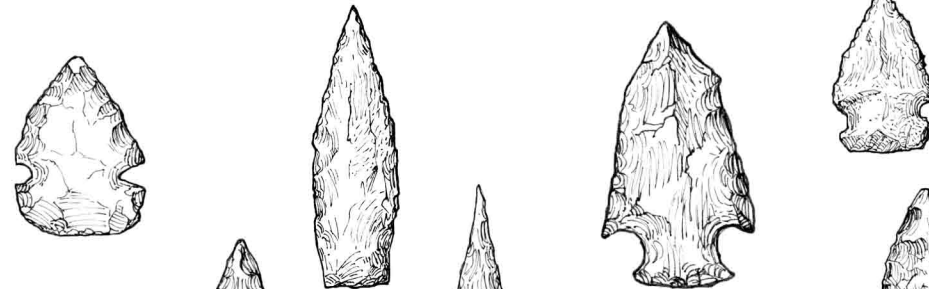
(Late Prehistoric)
800 A.D. - 1550 A.D.



Horticulture was practiced across the state and, by the end of this period, most groups practiced agriculture and lived in permanent stockaded villages. Native Americans organized into tribes. Numerous pottery shapes and designs were used along with elaborate clay smoking pipes. Stone celts were common and the bow and arrow developed as the main mode of weaponry.

MIDDLE WOODLAND

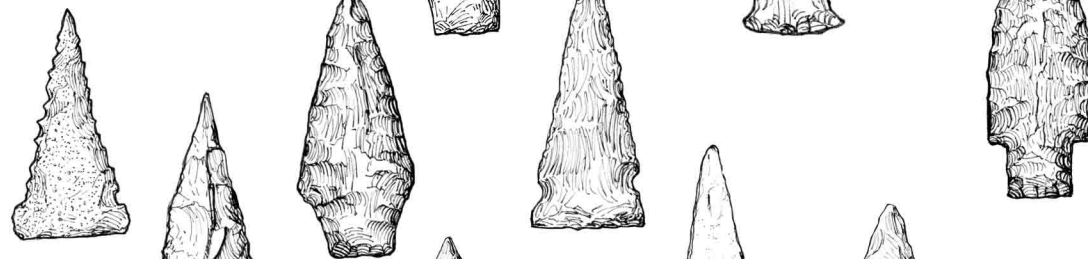
(Hopewell and regional equivalents)
800 A.D. - 500 B.C.



Horticulture began in western Pennsylvania and hamlets became more common. Ceremonialism and wide spread trade continued from the early Woodland period. A variety of cord marked, stamped and net marked pottery styles emerged. In eastern Pennsylvania, this period is poorly known, but permanent occupations seem to be more common.

EARLY WOODLAND

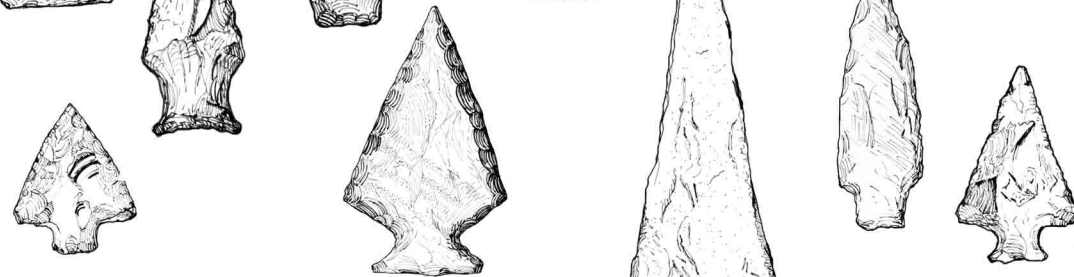
(Adena and regional equivalents)
500 B.C. - 1200 B.C.



Semi-permanent settlements began during this period. Fired clay pottery was introduced from the south along with stone gorgets and tube-shaped smoking pipes. Trade was widespread and in western Pennsylvania, burial mounds, burial ceremonialism and larger semi-permanent villages developed.

TRANSITIONAL

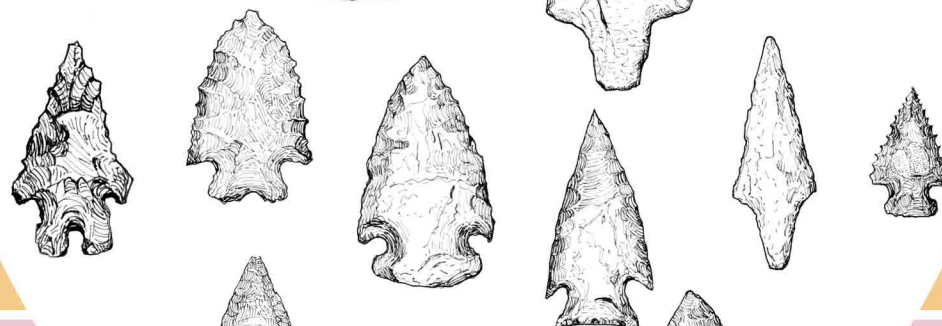
(Terminal Archaic)
1200 B.C. - 1800 B.C.



A climatic change resulted in less precipitation and Native Americans focused their activities on floodplains. New tools were developed to adapt to this environment, including soapstone bowls and broad bladed spear points reworked into a variety of knives, drills, and scrapers. The first evidence of extensive trade is found in the form of highly desired stone used for making tools.

ARCHAIC

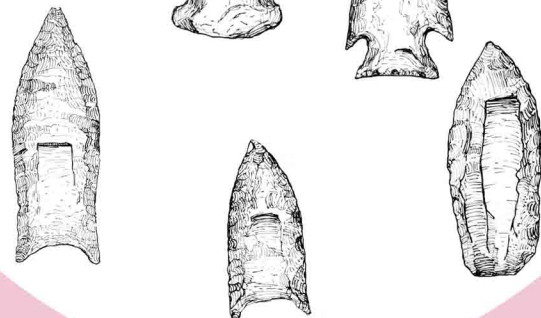
1800 B.C. - 8000 B.C.



Hunters and gatherers used a variety of special tools such as axes, atlatl (spear thrower) weights, grinding stones, stone drills and a diversity of stone spear point styles. They hunted and fished, and collected plant foods in an emerging deciduous forest. Native American groups continued to migrate through a cycle of seasonal rounds but territories became smaller compared to Paleoindian times. The population gradually increased during this period.

PALEOINDIAN

8000 B.C. - 14,000 B.C.



Paleoindians were highly nomadic foragers in a late glacial/early modern environment. They hunted, fished and collected a variety of animal and plant foods. In the northern parts of the state, their annual migration route covered hundreds of miles. The most distinctive artifact is the fluted spear point. Scrapers were used for working hides and making wooden and bone tools.