

The Arthurg Hill Earthwork Enclosure and the Early Woodland Period in Central Michigan

Speaker: Dr. Scott Beld, Museum of Paleontology, University of Michigan

Host Department: Museum of Anthropological Archaeology

Date: 03/26/2015

Time: 12:00 pm

Location: Room 2009 Ruthven Museums Building

Description:

Excavations in the 1990's at Arthurg Hill in Ionia County (Michigan) revealed an earthwork enclosure and village dating to the Early Woodland period (ca. 400 B.C.). These excavations produced a typical Early Woodland assemblage with stemmed projectile points and interior-exterior cordmarked pottery as well as a small midden with faunal remains and several features with floral remains. The most significant feature of the site is the earthwork enclosure which is among the earliest in the Great Lakes region. This talk will discuss the site in its Early Woodland context and it will be argued that this site had both a defensive and socially integrative function.