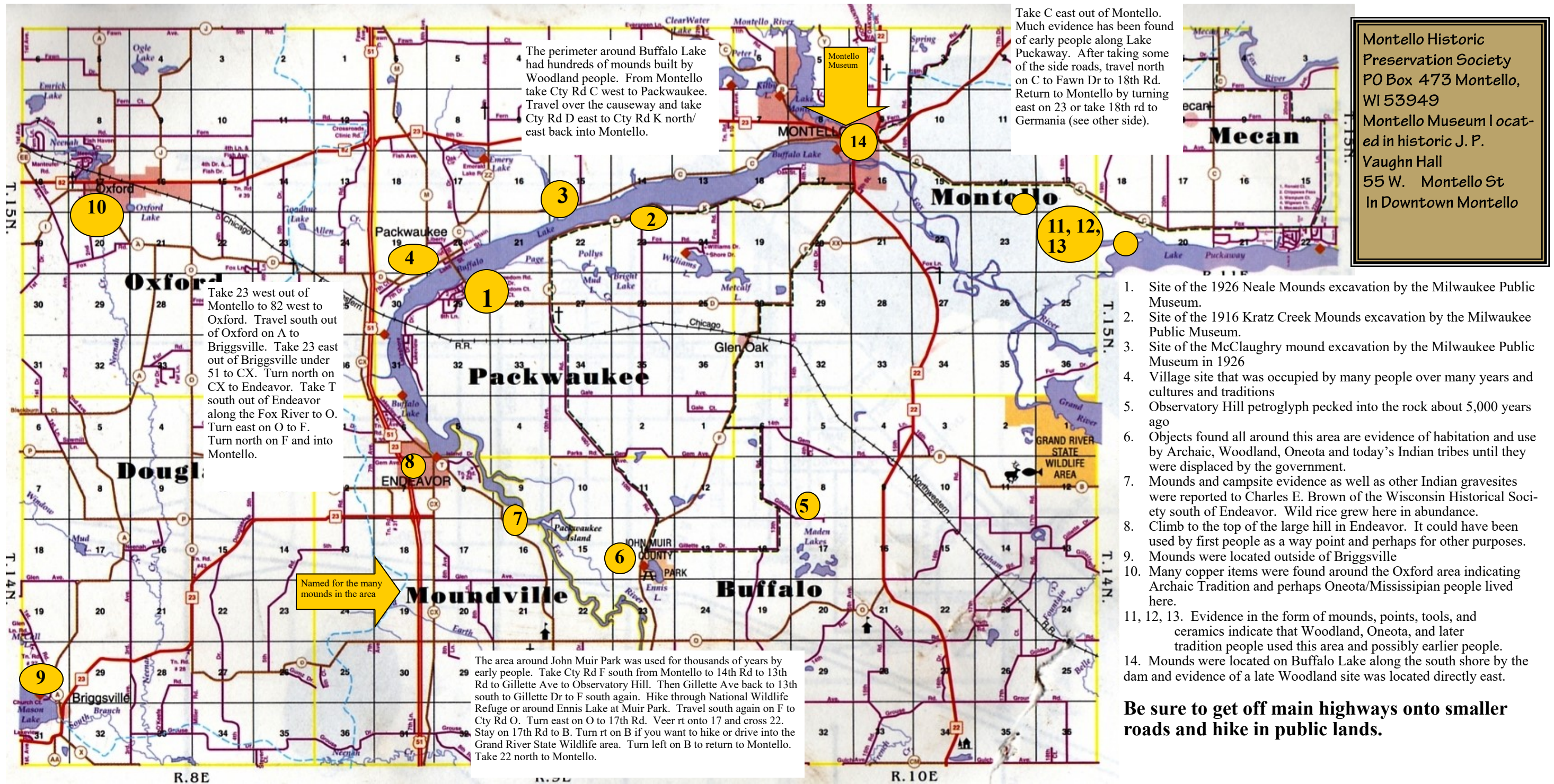


This map gives general locations only. It is not precise in location of marked sites. It is meant to provide the user the opportunity to travel through the land where the first people of Marquette County lived, hunted, raised their families, made their tools, buried their dead, and found sacred spaces for ceremony. The land has changed since the Paleo-Indian people hunted mammoths and made their stone points to use as weapons in their search for food. But many of the rivers, elevation points, valleys, lakes, and creeks are the same as they were when Archaic, Woodland, Oneota, and the Fox, Ho-Chunk, and other Native Americans and, yes, even Paleo Indian people lived here.

