Louisiana Indians Long Ago

Division of Archaeology P.O. Box 44247 Baton Rouge, LA 70804 These are pictures of Indians in Louisiana. The drawings show how the Indians lived a long time ago. The pictures show them when explorers from Europe came here. At that time, many Indian tribes lived in our state.

As you look at the pictures, watch for these things about the houses.

What do the houses look like?

Are they all alike?

Can you tell what they are made of?

Are any of them tepees?

Look at the clothes the Indians are wearing.

Do men and women dress the same?

Do children wear the same clothes as adults?

Can you tell what the clothes are made of?

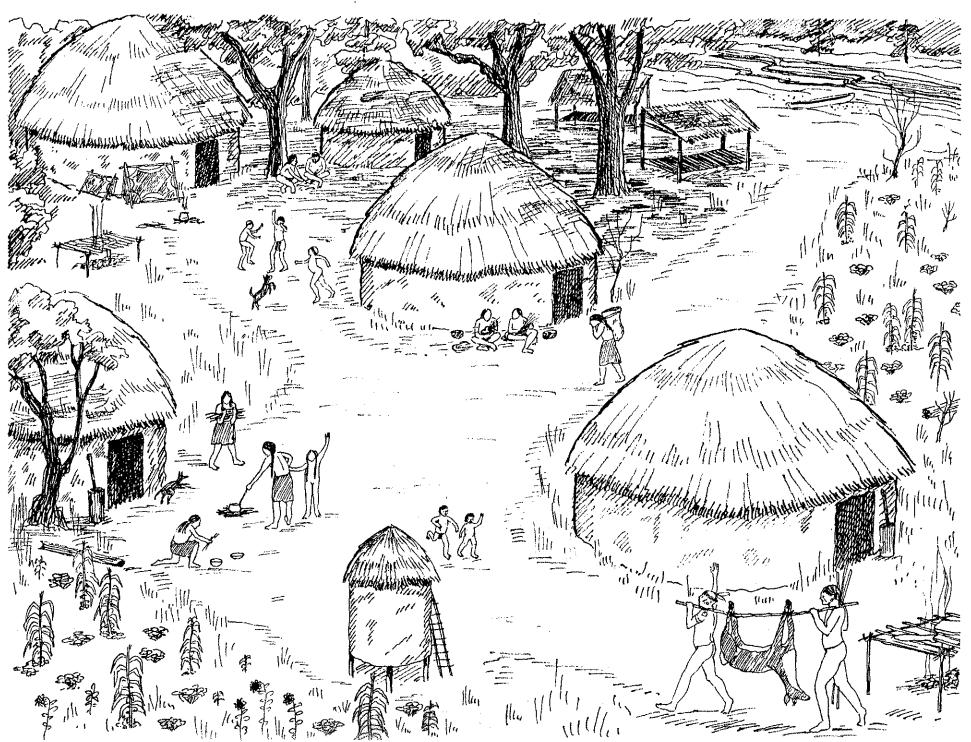
Look at all the ways they fix their hair and decorate their skin. Those lines on the men's arms and legs are tattoos.

Watch for pictures that show food.

What did the Indians eat?

How did they get their food?

How did they cook it?



