

SCIOTO COUNTY.

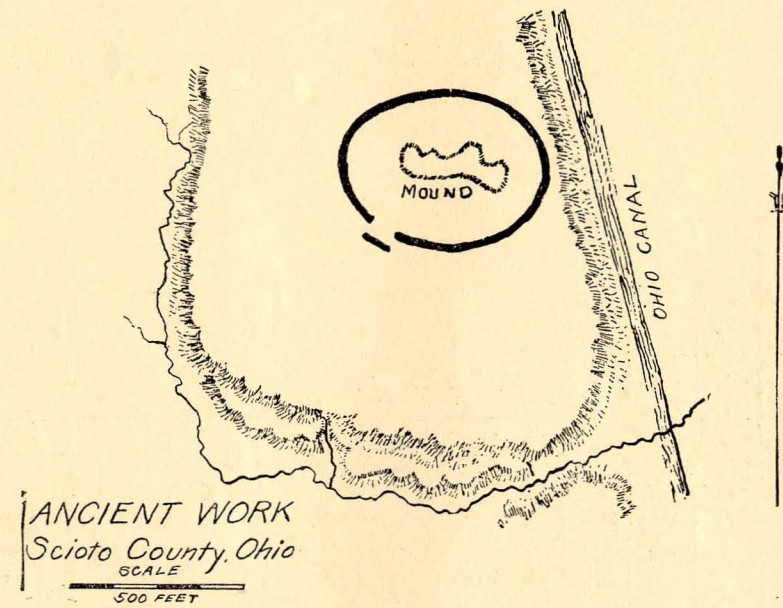
If Scioto county had furnished to archeological history no more than the one work, that at Portsmouth, it would still hold an important place therein.

The Portsmouth work is one of the most complex and impressive in the Ohio valley. It consists really of three groups, two of which are across the river in Kentucky. The works on the Ohio side are a combination of crescents small circles and parallel walls. At the time of the examination of the works by Squier and Davis in 1847 it was found that there were leading from the group on the Ohio side, three sets of parallel walls, "covered ways or avenues" as they were termed. One set of these walls led north-westward and was lost in the broken ground of the plain; another set led southward to the Ohio river, at a point almost directly opposite a second group of the works on the Kentucky side and a third set trended southeastward, reaching the river at a point opposite the third group of the works.

Squier and Davis estimated that the total length of the walls then traceable was 8 miles, giving 16 miles of embankment to the parallels alone and that the grand total of the walls of the entire series was the remarkable sum of 20 miles.

The more westerly of the Kentucky groups consisted of a square and two rectangular enclosures, while that toward the east was a series of concentric circles.

Another most interesting work of Scioto county, is the effigy mound located about 5 miles above Portsmouth, near the village of Rushtown. This figure is in the form of an animal, somewhat resembling a tapir, from which it has become known as the tapir mound. It is surrounded by an enclosure which is 480 feet across in its longest measurement. The figure stands from one to eight feet high. Scioto county has a total of 85 recorded prehistoric sites.



Effigy Mound Near Rushtown.

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Townships.	Mounds.	Enclosures.	Village Sites.	Burials.	Effigies.	Flint Quarries.	Totals.
Nile .....	5			1			
Washington .....	7	3	1	3			
Rush .....	2	2			1		
Valley .....	3	1		1			
Jefferson .....				1			
Clay .....	16	4	4	5			
Madison .....	1			2			
Harrison .....	1	1		1			
Bloom .....						1	
Porter .....	2	1	1				
Green .....	10	2	1	1			
Totals .....	47	14	7	15	1	1	85

