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# Public Market Landscape Mural

By Audifax



# About Me

I'm a muralist with the goal of helping people to hear their hearts, in order to make decisions that bring us together and heal the planet, through art.



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# Site History



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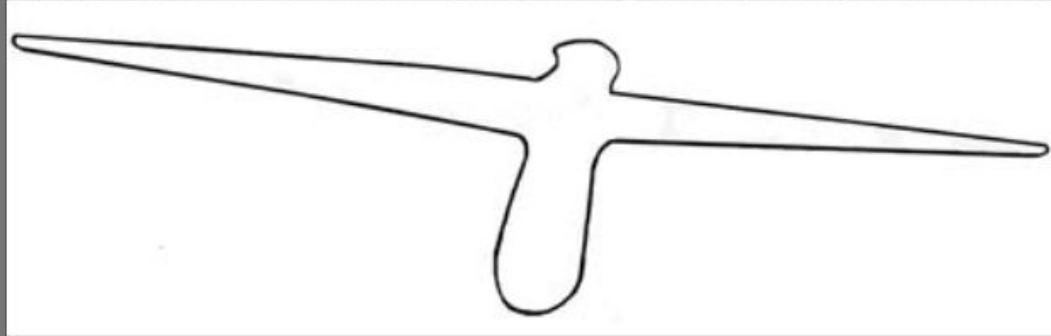
The late pre- contact agricultural populations were not predominantly in the Madison area 300 years ago, but had large village complexes in La Crosse and around Lake Koshkonong and some other areas in eastern Wisconsin. But the Madison area would have had intensive occupation during the Effigy Mound period, which archaeologists classify as Late Woodland, and people would have continued to visit for short-term occupations and to harvest resources.

- Constance Arzigian - Senior Research Archaeologist  
Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

# Timeline

- **10,000 BC - 6500 BC** - Paleo Indians - Hunters and gatherers
- **8,000 - 5000 BC** - Archaic Tradition - Adapted to changing environment
- **700 BC to 1300 AD** - Woodland Tradition - Pottery, Domestication of Plants, Creation of Effigy Mounds
- **1000 AD - 1650 AD** Oneota - evolved from existing Late Woodland groups in the Midwest
- **1000 AD - 1200 AD** Mississippian Culture - Establishing a settlement in Aztalan
- **1800** - The Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) Nation was the primary group living around Madison, along with other tribes like the Fox (Meskwaki) and Sauk

