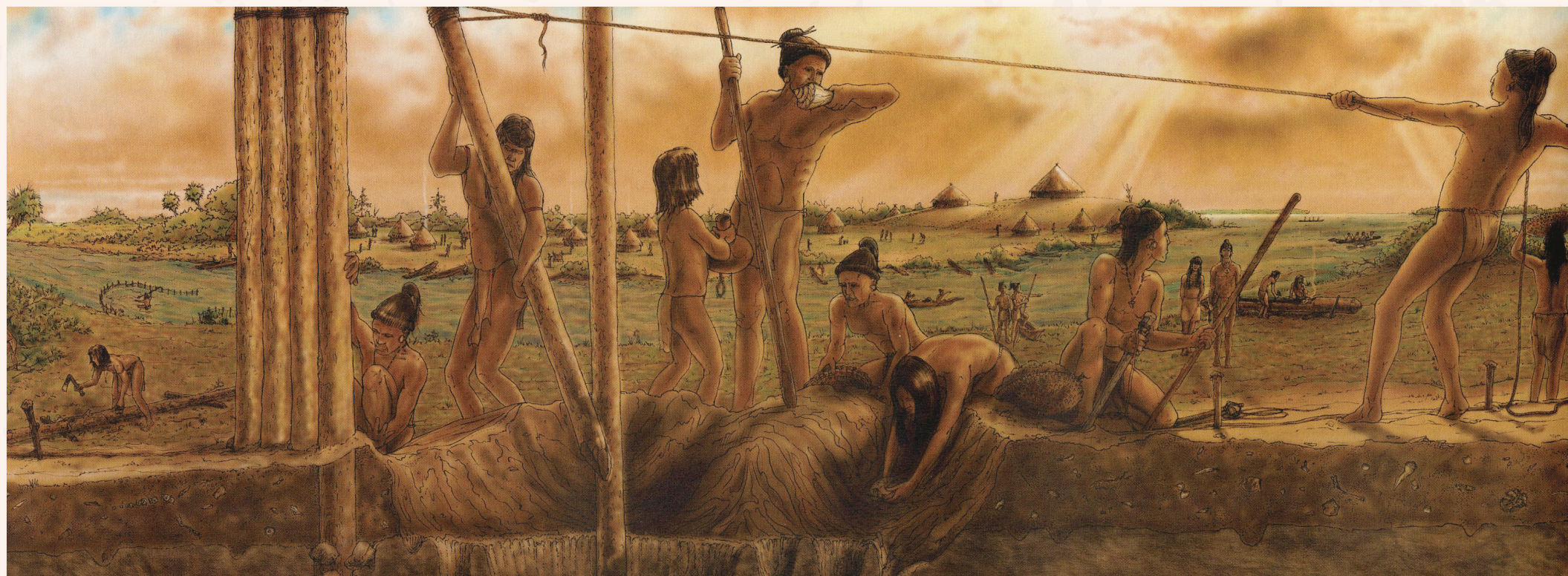


# TEQUESTA & MIDDEN



▲ Miami Circle, John LoCastro. Photo courtesy of HistoryMiami Museum

The area around Arch Creek was one of many prehistoric indigenous habitation sites along Dade County's estuaries. Between 500 BCE and 1700 CE, the Native American tribe known as the Tequesta utilized the site now known as Arch Creek Park.

**ANIMAL BONES**



1 Alligator scute, 2 Shark vertebrate, 3 Carved bone pins

**POTTERY SHERDS**



4 Surfside incised, 5 St. Johns check-stamp, 6 Dade incised, 7 Opa-Locka incised

The Arch Creek waterway provided access to nearby Biscayne Bay and the interior Everglades, both important sources of food for the tribe. The natural bridge allowed the Tequesta to cross the creek safely. Archaeological findings suggest this site may have been a seasonal or temporary home for the Tequesta, Seminole and Miccosukee tribes, and other survivors of Spanish occupation.

**CONCH SHELL TOOLS**



8 Conch hammer or axe, 9 Strombus columellae

A midden is a deposit of ancient refuse that archaeologists can study to understand how people lived in the past. Arch Creek Park is home to a shell midden where pottery sherds and conch shell tools have been recovered. The most extensive work at Arch Creek was conducted by archaeologist, Robert Carr in 1975. Carr's research suggest the area was inhabited from 500 BCE to 1300 CE, with the most active occupation between 300 BCE and 100 CE.



For Spanish and Creole, scan QR Code