

ARTI
FACT

STATE OF MYSTERY



DRAWN BY FERTILE SOIL AND ABUNDANT RIVER VALLEYS, the first European settlers of what is now Ohio marveled at the mysterious earthworks they found. Ranging from mounds to sculpted shapes, the monumental architecture was the work of advanced Native American societies that predated the newcomers by over a thousand years. **OHIO'S EXTENSIVE MOUND SITES** (such as those at Hopewell Culture National Historical Park, shown above) are featured in "Visit Archeology," the newest entry in the series produced by the National Park Service Archeology Program. The state's rich history is depicted through an array of sites and museums, all of which can be visited online, including Serpent Mound, the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and the Youngstown Historical Center of Industry and Labor. **OHIO'S NATIVE HERITAGE** is abundant in the offerings, but one can also learn how the pioneers experienced what was once the nation's northwest frontier and how, much later, the steel industry transformed lives and landscape. **FOR THE TRAVELER**, most attractions are easily accessible off the I-70 corridor. Because of its location on the Great Lakes, Ohio was a place of convergence, long important to the continent's commerce and culture. A timeline in the feature begins with the paleoindian period 14,000 years ago and ends with the late prehistoric era, around the time of first European contact. Each section describes how people used the land, informed by archeological research. **FOR A WIDER LOOK AT ARCHEOLOGY** around the country, click on the national map for a state-by-state list of archeological parks, sites, museums, research projects, and Discover Our Shared Heritage travel itineraries. Go to the site at www.nps.gov/archeology/visit/ohio/index.htm. For more information, contact Barbara Little, barbara_little@nps.gov.