

and for the most part people appear to have been living in small, more-or-less egalitarian groups, with community size on the order of a few dozen people, or several families. Earthen burial mounds occur in many areas. Mortuary facilities were often located away from settlements, suggesting they served to bring together peoples from a number of communities, a pattern we now know dates well back into the Archaic (see summaries of Woodland period archaeology in the Southeast by Anderson and Mainfort 2002; Bense 1994:109–182; Smith

1986:35–57; Nassaney 2000).

By the Middle Woodland period, long distance exchange networks had reemerged, spectacular mounds and earthwork complexes were built in many areas, similarities in iconography and ritual behavior are evident between many societies, and some individuals were buried in elaborate tombs within or under massive mounds. This behavior has come to be known as Hopewellian interaction, after the type site and archaeological culture in southern Ohio (Brose and Greber 1979; Pacheco

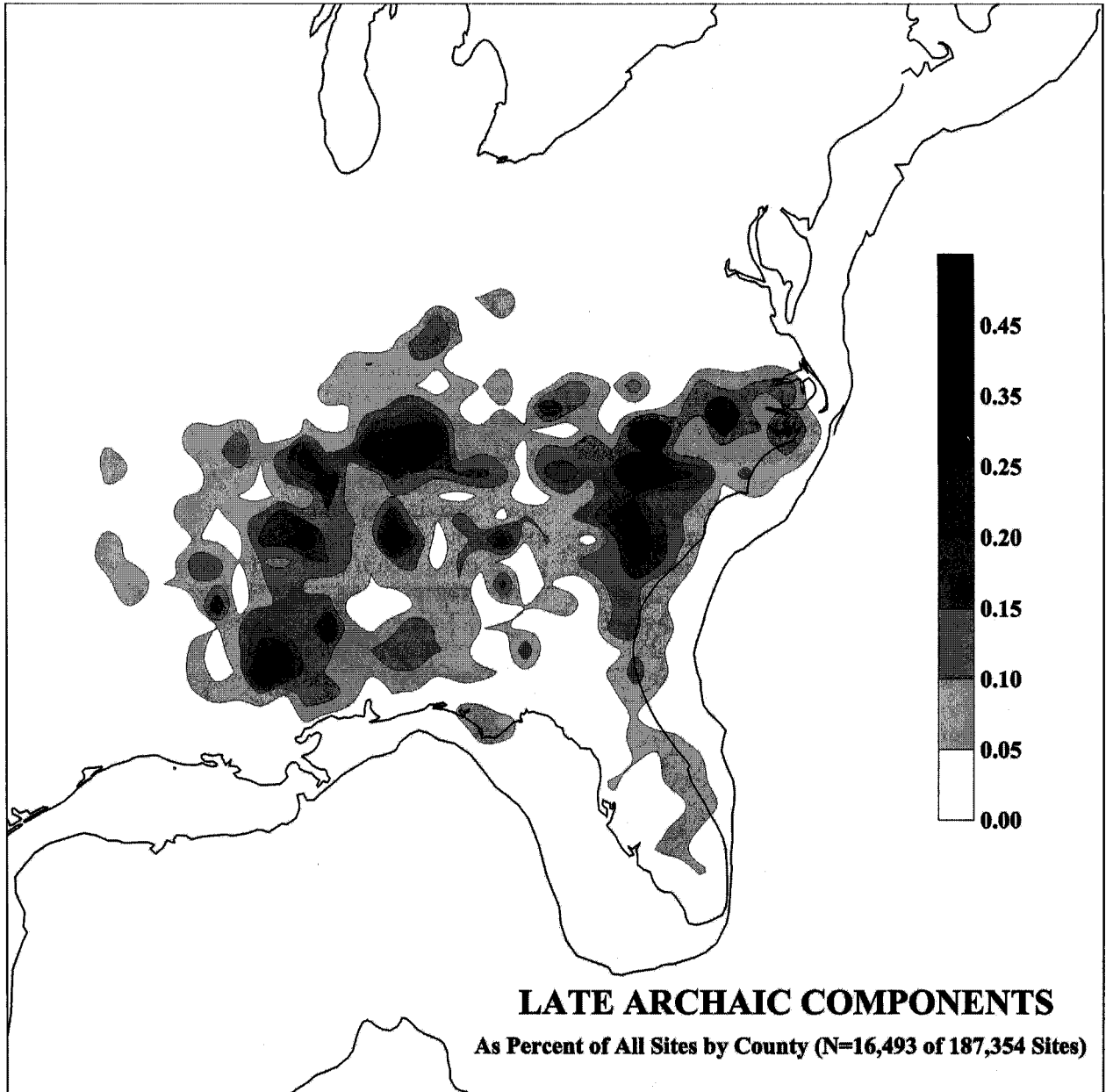


Fig. 9. Late Archaic Components in the Southeastern United States, as percent of all Sites by County (n=16,493 of 187,354 sites; modified from Anderson 1996:162, courtesy University Press of Florida).