Culture

-organized tribe into a “chiefdom” society—ranked society
  -elites—the power holders
  -commoners—the work force (majority)
--thousands of families lived in a village
-reorganized into the Cherokee and Creek tribe

Shelter

-created large towns near river
  -featured a central plaza, residential zones, and defense structures
    (palisades, guard towers, and moats)
-central plaza=earthen mounds—religious and social activities, some served as cemeteries
-one-room wattle and daub shelters made of interwoven sticks and covered with mud or clay

Food

-widespread trade connected Mississippian towns
-practiced horticulture and large scale agriculture; farmers
-maize (corn) was dominate crop
-also planted squash, sunflowers, pumpkins, and beans
-tobacco for religious ceremonies
-hunted deer, rabbit, muskrat, beaver, raccoon, and turkey; also turtle and fish
-gathered seasonal fruits like plums, grapes, blackberries, and raspberries; variety of nuts too

Weapons/Tools

-bows and arrows
-chert knives made from sedimentary rock
-stone and bone tools; axes and digging sticks