

NORTHEAST IOWA ARCHAEOLOGICAL TIME PERIODS

11,500 - 8,500 BC: Paleoindian Period

Use of atlatls
Hunting of bison

8,500 - 800 BC: Archaic Period

Ground, pecked, and polished stone artifacts
Bone and antler tools and beads
Nuts and plants as important food sources

800 BC - AD 1250: Woodland Period

Agriculture increases in importance
Use of bows and arrows
Building of effigy mounds

AD: 1250 - 1673: Late Prehistoric Period

Larger villages
More intensive agriculture

1673: Arrival of first Europeans to Iowa

1840: Ho-Chunk relocated into "Neutral Ground"

1848: Ho-Chunk relocated to Minnesota

UNDERSTANDING THE NEUTRAL GROUND IN NORTHEAST IOWA

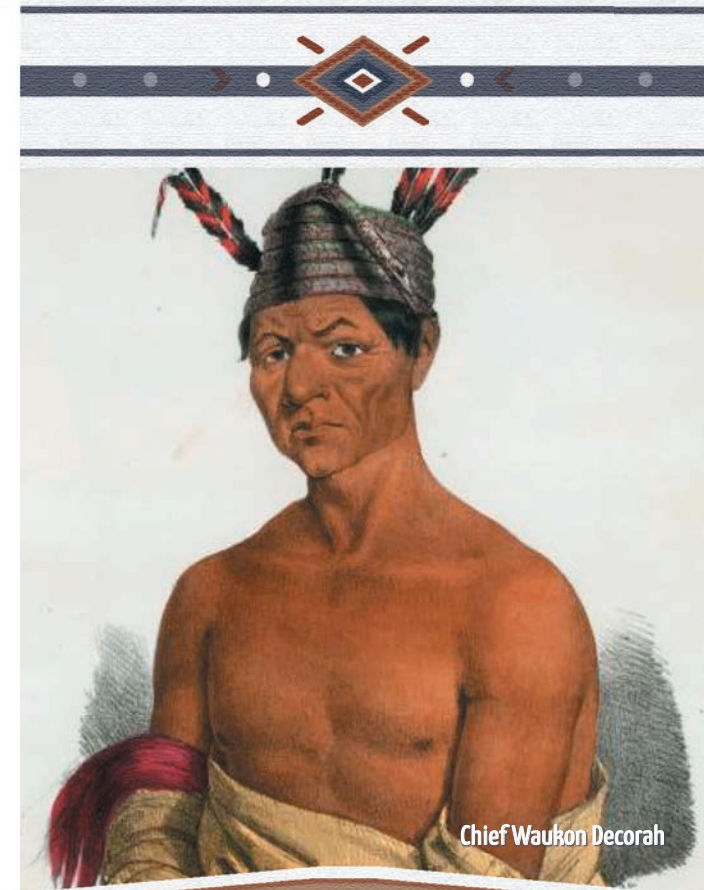
Indigenous communities have called Northeast Iowa home since time immemorial, but the story of their presence in this region is not widely known and, in some cases, is misunderstood. The information provided through this driving tour offers a brief exploration of the rich history of Indigenous people in this region.

Understanding the "Neutral Ground" is essential to understanding Northeast Iowa during the historic period (post-1673). During periods of westward expansion by settlers across America, many Indigenous tribes were forcibly relocated from their homelands, including the most recent tribe to have a significant tribal presence in Northeast Iowa, the Ho-Chunk (Ho-chungra, Winnebago). In 1840, the Ho-Chunk were moved from their homelands in Southwest Wisconsin into the "Neutral Ground," a 40-mile wide strip of land stretching southwest across Northeast Iowa that included most of Winneshiek and Allamakee counties.

Additional information about sites and stories along the Indigenous Driving Tour can be found at www.northeastiowarc.org/fullhistory.

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NORTHEAST IOWA'S INDIGENOUS HISTORY TOUR



Chief Waukon Decorah

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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TELLING THE FULL HISTORY

NORTHEAST IOWA'S NEUTRAL GROUND

MARQUETTE

- 7 **Paint Rock Bluff:** Kiosk along outdoor sidewalk at Cobblestone Inn & Suites, 100 North St.
- 8 **Rivers & Streams, Ancient Highways of Indigenous Tribes:** Kiosk along outdoor sidewalk at Cobblestone Inn & Suites, 100 North St.
- 9 **Emma Big Bear Exhibit:** A collection of hand-made black ash baskets and series of 4 kiosks focused on Emma's early life, later life in Marquette, basket making with black ash techniques, and the craft of basket weaving. Located in the corridor between Marquette City Hall Office and lobby of Cobblestone Inn & Suites, 100 North St.

CALMAR

- 10 **Indigenous Use of Trees Exhibit:** A collection of 4 kiosks focused on Indigenous use of bur oak, black walnut, shagbark hickory, and American hazelnut. Inside the Lake Meyer Nature Center, 2546 Lake Meyer Rd.