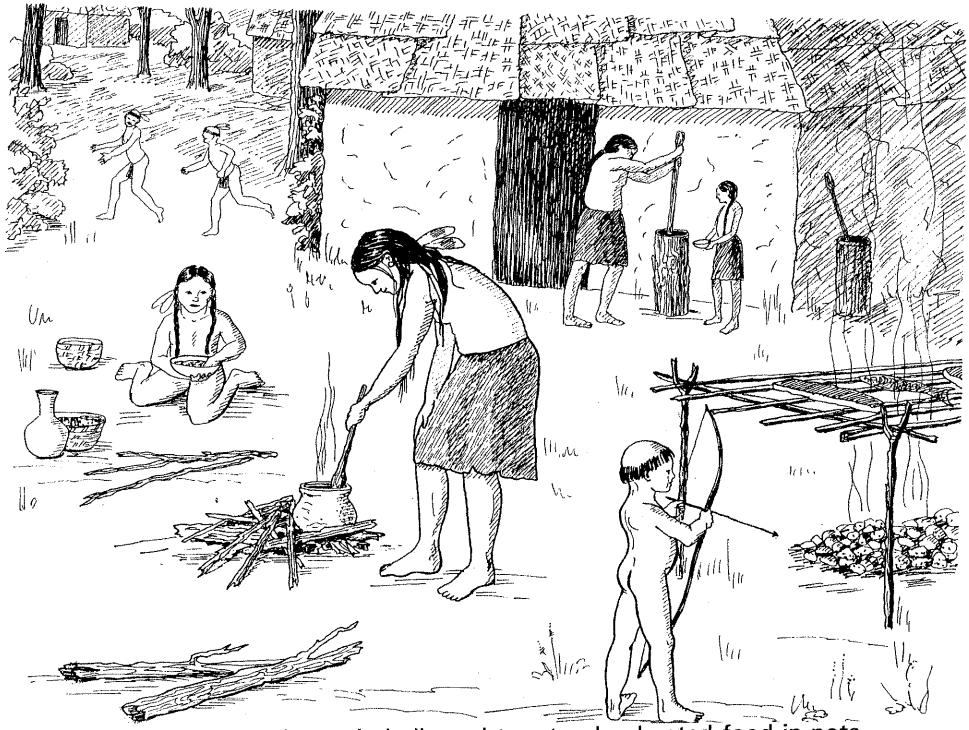
A Caddo Indian village had houses made of mud walls and grass roofs.



One hunter got the deer to look at a stuffed deer head. The other hunter shot his bow and arrow.



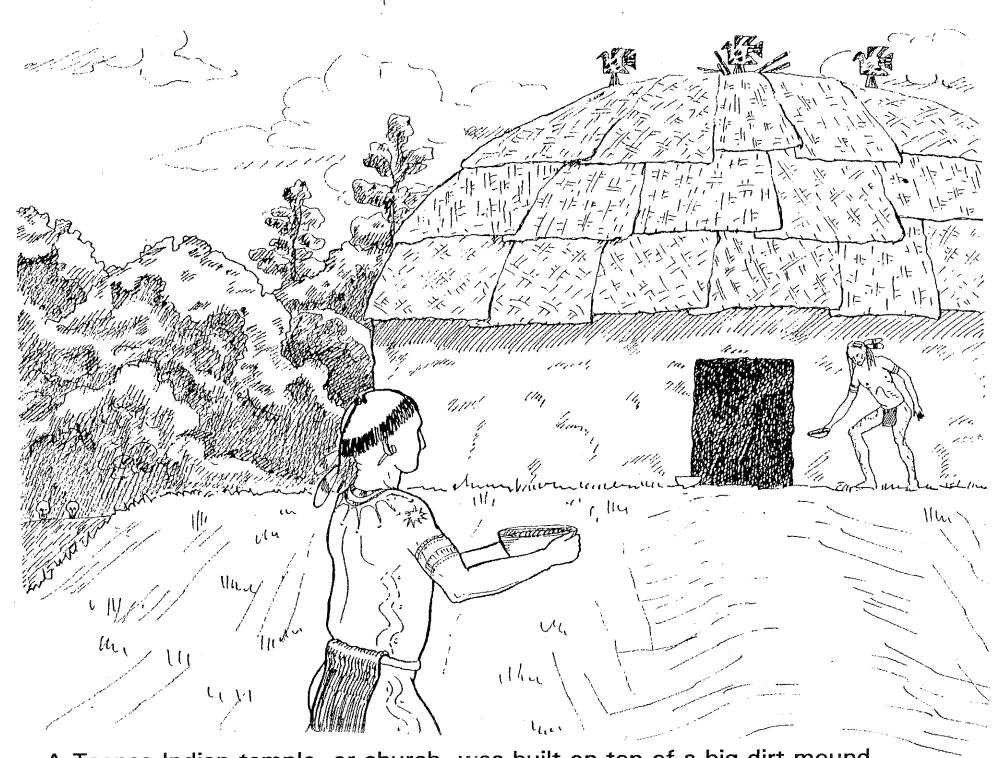
Corn, beans, squash, and sunflowers grew in Indian gardens.



