

TOWOSAHGY STATE HISTORIC SITE MAP



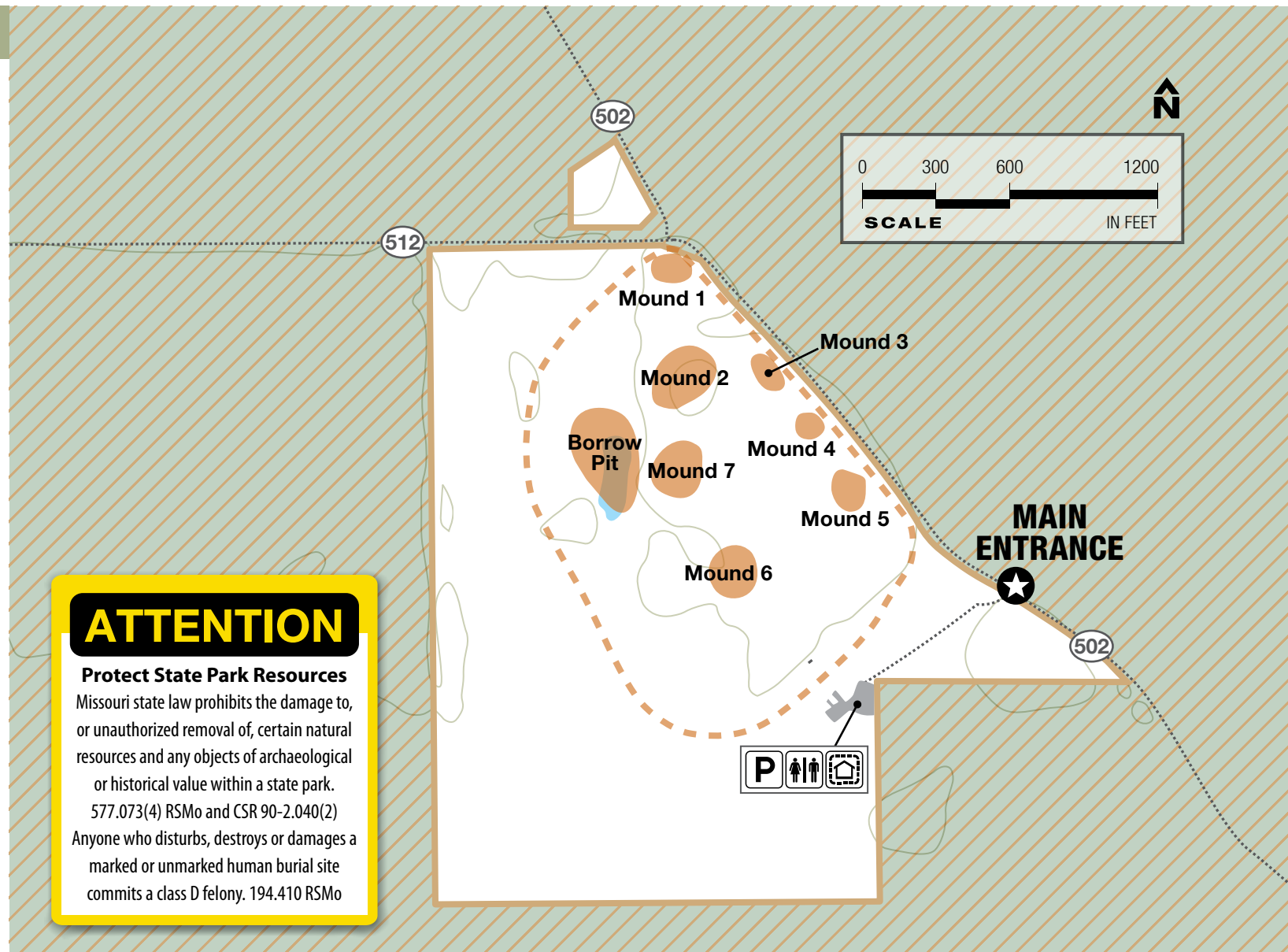
LEGEND

- ★ Main entrance
- Gravel road
- Land contour
- Not state park property
- Park boundary
- Water
- Mound
- Palisade line
- Interpretive shelter/kiosk
- P Parking
- Restroom



CONTACT INFORMATION

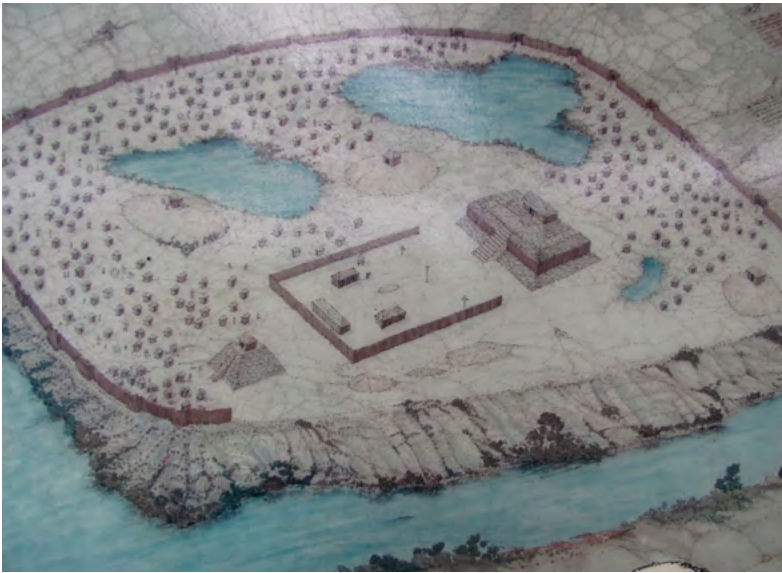
Towosahgy State Historic Site
County Road 502
East Prairie MO 63845
573-748-5340
mostateparks.com



DISCLAIMER: This map is not a legal survey. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources makes no warranty, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy of the data or related materials and is not responsible for any damage or loss resulting from its use.

A MISSISSIPPIAN VILLAGE

Welcome to Towosahgy State Historic Site. This property purchased by Missouri State Parks in 1967, preserves what was once a Mississippian ceremonial center and fortified village that was occupied from 400 A.D. to 1400 A.D. The inhabitants left no written record of what they called themselves. The State Parks Board asked for name suggestions that would honor its Native American association. They misunderstood that the Osage and the Quapaw—the last tribes known to have inhabited the land—referred to it as “old Town”. The name Towosahgy was chosen as a close English approximation for the pronunciation of terms used by the Quapaw and the Osage. The village consists of what was once an American Indian town, fortified by a palisade. A palisade is a wall of posts set on end in the ground. There were approximately 250-300 houses at Towosahgy within the palisade line. Other houses were scattered around the outside of the fortification wall. This 64-acre site with seven earthen mounds and a borrow pit, where earth was removed to build the mounds, was first inhabited as a Late Woodland village from A.D. 400 to A.D. 700. Around A.D. 900, signs of the Mississippian culture appeared. For unknown reasons, the Mississippians abandoned the site around A.D. 1400.



This illustration depicts Towosahgy in the latter stage of its occupation around A.D. 1250.



Short posts showing where the palisade once stood at Towosahgy State Historic Site.



Mound 5, a conical mound, was likely the location of elite housing.

