**Smoking Pipes**

Smoking Pipes were among the most common Adena trade goods.

Early Adena smoking pipes were tubular. The Blind Wolf pipe (below) was found within the Cherokee Nation in Tennessee.

![Blind Wolf pipe](image)

As the Cult evolved, smoking may have taken on more importance as a medium for communicating with a spirit of the Above World. Platform pipes, which came later, were often carved as realistic figures.

Native tobacco (*Nicotiana rustica*) was likely smoked as offerings and requests to the spirits during religious or healing ceremonies. Native tobacco contains several times the nicotine in common tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*), and may have been mildly hallucinogenic. (Janiger and de Rios 1976)

**Platform Pipes**

The Hopewell cremated their dead and deposited the ashes in a common receptacle, while the offerings which accompanied them were broken and piled together in a cache.

The Tremper and Mound City sites in Ohio contained large caches of carved platform pipes, likely the earliest and largest collection of stone sculptures in Eastern North America. (Bostrom 2009; Linton 1916)

Tremper Mounds caches contained 60 animal effigy pipes; about 83 platform pipes with plain round bowls; and a few cigar-shaped tubular pipes.

The Mound City site contained a 6' by 4' altar with a six” depression in the top. Within the depression were about 200 pipes, including 95 animal effigy pipes. https://ohiopix.org/contentdm-search-results/?cdm-keywords=Effigy%20pipes&cdm-mode=all&cdm-field=subjec

In 1848, Squire and Davis wrote that, "The bowls of most of the pipes are carved in miniature figures of birds, mammals, fish, and reptiles, carved with great skill. The animal’s features are represented faithfully, but their peculiarities and habits are shown. The otter is carved holding a
fish in his mouth; the heron also holds a fish; and the hawk grasps a small bird in its talons, which it tears with its beak."

Birds were the most common subject of the Hopewell sculptors. Squire and Davis wrote that, "The sculptures of birds are ... more numerous than those of animals, and comprise between thirty and forty different kinds... The different types of birds are represented as eagle, hawk, heron, owl, buzzard, raven, swallow, parakeet, ducks and grouse." (Mills 1922; Shetrone 1921; Squire and Davis 1848)

Human Effigy Pipes

Burials at Mound City also included human head effigy pipes, which likely show realistic Hopewell face decorations, hair styles, ear ornamentation, and headdresses.

“In the construction and ornament of their pipes, the Mound-builders seem to have expended their utmost skill in sculpture.... The most interesting pipes are a number of human head effigies which, because of the fine detail and accuracy of the animal effigy pipes, likely are a realistic portrayal of the personal adornment of high status Hopewell men”. (Mills 1922; Squire and Davis 1848)

Effigy Pipes from Mound City, Ohio (2,100 - 1,500 BP)

Squire and Davis said of the pipe at left above, "The workmanship of this head is unsurpassed by any specimen of ancient American art ... not excepting the best productions of Mexico and Peru. The whole is smooth and well-polished." (Mills 1922; Squire and Davis 1848)

Henry Shetrone describes the pipe at right above as, "one of the finest bits of Mound-builder sculpture extant. Note the haughty dignity of the face and the bonnet-like headdress. A chaplet of pearls encircles the forehead, and incised lines probably represent facial painting or tattooing.” Mills describes the same pipe as, "The features are boldly and strikingly executed, and the face is adorned with incised lines, probably intended to represent tattooing. A typical Hopewell headdress, with incipient antlers, covers the head, while encircling the forehead and face is a row of small freshwater pearls set into shallow cavities drilled into the pipe-stone from which the specimen is made.” (Shetrone 2004; Mills 1922)