ABSTRACT

THESIS: In Search Of the Indiana Lenape: A Predictive Summary of the Archaeological Impact of the Lenape Living Along the White River in Indiana from 1790 - 1821

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When they resided along the White River in Indiana from 1790 to 1821, the Lenape culture exhibited a blend of traits created by contact with European and other Native American groups. This has made observing the Lenape culture archaeologically problematic, especially the village of Wapicomekoke. In searching for this site, several research questions were addressed including who the Lenape were during this time period and what type of material culture would be associated with them. By compiling a brief history of the Lenape, the archaeological evidence associated with these encounters, and ethnohistoric data pertaining to the life of the Lenape at Wapicomekoke, it can be predicted that the archaeological site associated with this historic location would show evidence of log cabins, a large central longhouse, and of daily activities such as food preparation, dress, and trade goods use as well as Lenape specific items such as the “Delaware dolls.”