Tunica women ground corn in hollowed tree trunks, heated food in pots, and cooked meat over a fire.



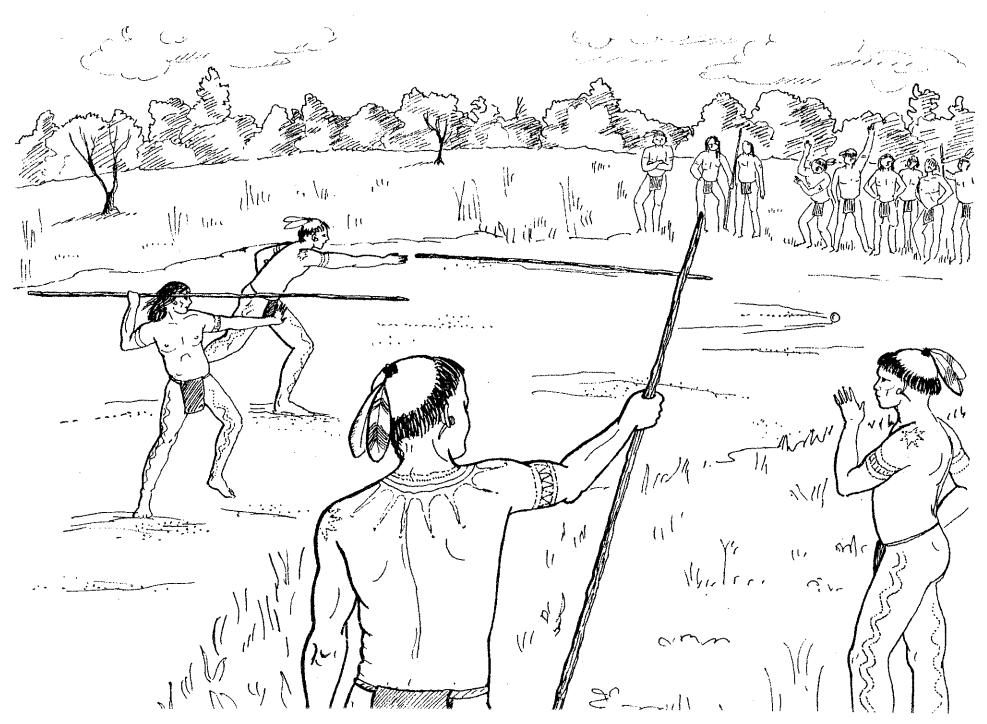
To make a canoe, men cut down a big tree. Then they burned some of the wood to make it easy to scrape out.