# Burrows Park Bird





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# Public Market Landscape



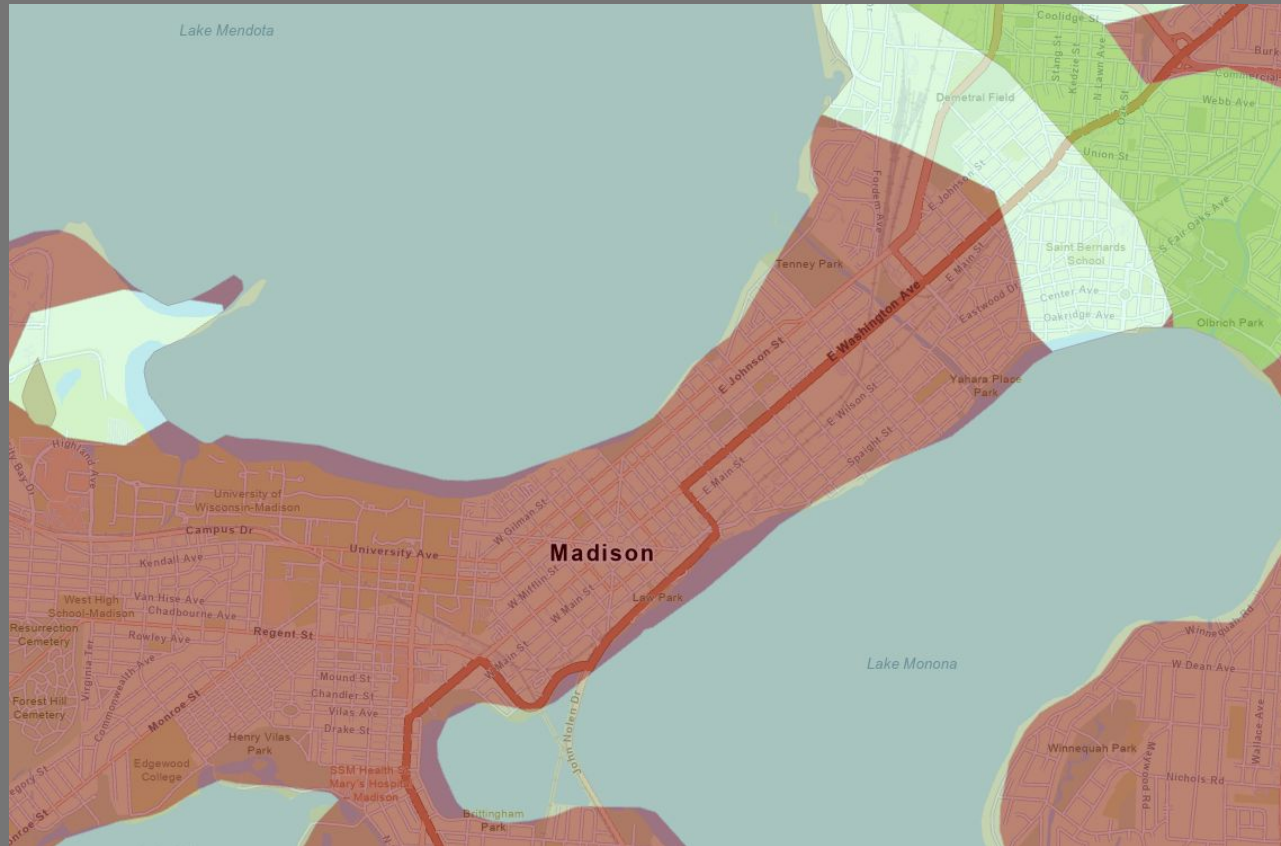
# 202 N 1st Street

Looking at the elevation, the intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> and Johnson looks to be in a lower spot, so more likely to be more open with more wetland vegetation and patches of forest to the east, west, and southwest, and more wetland to the north.

- **Amy L. Rosebrough**  
State Archaeologist  
State Historic Preservation Office



# The Location



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# Native Plants

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# Ethnobotany

Ethnobotany is the study of how humans interact with and use plants, particularly focusing on traditional knowledge about plants within specific cultures. It examines plant classification, cultivation, and uses in various contexts, including food, medicine, shelter, and other aspects of human life.

# Ethnobotany of Southern, WI & Dane County

Agricultural crops such as corn, beans, squash, gourd, and tobacco, were complemented by potential cultigens such as little barley, a wide range of wild plants such as wild rice and Imotweed, as well as a variety of fruits and nuts. (Oneota Time Period) - *Pammel Creek, WI Floral Remains / Constance Arzigian*

Crops are present at both sites, including small amounts of squash and bottle gourd, as well as maize, which is relatively ubiquitous although present in low densities. (Late Woodland Era) - *The Murphy & River Quarry Sites / Multi-component, Native American Sites in Dane County, Wisconsin - Marlin F. Hawley*

# Study of the Murphy Site



Mapping a keyhole structure at the Murphy (47DA736) site.

# Native Plants

Burr Oak

Staghorn Sumac

Blue Joint Grass

Wild Rice

Blue Flag Iris

Riddell's goldenrod

Marsh Milkweed

Black-eyed Susan

Woodland Sunflower

References: **Brian Schneider** - Director of Land Management & Conservation, Aldo Leopold Nature Center / **Megan Crumb** - Ecology Leadworker, Madison Parks Division / **Ryan O'Connor** - WI DNR Ecologist - Online Flora of Wisconsin / **Amy Rosebrough** - State Archeologist / **Constance Arzigian**, Senior Research Archaeologist, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse



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# Plant Medicine





# Plant Uses

## **Wild Rice:**

One of the greatest aboriginal foodstuffs in the northern part of the United States is the Wild Rice. All northern tribes knew about it, and gathered it for their winter supply of food.

## **Staghorn Sumac:**

The root, bark and leaves all are medicines. The root bark is used as a hemostatic. The leaves are steeped to make a tea, used in gargling for sore throat, tonsillitis and erysipelas.

## **Blue Flag Iris:**

The Forest Potawatomi use the root of the Blue Flag to make poultices to allay inflammation. Blue flag was one of the most popular medicinal plants amongst various native North American Indian tribes. Some tribes used the root as a protection against rattlesnakes.

