

Kansas History Indians To Explorers

Indians

- First settled in Kansas about 12,000 to 10,000 years ago
- Theory of the land bridge from Asia
- Paleo-Indians
- Hunters- mastodon

Artifacts- arrowheads, axes, stone tools
Archeologist vs. Anthropologist- define Cache

- Archaic Indians- more modern- 7000 years ago
- Plains woodland Indian era – 2000 years ago
- Village farmer Indian era – 1000 years ago
- Protohistoric Indians – 500 years ago

"Kansas" is an Indian term meaning

"swift wind" or "People of the South wind"

5 major native tribes of Kansas

Kansa
Osage
Pawnee
Wichita
Plains

1. Kansa - Kansas River in north –
Siouan language

Shaved head except for crown
Ear loops
Tall
Two miles east of Manhattan
Death mourned by professionals
Buried with food, blankets, horse
Two types of lodges
Used tipis during buffalo hunt

Kansa Indians --

Two types of houses -- round earth lodges that were about 30 feet across, or bark-covered lodges that were 25 to 60 feet long

Chief's family could become chief only one chief at a time

Society -- women tended gardens corn, squash, and beans -- men hunted
Twice a year entire tribe went on a buffalo hunt -- cone shaped "tipis" (travois, pemmican)

-- Excellent warriors --
ceremonies to help them succeed in battle.

2. Osage - Marais des Cygne River
Once most powerful west of Mississippi

Three bands Little
Osages, Grand, Black Dog
<http://www.republic.k12.mo.us/highschool/teachers/kstephen/oz2d.htm>

-- Farmers and hunters
the Kansa Indians similar to the Osage
Sioux language
- Moved back and forth into
Missouri and Middle Eastern Kansas

THE OSAGE

I. The Osage were the dominant Native American tribe of the Ozark plateau when the Europeans first explored the interior of the region

In 1680 there were a reported 17 Osage villages in the Ozarks

The Osage were considered one of the most warlike tribes in North America Their origin is in dispute with some believing it was Siouan and others believing they were descendants of the Mississippian culture

II. The Osage were primarily hunters but also farmed

Crops were planted near the villages Corn, beans, pumpkin and squash were the main staples

Once the crops were planted the men then went on long hunting trips which lasted most of the spring and summer Upon their return the women were expected to harvest the crops

III. Osage villages were built around a complex design based upon their religious beliefs

Dwellings were made of wooden poles which formed a circle or an oblong structure which was then covered with hides

A ventilation hole was left at the apex of the dwelling to allow the campfire smoke to leave

The village was divided into two halves with a large thoroughfare running down the middle in an East to West direction To the North lay the Tzi-Sho group and to the South lay the Hunkah group with all doors facing Eastward

A Mystery Lodge was built a short distance from the rest of the village and housed the governing body and the two chiefs of the two divisions

The Tzi-Sho chief represented peace while the Hunkah chief represented war

IV. The Osage were impressive in their appearance

The Osage practiced selective breeding so only the very physically fit survived All the warriors were tall with few being less than 6 feet tall

They plucked their eyebrows, shaved their heads and often went naked

They tattooed their bodies and often painted them with brilliant colors

Men wore only a simple breech-cloth and leggings while the women wrapped a piece of deerskin around their waist

The Osage bathed almost daily and considered the other Native American tribes and the white settlers as filthy

V. The Osage were a very religious and superstitious people

They were masters of mimicking animal sounds but never learned to whistle and were frightened of anyone who could

They were extremely frightened of lightning and would never use wood struck by it

The Osage religion centered around the belief in a Great Spirit known as Wah-Kon-Tah

They worshiped the sun, moon and particularly the stars from which they believed they were descended

They believed upon death they would rejoin the stars if they lived in harmony with Wah-Kon-Tah

The Osage warrior believed he was a brother to all living things and would not take life unless it threatened him or was necessary for sustenance

They believed all animals had "souls" and were sacred

They had a strong sense of revenge and resisted the Christian concept of forgiveness

They believed if they transgressed against Wah-Kon-Tah they would suffer punishment in the form of sickness or

natural disaster

The Osage daily practiced the "Dawn Chant" which was a prayer in the morning while facing the rising sun, the embodiment of Wah-Kon-Tah

VII. The Osage became even greater warriors once they acquired the horse and firearms

Raiding expeditions were directed toward other Native American tribes and later against white settlers and the U.S.

