

Sekamika'laytheelopay

FROM ANCIENT HANDS: STORIES IN FIRE AND CLAY

"What was our ancestors pottery like?"

To answer this question, Shawnee tribal citizens worked with archaeologists, anthropologists, scientists, and a Wyandot potter to study ancestral ceramics and learn to make pots.

The Tribe turned to their homelands in the Middle Ohio Valley- the area that surrounds the Ohio River in present day Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Indiana. In this region between about AD 1400 and 1750, people created a distinctive style of pottery known as Late Fort Ancient Pottery.



Fort Ancient vessel
Courtesy Ohio History Connection
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Wyandot potter Richard Zane Smith and Shawnee Tribe 2nd Chief Ben Barnes examine Fort Ancient pottery at Kentucky Archaeology.