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## **DEMONSTRATING SEDENTISM IN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD: A MIDDLE WOODLAND HOMESTEAD IN SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA**

Impressive mounds and earthworks built by the prehistoric Hopewell populations have long been an important feature of Midwestern archaeology. Most of our current knowledge of this tradition in the Ohio Valley region has been the result of archaeological investigations that have focused on these ceremonial sites. Thus, although artifact and burial typologies are extensive, little is known about the secular lives of the Hopewell societies in this region. In contrast, Hopewell archaeology in the Illinois region has focused since the 1950s on subsistence and settlement patterns. It is difficult to make comparisons between the two regions because the data sets are so different. Moreover, there is a great deal more settlement evidence available for the Havana period, particularly from the lower Illinois River Valley.

The Jennison Guard site (12 D 295) is a Hopewellian habitation situated on the Ohio River floodplain in Dearborn County, Indiana. This site is unique in this region because it is not directly associated with a ceremonial complex. The 1985 field season of excavation was conducted with the objective of determining the duration or permanence of the occupation at the site. These excavations revealed a large, extramural activity area: nineteen cultural features, a refuse disposal zone, and two discrete, voluminous middens. Preliminary analyses of the floral and faunal remains suggested the site was occupied on a year-round basis.

The research presented here focuses on the evidence for organization and maintenance of life space at the site. By comparing this evidence with expectations for the use and maintenance of space among groups that are (1) highly mobile, (2) seasonally migratory, and (3) sedentary, it is demonstrated that the Jennison Guard site was occupied for a relatively long, uninterrupted period of time and that the occupants of the site were residentially sedentary. The Jennison Guard site is but a single example from a complex tradition whose settlements in the Ohio Valley region remain poorly documented. The hypotheses and conclusions presented here are not intended to suggest a pattern of settlements for this tradition; rather, they are offered as a basis for much needed future comparisons.

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