Army

They often stole horses which gave them great flexibility in travel and extension of their territory

They established important trails across the Ozarks which later became major travel routes and eventually highways

The most important ran from the Springfield prairie to St. Louis and became known as the Osage Trace, then the Kickapoo Trace and later the White River Trace. This route eventually became Rt. 66 and then I-44

Another important trail was a North-South trail from Bates and Vernon counties to the Arkansas line via Polk county, Western Greene county (right through Republic) and Stone county

VIII. With the arrival of the white settlers, the Osage was eventually forced to cede their claims to their native land. The Treaty of Fort Osage (1808) ceded the land between the Missouri and Arkansas rivers to the U.S.

However, the Osage continued to utilize this land for many years as hunting territory as recorded by Schoolcraft in 1818-1819

They desired to return to the Ozarks but were deterred by the presence of other Indian tribes which had exchanged their lands in the East for claims to the Ozarks

3. Pawnee - Republican River (Eastern) Pani – meaning Horn
Mohawk hair short until the back
Breech cloth, moccasins, buffalo robes, wolf skins

Women shirts and skirts

Boys naked until 12

Red and yellow paint for ceremony

Black for war

Infants on boards

Polygamy

Pawnee -- dwellings were a large circular earth lodge

Lived in villages protected by ditches and earth walls

Caddoan Language

4 independent bands with its own chief (check text)

Society -- women were highly respected and powerful; owned the corn and other crops; played important part in village affairs; older women especially powerful to male leaders -- hunted buffalos, trapped fur-bearing animals to trade, and were leaders

On the verge of being matriarchal-female dominate

4. Wichita - Arkansas River (South)
Caddoan language like the Pawnee
Dome shaped lodges – grass huts – prairie
Patriarchal – male dominant

Wichita Indians -- Coronado visited in 1541

Lodges were domed shaped and built from wooden poles and thatch roofs

Tribes were divided into 4 bands

Society -- women raised corn, beans, melons, pumpkins, and squash; cooked, and cured buffalo meat

-- Men hunted buffalo, and other wildlife

5. Plains - Western Kansas
- A) Comanche (shoshonean)
 - B) Cheyenne (algonquin)
 - C) Kiowa (Tanoan)
 - D) Arapaho (algonquin)

Plains Indians -- Western Kansas

- Mainly buffalo hunters and gathers
- Used bows and arrows
- Lived in cone shaped tipis or round lodge-typed dwelling covered with grass or brush; little or no farming.
- Traded with some other tribes
- Some were excellent warriors and skilled horsemen

Examples of Indian heritage in Kansas lives today

Food -- corn, beans, squash, pumpkins

Kansas Indian name Places

Counties -- Comanche, Kiowa, Wichita, Pawnee Rock, Ottawa, Cheyenne

Cities -- Olathe, Shawnee, Haskell, Osawatomie, and others

Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas is one of the oldest and most recognized American Indian/Alaska Native Universities in the United States. Founded in 1884 as the U.S. Industrial Training School, in Lawrence, Kansas, Haskell was originally established to assimilate Native American children into mainstream America. The United States wanted to *solve* the "Indian problem" and they viewed education as the fastest and most complete means of achieving that end. It was felt that removing Indian children from their families and communities would remove the influences preventing the American Indian from becoming *productive* and *acceptable* members of the dominant society. Haskell began with fifteen students brought to Lawrence from across the country. They ranged in grades first through the fifth. By 1884, there were 606 students enrolled representing 36 states.

Mid-American Indian Center in Wichita, Kansas

-- 1990 census showed of Kansas 2,477,000 people 17,800 were part Indian
2000 census statistics 2,688,418 persons about 27,000

Shawnee-
Missionaries

EARLY EXPLORERS AND SETTLERS

Coronado - 1541 -- First White man into
Kansas -- Spanish
Conquistadores
No easy riches in Kansas
No Eldorado
Cibola

Territory of Louisiana The Louisiana
Purchase covered 880,000 square miles
and contained 565 million acres
French and Indian War in 1763
Napoleon –1800
U.S. Purchase in 1803- 3 cents an
acre