### **Riddel's Goldenrod:**

A medical tea is brewed from the inflorescence and used for various kinds of fevers. Goldenrod is a gentle remedy for a number of disorders. In particular, it is a valuable astringent remedy treating wounds and bleeding, and particularly useful in the treatment of urinary tract disorders.

### **Marsh Milkweed:**

Young shoots, up to 6 inches, can be boiled in several changes of water, & eaten like asparagus or broccoli. Flowers are edible in all stages, but buds are best at about golf ball size.

### **Black-eyed Susan:**

The Potawatomi used the root of the Black-eyed Susan to make a tea for curing colds. Used for the sweat bath by the Wisconsin Ho-Chunk. Other tribes used root tea to treat worms and colds.

### **Woodland Sunflower:**

The fumes of the leaves on coals are used to cure headache by the Wisconsin Ho-Chunk. A decoction of the roots has been used to get rid of worms in both adults and children. An infusion of the roots has been used in the treatment of lung problems.

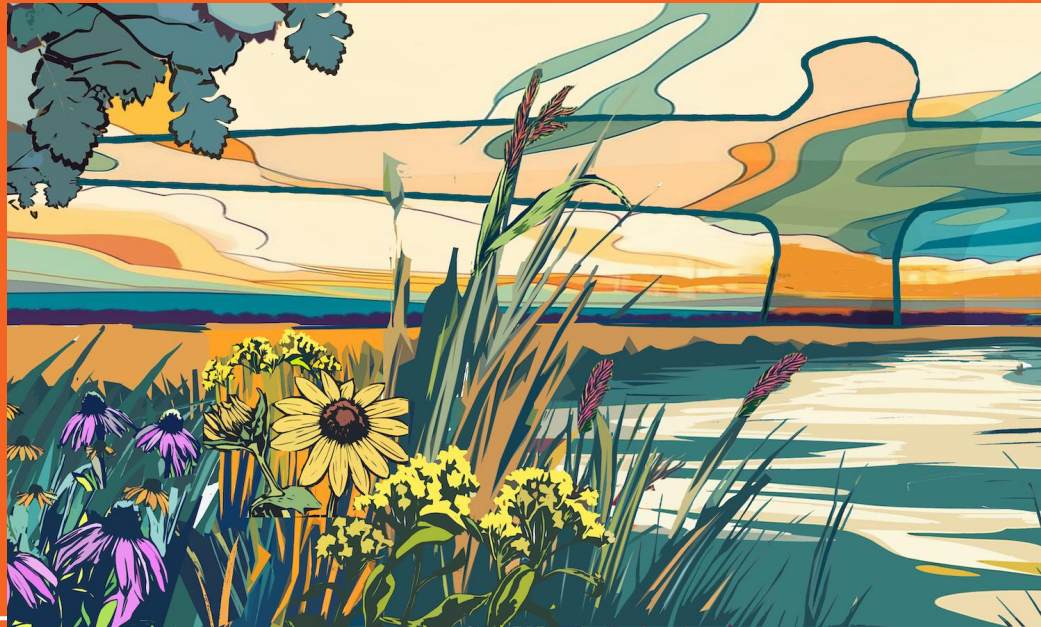
References: **ETHNOBOTANY OF THE FOREST POTAWATOMI INDIANS - By Huron H. Smith**

**Ho-Chunk Plants - Indigenous Plants of Winnebago Reservation**, Nebraska - Natalie Davis for Little Priest Tribal College, Winnebago, NE

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# The Design

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AUDIFAX  
@AUDIFAXART

# Includes

- Vibrancy
- Honoring the Landscape
- Cultural Heritage of the Site
- Native Plants
- Inclusive of Patrons of the Public Market

# Changes

- Simple
- Minimal
- Abstract
- Fluid
- Bold

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# Web Page





# Web Page

- Explaining the mural
- History of the site with references

Potentials:

- Find the Plant
- Coloring Page

# Future



# Community

- Archaeologist speaking about the site
- Ho-Chunk Historical Preservation speaker
- Presentation about the mural / process
- Environmental Preservation - How we can make a difference
- Coloring page for kids / adults based on final mural design

**THANK YOU!**