

HISTORY AND CULTURE

Letchworth-Love Mounds Archaeological State Park is a significant cultural resource. Artifacts recovered from the site span a period of some 12,000 years. The large mound is 51 feet high, with three platforms and remains of a ramp still visible today. The people who built the mound are believed to have been members of the late Swift Creek (200-450 A.D.) and Weeden Island cultures (450-900 A.D.) During this time, the site is thought to have functioned as an important civil and ceremonial center for many of the neighboring settlements in North Florida and possibly also the greater Southeast. Evidence suggests a village associated with the Letchworth-Love Mound complex is to the south of the large mound.

The site is part of a larger mound complex that extends beyond the park boundaries. The ceremonial mound, the centerpiece of the park, is part of the complex of between 20 and 28 smaller mounds associated with the many aboriginal mounds clustered along nearby Lake Miccosukee. The Letchworth Mound site predates the Lake Jackson Mound complex north of Tallahassee by approximately 800 years.

Prior to becoming a state park, most of the land was agricultural, including livestock production. Acquisition by the state began in 1992 to protect and preserve the mound and related archaeological sites. The park opened to the public in 1998.



LETCHWORTH-LOVE MOUNDS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STATE PARK

4500 Sunray Road South
Tallahassee, FL 32309
Mailing address: 1358 Old Woodville Highway
Crawfordville, FL 32327
850-487-7989

PARK GUIDELINES

- Hours are 8 a.m. until sunset, 365 days a year.
- An entrance fee is required.
- All plants, animals and park property are protected. Collection, destruction or disturbance is prohibited.
- Pets must be kept on a handheld leash no longer than six feet and well-behaved at all times.
- Alcohol, fireworks and hunting are prohibited.
- To become a volunteer, please call the park office.
- Florida's state parks are committed to providing equal access to all facilities and programs. If you need assistance to enable your participation, please call 850-487-7989.



[FloridaStateParks.org](https://www.floridastateparks.org)

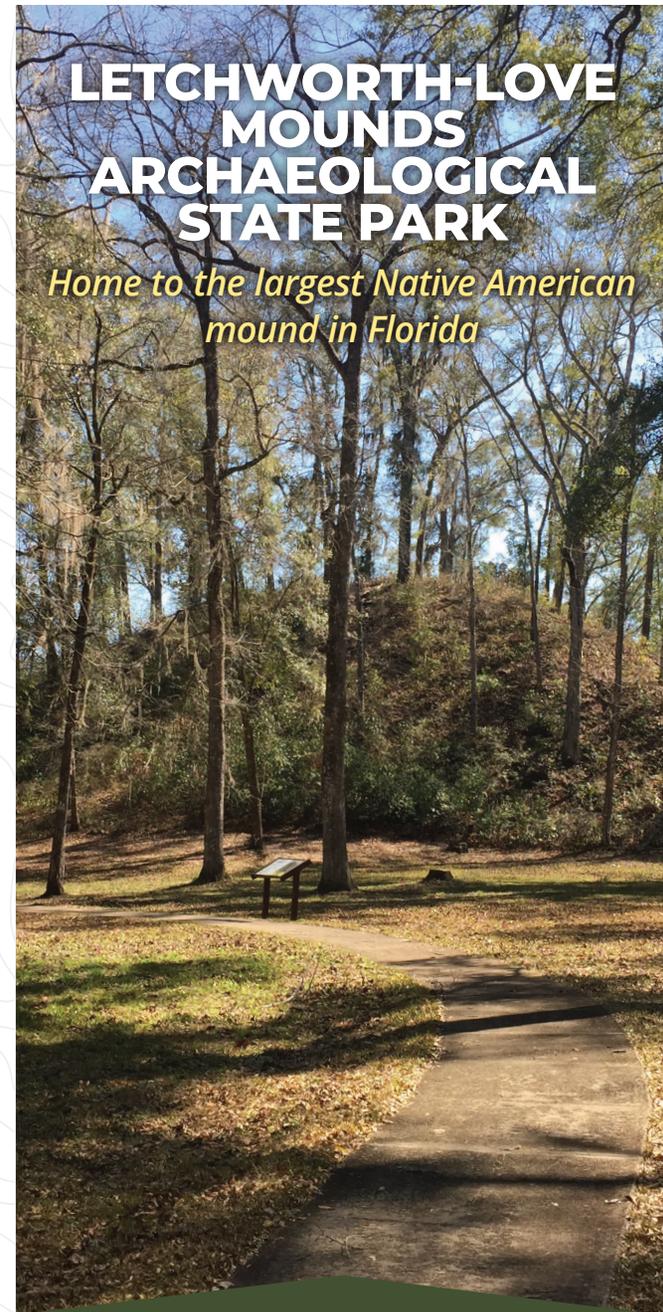
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LETCHWORTH-LOVE MOUNDS ARCHAEOLOGICAL STATE PARK

*Home to the largest Native American
mound in Florida*



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EXPERIENCES AND AMENITIES

What would it feel like to carry basket after basket of earth, day after day, until the mound you were creating reached 51 feet in height? That is how the ceremonial mound at **Letchworth-Love Mounds Archaeological State Park** was created. Visitors to the park will see Florida's tallest Native American ceremonial mound. The history of the site is featured in the covered **pavilion** with an exhibit that includes **interpretive panels**, a **tactile replica** of the large mound and **audio narration**.

In addition to archaeological and cultural experiences, there are many relaxing and fun things to do at Letchworth-Love Mounds. An **interpretive trail** winds around the perimeter of the ceremonial mound, connecting to the **Weeden Trail** and extending an additional half-mile through the park. The **picnic pavilion**, platform **viewing area** for the mound, **parking** and **restrooms** are all wheelchair-accessible.

The **188-acre park** offers numerous opportunities for **wildlife viewing** and **bird watching**. Eastern cottontail rabbit, bobcat, raccoon, gray and red fox and many other species call this habitat home. Beautiful wildflowers including St. John's Wort, wild azalea, elephant's foot and Indian pipe bring life to the field while red maple, flowering dogwood and wax myrtle add color to the forest in their seasons. Park visitors may encounter a variety of bird species such as northern cardinal, tufted titmice, Carolina chickadee, red-shouldered hawk, pileated woodpecker and brown-headed nuthatch.



Letchworth-Love Mounds Archaeological State Park

