

NATIVE AMERICAN DATELINE: ARKANSAS

PREHISTORIC				
PALEO-INDIAN	ARCHAIC	WOODLAND	MISSISSIPPI	
12,000	8500	600	B.C.	0 A.D.
				900
				1500

Nomadic hunter-gatherers enter present-day Arkansas

Gradual shift to more settled lifeways; local edible seed plants domesticated in Late Archaic

Small villages and burial mounds; pottery

Large towns develop; maize agriculture; complex societies

• Pottery making begins ca. 600 B.C.

• Bow-and-arrow adopted ca. A.D. 600

• Maize (corn) introduced ca. A.D. 800

DALTON CULTURE
8500 – 8000 B.C.
Earliest cemetery in America in NE Arkansas

POVERTY POINT CULTURE
ca. 2000 – 1000 B.C.
Massive earthworks in NE Louisiana; trade networks and cultural influence extend into SE Arkansas

**HOPEWELL/
MARKSVILLE CULTURE**
200 B.C. – A.D. 300
Trade, ritual, and burial ceremonialism

PLUM BAYOU CULTURE
A.D. 600 – 1000
Toltec Mounds constructed in central Arkansas

**MISSISSIPPIAN, PLAQUEMINE, and
CADDOAN CULTURES, ca. A.D. 900 – 1600**

PARKIN PHASE
A.D. 1350 – 1600
Mississippian in NE Arkansas

PROTOHISTORIC		HISTORIC		
1500	1600	1700	1800	1900

1543–1673

No record of contact between Indians and Europeans

1763

France cedes territory to Spain and England

1803

United States acquires Louisiana Territory

1887

Indian Allotment Act splits reservations into family allotments

1541

De Soto crosses the Mississippi and meets Parkin phase people at Casqui

1673

Quapaws welcome Marquette, Jolliet

1788

Caddos abandon villages on the Great Bend of Red River, move south to Caddo Lake vicinity

1808

Osages cede control of most of NW Arkansas to U.S.

1831–32

Choctaw Trail of Tears crosses south Arkansas

1890s

Ghost Dance and Peyote religions introduced in Indian Territory

1542

De Soto dies in present-day Arkansas

1682

Quapaws welcome La Salle, who claims territory for France

1686

Tonti establishes first Arkansas Post

1790s

Cherokees begin to settle in Arkansas; a few Choctaws, Chickasaws, Coushattas, and Delawares follow

1817

A Cherokee reservation was established in Arkansas

1838–39

Cherokee Trail of Tears crosses Arkansas

1934

Indian Reorganization Act restores civil rights

1687

Joutel visits Caddos on the Red and Ouachita Rivers

1820

Dwight Mission established among the Cherokees

1845

Caddos granted reservation lands in Texas

1967

Arkansas Act 59 protects archeological sites on state land

1690

Tonti visits Koroas and Caddos

1825

Osages granted a reservation in Kansas

1859

Caddos removed to Indian Territory

1990

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

1690s

Tunicas of SE Arkansas move to Yazoo River area in Mississippi; Caddos abandon most of SW Arkansas

1826

Quapaws removed to Red River area in Louisiana

1991

Arkansas Act 753 protects unmarked graves

1828

Arkansas Cherokees removed to Indian Territory

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Prehistoric dates are estimates based on various published sources; updated November 2007