



**CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER**

December Meeting, Saturday December 3, 2011 Zion Lutheran Church, 41 Whitmarsh Avenue, Worcester MA

AGENDA

- 7:00: Informal Meeting: Preparation, Pay Thirza Your Dues**
7:30: Business Meeting: Janet Bessette
7:45: Refreshments: Al Smith
8:00: Speaker: Martin Dudek, Principal Archeologist for JMA

TOPIC

**On the Rocks:
Stone Structures at an Upland Location in
Southern Worcester County**

Martin Dudek is a Principal Archeologist for John Milner Associates, Inc. Martin received a BA degree in Anthropology from the University of Maryland and a Master's degree in Anthropology from Brandeis University. Martin has thirty years of experience in the archeology of North America, including ancient cities in Mexico and archeological sites in California, Honduras, and Alaska. Over the last nineteen years Martin has been involved in numerous archeological projects Massachusetts and New Hampshire including the Central Artery/Tunnel project. He has authored or co-authored over seventy archeological reports for New England and directed excavations at Native American and historic sites in New England spanning from 11,000 years ago to the mid twentieth century. Recent archeological projects have included several historic and pre-Contact sites in Worcester County.

On a recent archeological project in southern Worcester County, Alan Smith identified several fieldstone structures, including two with a "U" shape. The location near Lake Chaubunagungamaug consisted of elevated rocky uplands, with minimal historic activity other than use for logging. In addition, a possible rockshelter and other outcrops were identified. Stone structures have evoked much interest over recent years, and other "U"-shaped structures have been identified throughout the uplands in Worcester County. The talk will center on the stone structures and other sites identified by this project. Were the stone structures Native American? Were they built in pre-Contact or historic times? Why are they there? What was there function? Some definitive archeological answers are offered by these sites and by reference to documented events from outside the area.

THE MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Inc.

ROBBINS MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY – P.O. BOX 700
Middleborough, MA 02346-0700
508-947-9005

Web site address: www.massarchaeology.org; email address: info@massarchaeology.org

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING (at Zion Lutheran Church, 41 Whitmarsh Ave. Worcester) From I-290, merge onto I-190 North via exit #19 towards Rt.12/Holden/Fitchburg. Take Rt.12/Gold Star Blvd. Exit #1 towards W. Boylston St. and bear right onto Gold Star Blvd. (Rt. 12) Follow Route 12 and travel 0.7 miles up a hill, over a bridge. Follow Route 12 which curves to the left and continue through two stoplights. Take the right onto Whitmarsh Ave., right after Greendale Pizza and go up the hill for 1 block. The Zion Lutheran Church will be on your left at the end of the block. The parking lot is on the right.

NOTE: Entrance stairs are on the side of the church facing the parking lot, not the basement steps of prior meetings at the church.

Archaeology Exhibits

LOCATION: Robbins Museum, 17 Jackson St. Middleboro, MA 02346

DATE & TIME: Every Wednesday, 9:00am-4:00pm; Saturday, 10:00am-2:00pm; and by contacting, education@massarchaeology.org; our Education Department Staff offers a flexible schedule for tours that meet your organizational and classroom needs!

INFORMATION: Curt Hoffman, 508-947-9005, info@massarchaeology.org

SPONSOR: Massachusetts Archaeological Society

ADMISSION: \$2.00 per child and \$5.00 per adult

The Robbins Museum is handicapped accessible. Come visit the oldest archaeological society in the country. Enjoy our exhibits on the Massachusetts past. Learn about archaeology from our dedicated staff, volunteers, and archaeologists. Fun for the whole family. The Robbins Museum and the Massachusetts Archaeological Society offer education programs for all ages. Lectures for adults and hands-on programs for schools, boy scouts, and libraries. Have a real archaeologist visit your group and teach you about the fascinating history of New England as discovered through the science of archaeology.

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MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

Officers for 2011-2012

Janet Bessette, 413-477-6972, Chapter Chairperson
Tonya Largy, 508-358-4646, Program Committee
Mary Aronson, 978-534-0032, Recording Secretary
Al Smith, 508-853-5245, Corresponding Secretary
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