

The Ancient Ohio Art Series

"The Archaic Period"

ca., 10,000 - 2,500 BP

Panel 2 of 6



The Archaic people took particular advantage of the wide range of resources - food and raw materials - available in different seasons within their territories. At this riverside camp in northwestern Ohio, several families have banded together to prepare for the coming winter season. Men and boys fish in the river, and hollow out a log with their stone axes and fire to build dugouts in which they can travel long distances via the river systems. Some of the women grind nuts into meal and store it in baskets for food during the winter. Later, the group may split up with each family traveling to its own winter hunting camp.

This artwork is based on archaeological research from such Archaic sites such as the Dupont, Raisch-Smith, and Weilnau. The size and configuration of the dugout is based on the Ringler dugout, discovered in a glacial bog near Ashland, Ohio. The use of stone axes, adzes and fire to hollow out the log for the dugout is based on archaeological evidence from the Ringler dugout and practices of American Indian tribes of the 17th and 18th centuries.

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