

# Agriculture and Early Settlements

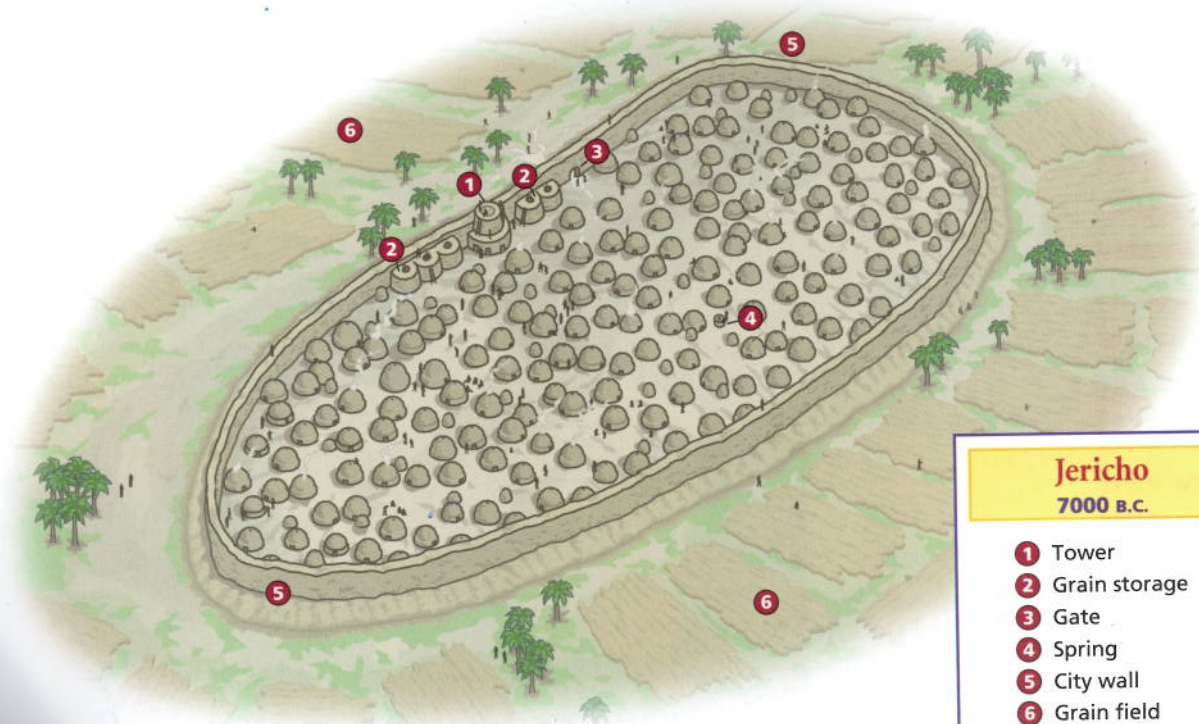
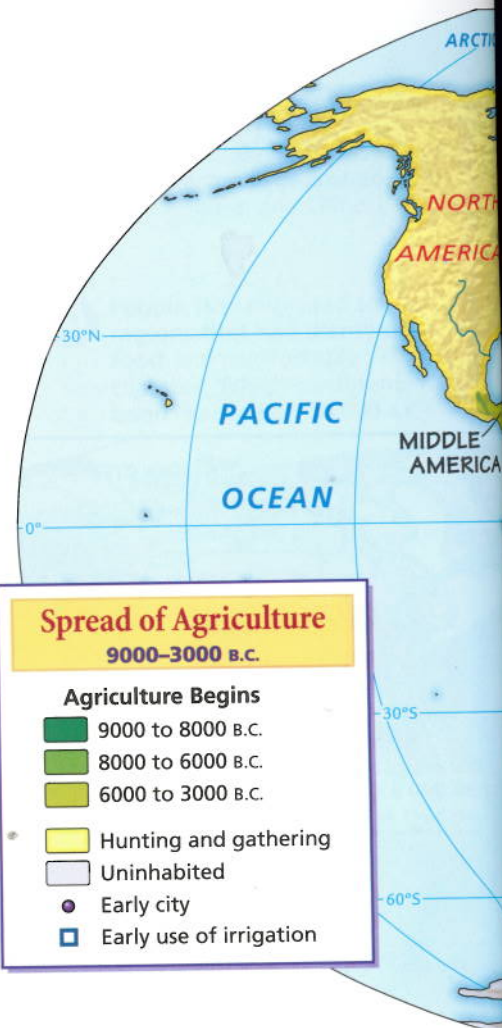
Agriculture, or growing plants and raising animals for food, changed human society forever. Agriculture was more reliable than hunting and gathering.