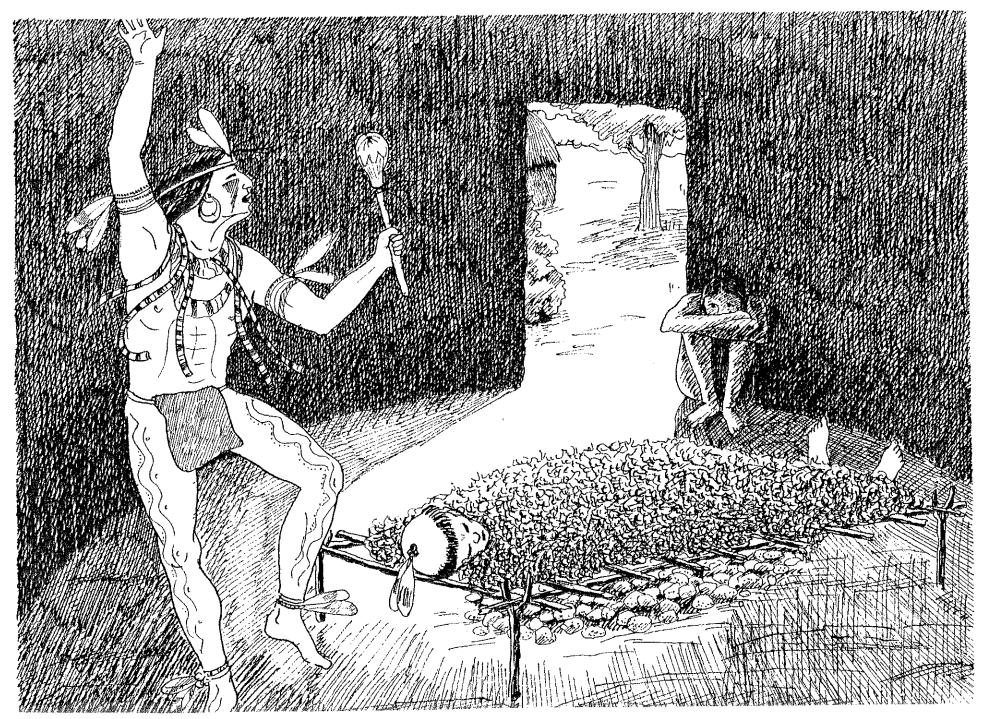
A Taensa Indian temple, or church, was built on top of a big dirt mound.



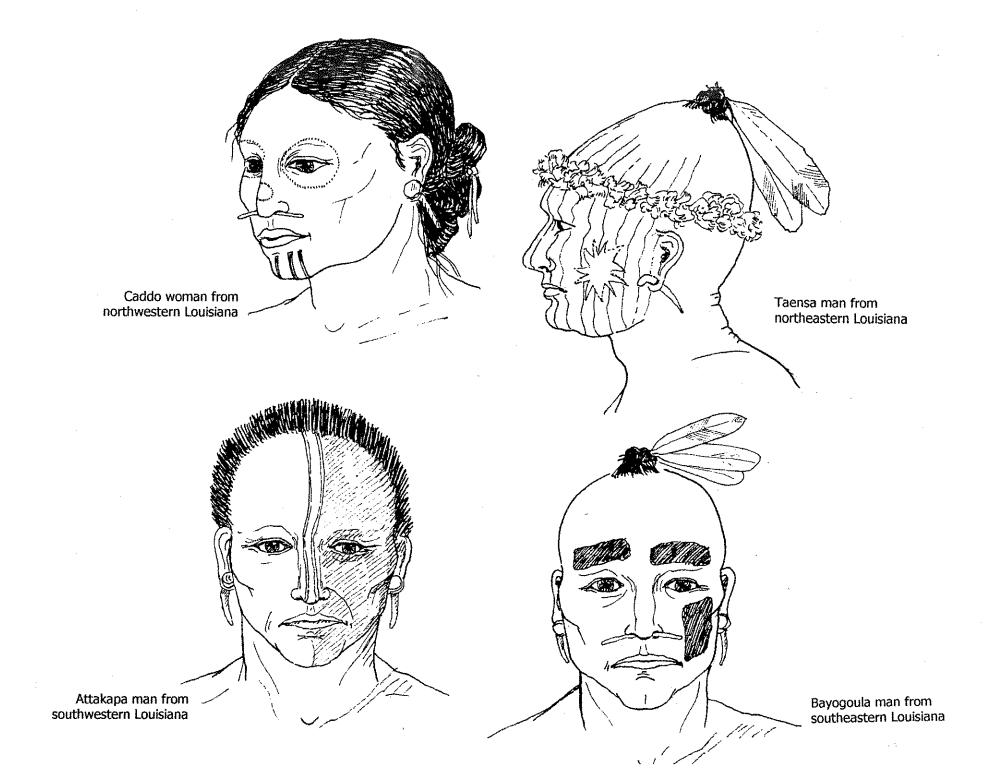
Chitimacha women made beautiful, colorful baskets.