Marquette County Tour: Evidence of First People of Marquette County

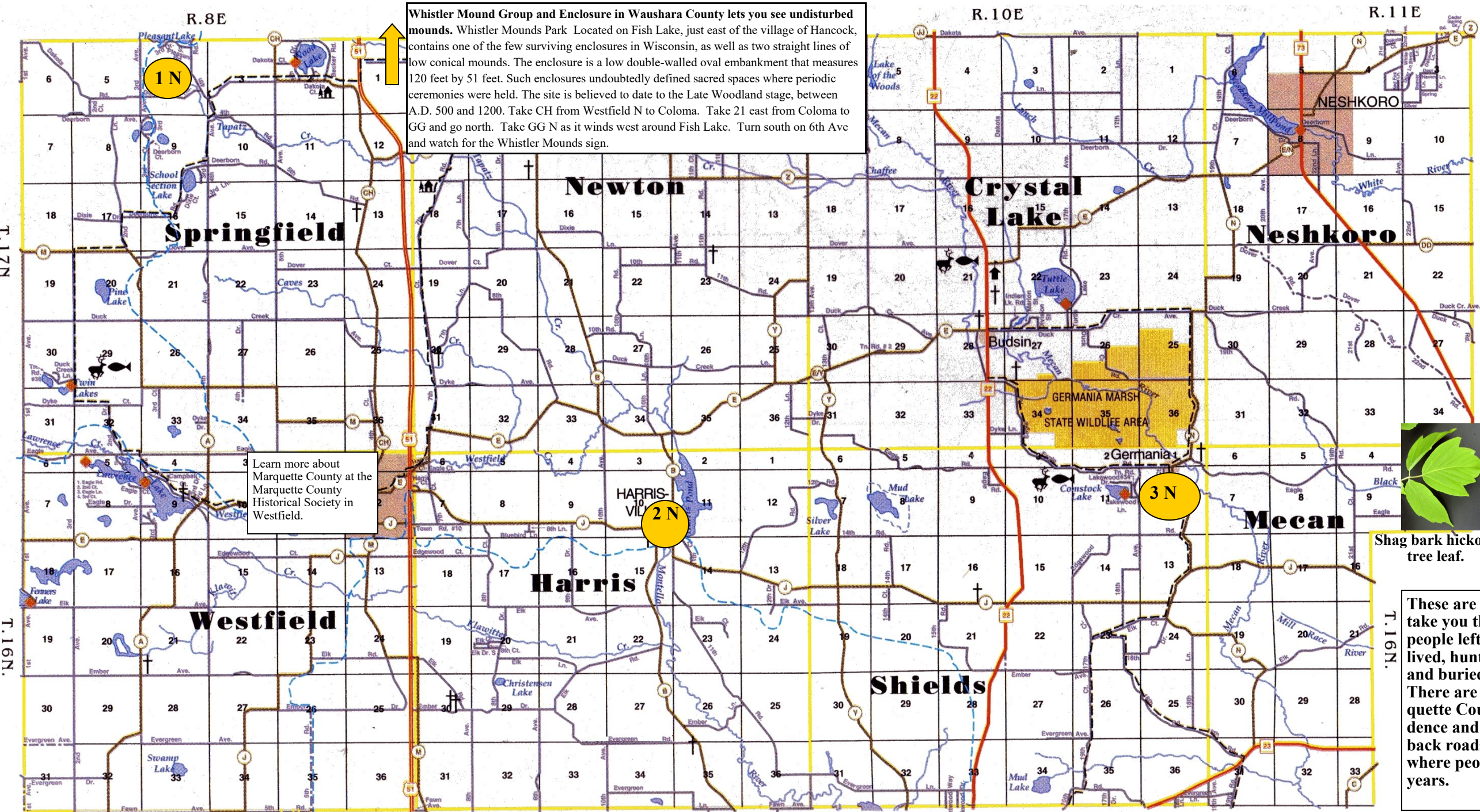
Montello Historic Preservation Society honors the rights of private property owners and provides only directions to general locations of sites of interest. Walking on private property is trespassing without the owner's permission. Many areas of use by early people are on public lands where hiking is permitted. Excavation or digging, however, is against the law. Artifacts sighted on public land should be reported to the State of Wisconsin Historical Society office of the State Archeologist.

