

such as big horned bison and mastodons, which Paleo people hunted.

There have been no archaeological sites yet discovered to suggest Paleo people ever had a permanent settlement in northeastern Kentucky. All evidence indicates paleo people were nomadic and traveled in groups of 20 or less while following the big game herds. They did establish prominent hunting camps within Nicholas County and their lance-shaped arrowheads can still be found throughout Nicholas County.

After several thousands of years, a new culture of people began to camp along the ridges and streams of Nicholas County. These people are today known as the Archaic people. They experimented with agriculture in semi-permanent small villages and became great hunters, occupying this region for several thousands of years.

Later cultures of Native Americans, identified today as Hopewell and Adena, built earthen mounds and stone altars across Nicholas County for a period of over 1500 years.

They were the first Native-Americans to use clay pottery in Kentucky. They were also the first people to domesticate plants and animals while living in small villages primarily along ridge tops.

Around 1100 A.D., during the end of the Adena/Hopewell Culture occupation, a group of Native Americans known as the Mississippian, or Fort Ancient Culture, inhabited the land.

The Fort Ancient people built stockaded villages and grew large crops of maize (corn). They shaped triangular shaped arrowheads and were the first Native Americans in Nicholas County to use the bow and arrow, all previous cultures having only developed spear throwers or atlatls.

Clan warfare, disease and crop failure, led to the disintegration of the Fort Ancient Culture.

By 1600 A.D. Nicholas County had no permanent Native American villages.

From that time to 1773 many groups of Native American people hunted and migrated through the region.

The legendary American pioneer Daniel Boone is closely associated with Nicholas County.

Few names evoke more memories of earliest Kentucky pioneer days than that of Daniel Boone (1734-1820), and few counties have more claims to him than Nicholas County. A superb woodsman, Boone found his way into Kentucky from North Carolina, exploring and, later, leading others into the area.

On Feb. 7, 1778, Captain Boone and 30 men from Fort Boonesborough were making salt at the Lower Blue Licks when Boone was captured. The soldiers had been camped at the site for over a month as it took 840 gallons of water to be boiled to acquire one bushel of salt.

Boone ordered his men to surrender to prevent their slaughter from a numerically superior force of nearly 100 Shawnee warriors led by Shawnee Chief Blackfish.

Boone later escaped his Shawnee captors, after being adopted by a Shawnee family, and returned to Kentucky.

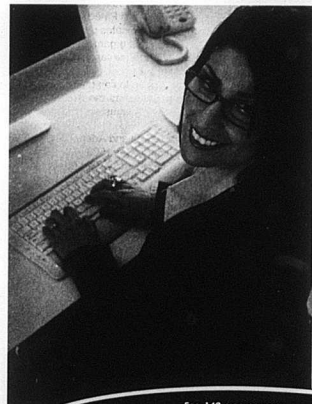
Boone played a pivotal role in the August 19, 1782, Battle of Blue Licks.

A force of several hundred Native American warriors from the Wyandotte, Chippewa, Shawnee and Ottawa, Tribes joined British officer Captain William Caldwell and 30 Canadian Rangers in a British offensive into Kentucky in August of 1782.

The enemy force executed several hit and run raids across Kentucky, and struck decisively at Bryant's Station near Lexington with a force of 200.

Militia soldiers converged on the site and soon the enemy force retreated northward and

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