



## Selecting the artifacts



artifacts      text      the viewer      more information      display design

## Background and descriptive text


- Text from the first exhibit
- A. E. Harmon Site Report
- Past senior assignments
- Dr. Holt
- Quotes from students

**Change in the American Bottom**  
Critical changes occurring during the cultural transition between the Late Woodland and the Emergent Mississippian periods include: population growth, the introduction of maize agriculture, architectural changes, and an increase in competition among groups living in the American Bottom. Those changes culminated in the Mississippian period, when Cahokia became the dominant cultural center of the American Bottom.

**The 'starchy seed complex' prevalent in the Woodland Period:** *Phalaris caroliniana* (maygrass); *Chenopodium berlandieri* (goosefoot); and *Polygonum erectum* (knotweed)

**Reconstructing a prehistoric home**  
Nat Terry built a reconstruction of a house structure based on the plan view of Feature 103. He described the process in his senior project entitled, "A Functional Analysis of a Reconstructed Spontaneous Phase Keyhole Structure." Nat monitored the inside temperature through seasonal changes and observed the rate of decomposition.

**"The people you meet are definitely one of the best things about archaeology. Next to eating your lunch amongst the trees and playing in the dirt, of course."**  
- Tashia Evans




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## Relating to the viewers

(the customer's always right)

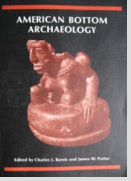

- Research on how visitors learn from exhibits
- Viewer diversity
- Viewer expectations
- How learning happens
- Making a memory



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## For more information...

- Anthropology website
- Read about regional archaeology
- Contact Dr. Holt





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## Design concepts


(getting the viewer's attention)

- Optical center
- Symmetry?
- Figure/ground relationship
- Visual hierarchy of lettering and panel components



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## Organizing the components



**IT and virtual archaeology**  
Student Valerie Stutz scanned site maps of Feature 103 to create a 3D image of the Spontaneous phase house structure. Using Blender software and texture based on photos from Nat Terry's reconstructed house photos, Valerie was able to replicate the roof line and is pertinent with these other roofing alternatives.

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## Getting it together

- Pictures worth a thousand words
- Selecting text
- Background color



## Production

- 70% scale model
- Full-scale cardboard templates



## Putting the display together

- Masonite panels across the back
- Gatorboard for side and bottom panels
- Affixing display panels/pictures
- Setting the artifacts



Coming in Summer 2007

## The D. Hitchens Site exhibit

- Based on SIUE's 2006 Archaeological Field School
- Similar to A. E. Harmon display
- Differences determined by investigation results



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**Mike Mason and Jerry Fahey of the University Museum**

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### **Come to the Maeystown Freulingfest!**

**Sunday, May 6 from 9 to 4**