- People began to herd or keep wild animals in pens. They also planted seeds from wild grasses, using hoes and digging sticks. They had become farmers.
- Farmers could get their food in one place, so their settlements became permanent. Farming communities became villages.
- As farmers grew more food than they needed, some people became free to **specialize**. They worked at other jobs, such as making pots or tools.

## Isn't that wild?

Wild dogs probably followed people to get food scraps. Early people trained these dogs to guard their camps and to help them hunt or herd other animals. The dog is the earliest known **domestic** animal, living with people or under their care.

**A** Agriculture developed in several different regions of the world at about the same time. In areas unsuitable for farming, people continued to hunt and gather.



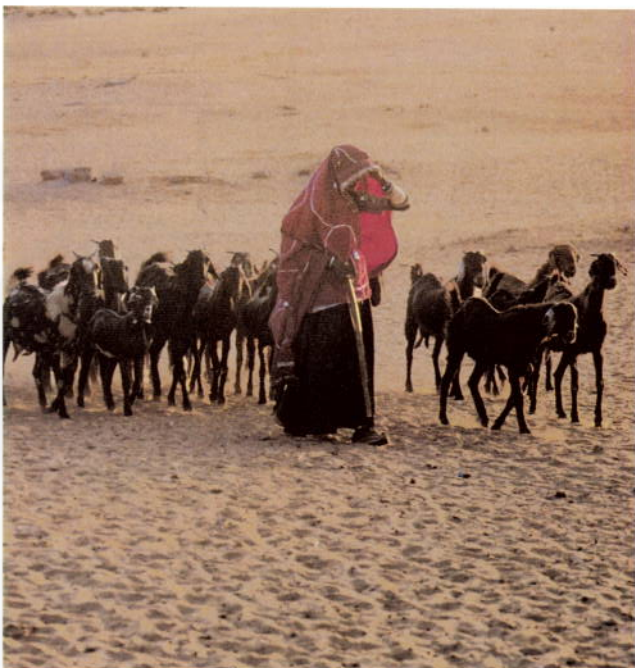
## Jericho

7000 B.C.

- 1 Tower
- 2 Grain storage
- 3 Gate
- 4 Spring
- 5 City wall
- 6 Grain field

Other buildings are houses.

**B** About 1,000 people lived in Jericho, one of the world's oldest cities. What clues does this illustration give you about their society?



**C** Hunters often returned empty-handed from a day of hunting. Herding animals, however, guaranteed a supply of meat, skins, and milk.

### Earliest Domestic Plants and Animals

	PLANTS	ANIMALS
Middle East	barley, lentils, peas, wheat	cattle, goats, pigs, sheep
China	millet, rice	chickens, pigs, water buffalo
South and Southeast Asia	cotton, millet, rice, soybeans, sweet potatoes, taro	cattle, chickens, pigs, water buffalo
Africa	barley, millet, sorghum, wheat, yams	cattle, sheep
Europe	barley, rye, wheat	cattle, dogs, pigs
Americas	beans, peppers, potatoes, squash	dogs, turkeys

**D** Agriculture started with resources found in the environment. What were the most common domestic plants and animals?

