

Glossary

Archaeology - The study of past people through their human remains and objects

Archaic Period - The time period in North America between 8000 to 1000 BC, before colonists came to the Americas

Artifact - An object created by humans

Cultivation - The act of caring for or raising plants, including fruits and vegetables

Culture - The customs, beliefs, values, behaviors, and artifacts of a group of people that are transmitted for many generations through teaching and learning

Excavate - To expose or uncover by digging

Material Culture - Visible signs and objects of people who lived before us

Mohican - A Native American nation that lived in Eastern New York, including all of Columbia County for over 4,000 years. Colonists forced the Mohicans to move westward and they now reside in Wisconsin with a population of about 1,500

Oral Culture - Stories and songs that are passed down many generations through word of mouth

Woodland Period - The time period in North America from 1000 BC to European contact, when Native Americans and colonists first interacted with each other