

---

# THE WISCONSIN ARCHEOLOGIST

---

A Quarterly Bulletin Published by the Wisconsin Archeological Society.

---

Vol. 6. MILWAUKEE, WIS., OCT. TO DEC., 1907. No. 4.

---

## INTRODUCTION.

---

The present publication is issued by the Wisconsin Archeological Society to satisfy the now rapidly growing demand on the part of Wisconsin citizens for accurate information on the subject of the authorship of our state's antiquities. It aims to place at the command of those who are interested in learning the truth, but have not the time, opportunity, or perhaps the patience to digest the vast amount of valuable information which has accumulated on the subject, in condensed form, a compilation of the evidence upon which the present accepted theories are based.

Although years of patient investigation conducted according to enlightened methods by distinguished American archaeologists and by competent field workers of less prominence in every part of our country have done much to destroy the prevailing superstitions concerning the authorship of our antiquities, there are yet among our citizens many for whom the favorite theory of a mysterious, lost race of "Mound Builders" has a fascination not readily dispersed. The antiquated publications of misguided authors, frequent fanciful newspaper articles and contributions to popular periodicals, and the exaggerated statements of lecturers, of relic hunters and others possessing a smattering archaeological knowledge are responsible for such ridiculous and erroneous beliefs.