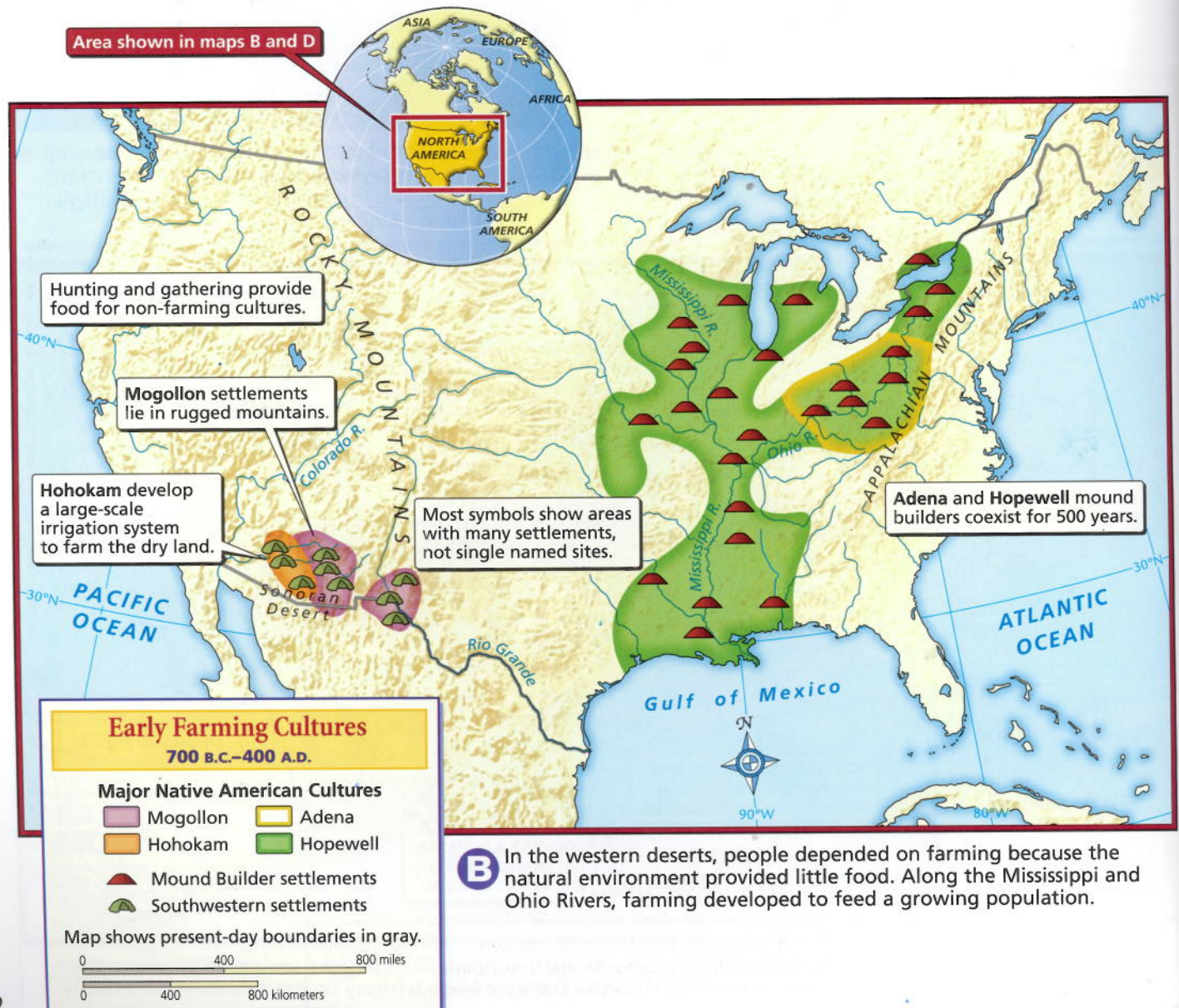
# Native American Farming Cultures

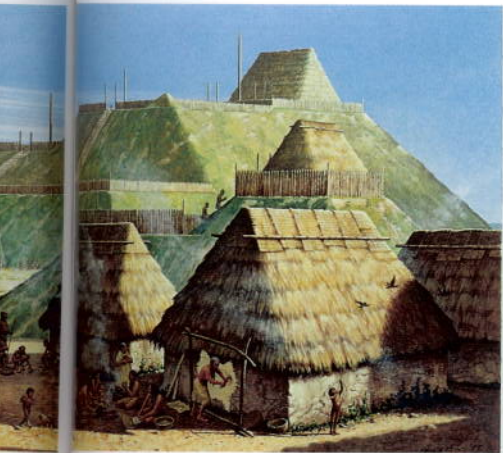
During the height of the Olmec and Maya civilizations of Middle America, farming cultures began to develop in two regions of what are today the United States and northern Mexico.

- Early farming groups along the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers had similar cultures and built large structures called **mounds**.
- In the 700s A.D. these cultures were replaced by other mound-building farmers who became known as “Mississippian” people, named for the river.
- Native Americans developed two early farming cultures in the western deserts. They were influenced by the civilizations of Middle America.
- Around 700 A.D. a new culture developed southeast of the Colorado River. They built **pueblos**, unique dwellings many stories high.



**A** Mounds were built of dirt and stone. Like these at Cahokia, mounds were built for religious ceremonies, for burying the dead, or to house local officials.





**C** Multi-level pueblos were built into the walls of canyons. This cliff dwelling in Mesa Verde, Colorado, was built around 1200. It housed about 400 people and is now called Cliff Palace.



**Need roommates for your pueblo?**

Pueblos were like modern-day apartment buildings. Dwellings were made of stone or adobe and could be up to four stories high. Ladders linked one floor to the next.

