

SOUTH SUBURBAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
PRESENTS A *FREE* ILLUSTRATED LECTURE

Foreman Bandama, Ph.D.

Assistant Curator of African Anthropology, The Field Museum

How Great was Great Zimbabwe?

Exploring the archaeology of southern Africa's most successful pre-industrial civilization



750 hectares and was the capital of the largest state in southern Africa, extending over what are now five countries. The Enclosure, its artwork, and associated crafts, such as unique soapstone Zimbabwe birds (fish eagles with human features), all embodied and symbolized the grandeur and authority of the state. Dr. Bandama will describe how the arts and crafts of Great Zimbabwe were linked to its prestige

and power, helping it survive for almost a thousand years.

For centuries European colonial powers neglected and disparaged the civilizations of sub-Saharan Africa, but immovable landmarks from the past still tell the story of African achievement. At the medieval site of Great Zimbabwe, the Great Enclosure is the largest dry stone-built structure in pre-colonial Africa. Here pre-industrial social complexity reached its peak. First appearing at about 1000 CE, by the end of the 1200s Great Zimbabwe covered over

Foreman Bandama, an heir to the traditions of indigenous metalwork, was able to use this background to expand archaeology's understanding of the socio-political importance of art and craft in history.



Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023, at 7:30 PM

Marie Irwin Community Center* • 18120 Highland Avenue, Homewood, Illinois

The South Suburban Archaeological Society is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. All labor is donated.

For more information call 773-268-6705 or visit <http://southsuburbanarchsociety.weebly.com>

*ADA-accessible

All are invited to attend this free lecture