Paleo-Indians lived in this area approximately between 10,000 and 8,500 B.C. That was when mammoths and giant sloths lived here and the glacier was receding north. Archaic Period people lived here from about 8500 BC to 1000 BC. This is when the Copper Culture emerged. The Woodland people who built the effigy mounds lived here from about 1000 B.C. to about 1100 A.D. The Mississippian/Oneota people called this land home from about 1000 A.D. to roughly 1500 A.D. Native Americans continued to and still live here. This map focuses only on the earliest people.



1 North: Springfield Township has many features that made it an attractive site for early people. A banner stone was found here indicating that Paleo Indian people probably once lived here. Mounds were also located in the northern most part of this lovely township. To see the features that made this an attractive place for early people, go north on CH out of Westfield. Turn west on Dover Ct and north on 5th Ave. Turn west on Dakota Rd/CH then north on Becker Rd which turns into Dakota Ave. This takes you back to CH. Travel south on CH to Dakota Rd and turn west. Curve to the north on 4th Rd turning west onto S. Pleasant Rd which ends. Travel back on this road to 4th Rd and turn south to Dakota Rd. Turn west here and travel to 3rd Ave where you'll turn south. Travel south to Deerborn Ave where you'll turn west. Travel to 2nd Ln. and turn south to Deerborn Rd. Follow Deerborn Rd east back to 5th road to CH. You may see signs for Trail's End which is now Eagle's Nest, a place where Native American values and traditions are still used today to help young people.

2 North and 3 North: Many copper items have been found around Harrisville and Woodland mounds have been described extensively south of Germania as well as Oneota garden beds and graves. Travel along this route see where the early people also traveled and lived in Marquette County. From Montello drive north on 22 and veer right onto B. Take B north along the Montello River to Harrisville. If it's the right season, you should be able to see wild rice growing on the north end of the Harrisville Mill Pond. After exploring Harrisville, take 11th Ct south off of B to J. Go east on J to Y. Turn north on Y to E. Go east on E and cross Hwy 22. This becomes Duck Creek Ave. Turn south onto Duck Creek Rd and it will curve into the Germania Wildlife Area. The road through the marsh may be open and it will take you across the marsh to N. If it isn't open, return to Duck Creek Ave and go east to N. Turn south on N. You'll be driving past the Germania Marsh Wildlife area. This would have provided many foods to early people including game and aquatic animals and plants. N takes you into Germania where you go straight on Eagle Rd instead of following N south. Turn south on 18th Ave. It's along here that mounds and a village were reported. Follow 18th Ave to Elk Ct turning west. Take Elk Ct. to 17th Cr. South on 17th Ct to Ember Ave. West on Ember Ave back to 22.

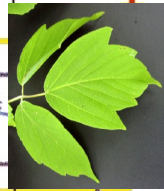


Whistler Mound Group and Enclosure in Waushara County lets you see undisturbed mounds. Whistler Mounds Park Located on Fish Lake, just east of the village of Hancock, contains one of the few surviving enclosures in Wisconsin, as well as two straight lines of low conical mounds. The enclosure is a low double-walled oval embankment that measures 120 feet by 51 feet. Such enclosures undoubtedly defined sacred spaces where periodic ceremonies were held. The site is believed to date to the Late Woodland stage, between A.D. 500 and 1200. Take CH from Westfield N to Coloma. Take 21 east from Coloma to GG and go north. Take GG N as it winds west around Fish Lake. Turn south on 6th Ave and watch for the Whistler Mounds sign.

Learn more about Marquette County at the Marquette County Historical Society in Westfield.

Be sure to heed the names of the roads. There are Ave., Ct, Rd, and Ln of the same name.

There are many areas of public land to get out of the car or off your bike and walk. If you walk along a river or creek you most surely will be walking where early people also walked since the water was very important to them. It provided food resources, directional guides, and many times they located their sacred spaces near water. As you travel look for hickory trees. Their nuts were an important food source to early people. White tailed deer were also important as food and for hides, bone, and antlers to make tools and other necessities.



Shag bark hickory tree leaf.

These are only suggested routes that take you through areas where early people left behind evidence that they lived, hunted, fished, held ceremonies, and buried their dead on this land. There are many other areas in Marquette County where there is other evidence and we encourage you to take back roads and discover the land where people have lived for over 12,000 years.