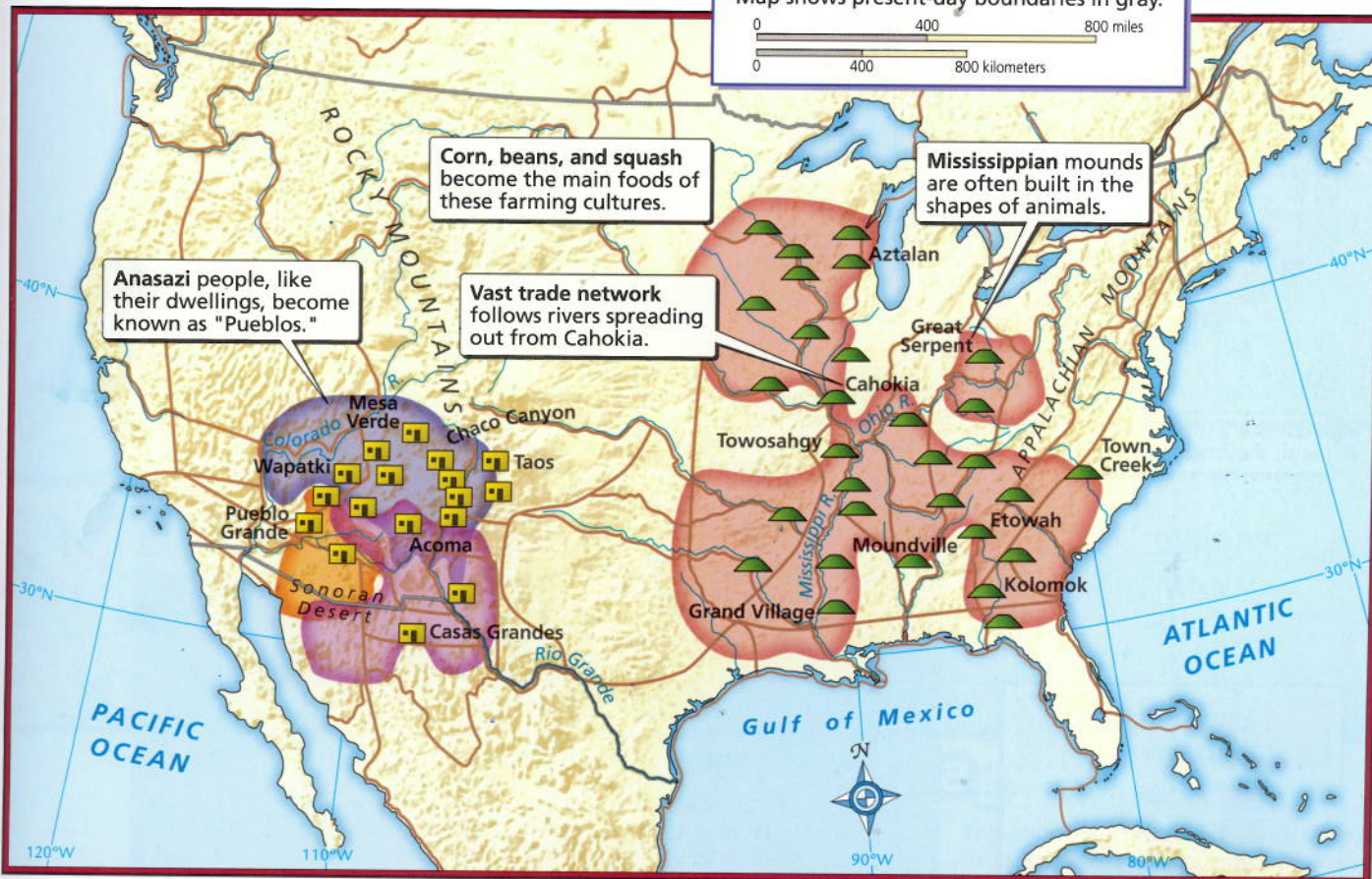
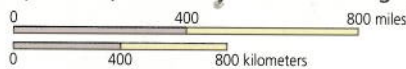
**Pueblo and Mound Builders**

900–1450 A.D.

**Major Native American Civilizations**

- Anasazi (Pueblo)
- Mogollon
- Hohokam
- Mississippian
- Mound Builder settlement
- Pueblo settlement
- Trade route, 1450

Map shows present-day boundaries in gray.



Anasazi people, like their dwellings, become known as "Pueblos."

Corn, beans, and squash become the main foods of these farming cultures.

Vast trade network follows rivers spreading out from Cahokia.

Mississippian mounds are often built in the shapes of animals.

**D** The Pueblo and the Mound Builders both developed large, structured communities. The mound-building community of Cahokia had a population of more than 100,000 people at its height in 1300. Find Cahokia on the map.