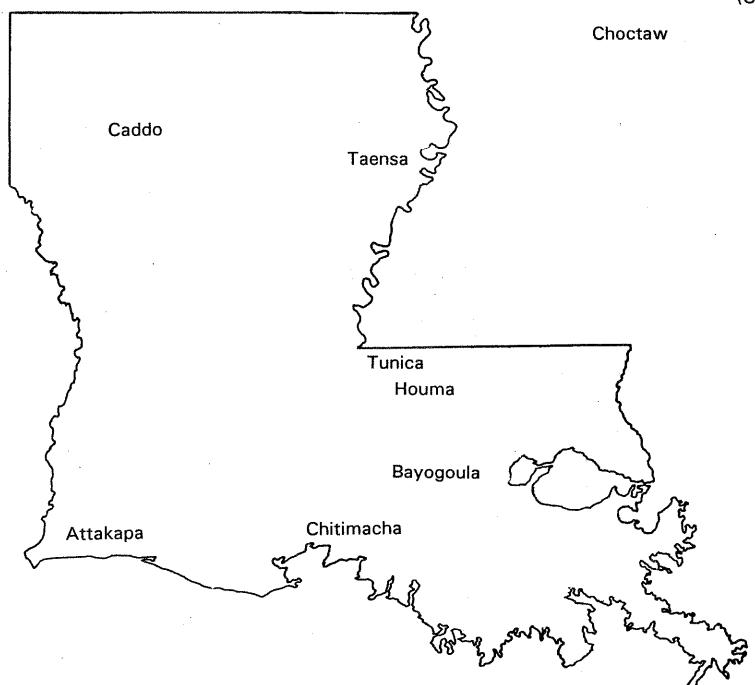
Indian men played a game called chunkey. They tried to see who could throw a spear closest to a rolling stone.



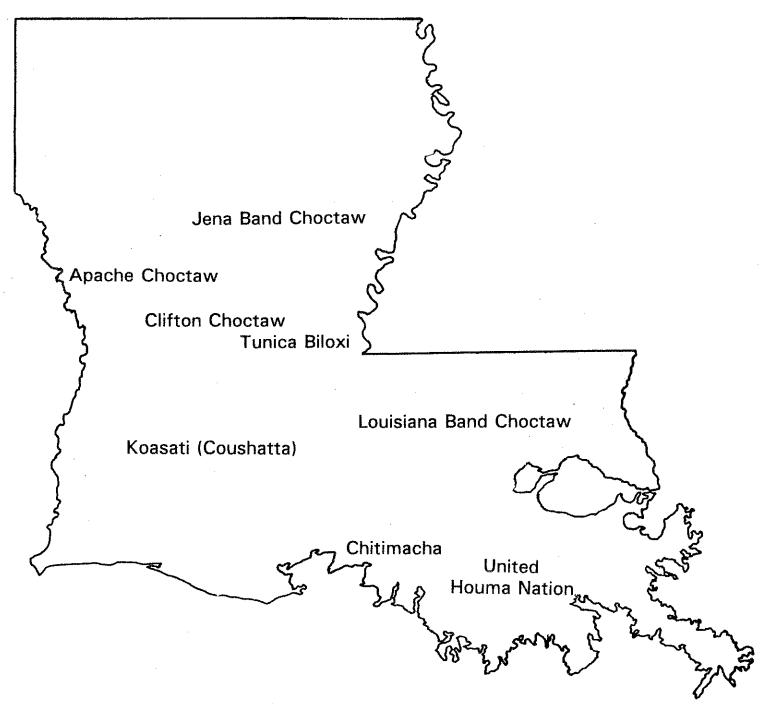
A Caddo Indian doctor danced and sang to make a sick person well. The patient lay on a wooden bed and was covered with Spanish moss.



Locations of some Indian groups in the early 1700s



Locations of some Indian groups today



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