Other significant Indigenous culture exhibits, sites, and places to visit in Northeast Iowa include (11-13):



11 Effigy Mounds National Monument:

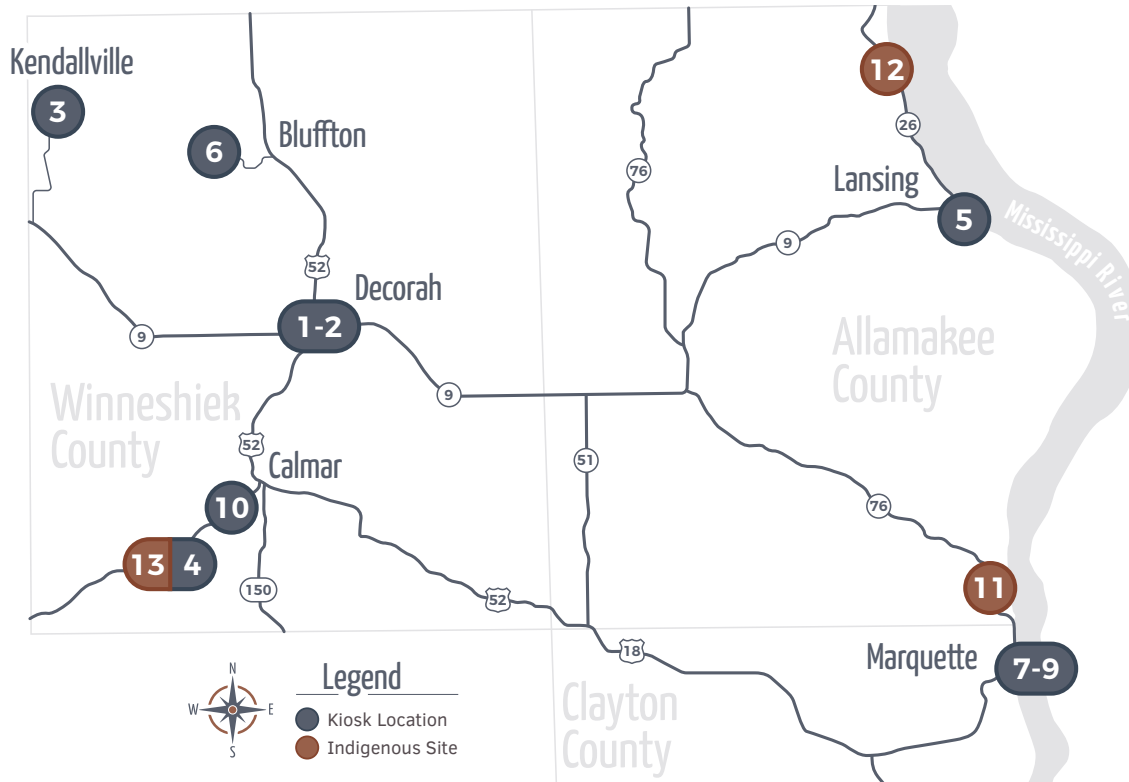
Over 200 prehistoric Indigenous burial and ceremonial mounds, dating from 500 B.C. to 1300 A.D., on 2,500 acres of forested land along the Mississippi River. Visitor center open daily from 9 am to 4:30 pm. 14 miles of trails. 151 Hwy 76, Harpers Ferry.

- 12 **Fish Farm Mounds State Preserve:** Contains thirty ancient conical burial mounds constructed by the Woodland culture between 100 BC to 650 AD. 1.5-mile out-and-back trail. 2820-2780 IA-26, New Albin.



13 Fort Atkinson State Preserve:

Buildings and foundations of an 1840s military post built for the Neutral Ground. Audio tour available. Grounds open to the public during daylight hours. Museum tours by appt only. 303 2nd St. NW, Fort Atkinson.



Telling the Full History: Northeast Iowa's "Neutral Ground" kiosk locations and subject themes are as follows (1-10):

DECORAH

- 1 **Decorah, Northeast Iowa & the Neutral Ground:** Kiosk located at the west entrance of the Winneshiek County Courthouse, 201 W Main St.
- 2 **Local Indigenous History & Traditions:** A collection of 8 kiosks that explores the histories, cultures, traditions, and foodways of Indigenous tribes throughout Northeast Iowa. Highlighted themes include Indigenous use of the land, honoring the land, regional place names, Indigenous food plants, Indigenous medicinal plants, Indigenous plant dyes, Indigenous hunting & fishing, and Indigenous animal tracking. Kiosks are located within Decorah Parks, specifically at Palisades Park (2), Phelps Park (1), Van Peenen Park (2), Dunning's Spring Park (1), Pulpit Rock Park (1), and Pulpit Rock Campground (1).

KENDALLVILLE

- 3 **Fishing in Northeast Iowa: Then and Now:** Kiosk located at the Kendallville Canoe Access (south side of river), 3480 K Park Rd.

FORT ATKINSON

- 4 **Fort Atkinson and the Turkey River Subagency:** Kiosk located in front of the Fort Atkinson Community Center, 303 3rd St.

LANSING

- 5 **Earthen Mounds in Northeast Iowa:** Kiosk located in the parking lot adjacent to Clear Creek Park, 289-357 S Front St.

BLUFFTON

- 6 **Water Travel in the Upper Midwest:** Kiosk located at White's Riverside Bluffton Campground, 2633 W Ravine Rd.