Lewis and Clark
Corps of Discovery - 1804
Brief visit in territory of
Kansas

The Great American Desert- semiarid

Zebulon Pike-1806

Stephen Long-1820

George Sibley-1811

Settlers -- Homes
- Grass Huts, log cabins, sod
houses, dugouts (earth homes today),
stone houses
- Timber in East = log cabins
- West stone
Buffalo - "general store on the Hoof"
- Indians and settlers use nearly all parts
in every day life
Skin clothing, blankets, and shelters;
Bones as tools; hairs was braided for
rope; and horns were made into spoons

Explorers open trade routes

SANTA FE TRAIL

Trade route west to Spanish territory of
New Mexico

1821- Mexico wins independence from
Spain and Americans eager to trade with
Mexico

William Becknell – Father of the Santa
Fe Trail

Major highway in early 1800's
Means of transporting goods for trade
not an important passenger route
Caravan- Wagon Train
Council Grove, Kansas
Safety in numbers

OREGON AND CALIFORNIA TRAIL

Passenger route west
Settlers headed for the Oregon territory
Emigrants
Dangerous trip

The journey west on the Oregon Trail
was exceptionally difficult by today's
standards. One in 10 died along the way;
many walked the entire two-thousand
miles barefoot. The common
misperception is that Native Americans
were the emigrant's biggest problem en
route. Quite the contrary, most native
tribes were quite helpful to the
emigrants. The real enemies of the
pioneers were cholera, poor sanitation
and--surprisingly--accidental gunshots.

Gold Rush in 1849

4-6 months by wagon.

In procuring supplies for this journey, the emigrant should provide himself with, at least, 200 pounds of flour, 150 pounds of bacon; ten pounds of coffee; twenty pounds of sugar; and ten pounds of salt."

A family of four would need over a thousand pounds of food to sustain them on the 2000 mile journey to Oregon. The only practical way to haul that much food was a wagon.

Recommended for each adult: 150 pounds of flour, 50 pounds of corn meal, 50 pounds of bacon, 25 pounds of sugar, 15 pounds of coffee, 25 pounds of dried fruit

Also necessary in varying quantities: salt, pepper, lard, vinegar, saleratus (baking soda)

Optional, but desirable: tea, rice, beans

Wagon and Accessories

Wagon
Wagon Cover
Brake Chains
Rope
Oakum (caulking)
Extra Axles, Spokes, & tounges
Tar Bucket
Wagon Jack

Stock

Oxen
Milk cows
Ox yokes
Whip
Ox shoes
Nose twitcher

Tools

Axes
Hand Saw
Crosscut Saw
Hammers
Augers

Gimlet (hand drill)
Draw knife
Chisels
Pinchers
Files
Nuts & bolts
Extra links
Nails
Staples
Washers
Bar iron
Pick axe
Plow
Pitchfork
Shovel
Scythe
Hoe
Whetstone

Food

Flour
Pilot bread (hardtack)
Bacon
Rice
Coffee
Tea
Sugar
Salt
Pepper
•Dried beans
•Dried Fruit
•Corn Meal
•Saleratus (Baking Soda)
•Dried Corn
•Vinegar
•Eggs
•Molasses

Misc. and Luxuries

Chamber pot
Lantern
Candles
Soap
Pitcher & basin
Mirror
Musical Instruments
Trunks

Misc. and Luxuries

Bible
School books
Furniture
Clock
Fine Linens
Jewelry

Cooking Utensils

Dutch oven
Skillets
Cast Iron stove
Tin cups & plates
Cutlery
Butcher Knife
Matches
Coffee pot
Tea pot
Coffee mill
Bread pans
Muffin pans
Water barrel
churn

Bedding and Tent Supplies

Blankets
Sheets
Coverlets
Pillows
Oil cloth
Feather bed
tent
Poles
Stakes
Rope

Clothing

Guernsey shirts
Buckskin pants
Buckskin coat
Boots
Felt hat
Loose pantaloons
Bloomers
Cotton dresses
Sunbonnets
Goggles
Veils
India rubber ponchos
Sewing kit

Weapons

Shotguns
Rifles
Powder
Lead
Bullet mold
Powder horn
Percussion caps

Medical Supplies

Anti Fever pills (Quinine)
Calomel
Castor oil
Paregoric
Laudanum
Morphine
Anodyne
Essence of Peppermint
Liniment
Rum
Bandages