

# Neolithic Towns and Villages in the Near East

Sunday, September 15, 2013 6:37 PM

- First when women and men organized themselves in fixed settlements
  - Reproduction of animals and plants under control

## Geography, Climate and the Neolithic Revolution

- Ancient Near East = cultures from Turkey to Pakistan
- Climate zones: alluvial lowlands, uplands, mountains and desert
- Heart of Near East = Mesopotamia
  - Between two rivers: Tigris and Euphrates
- Southern half of Iraq is flat, hot and dry
  - Farmers depend on irrigation from river not on rainfall
  - Sumerian civilization flourished here in the 4th and 3rd millennia
- Harsh environments such as mountains, deserts have often nurtured free-spirit people
  - Have also discouraged social and economic unification but trade and movement of people can be active
- Fertile Crescent
  - Between mountains and lowlands lie the uplands or foothills
  - From eastern and northern Iraq westwards across northern Syria and then southwards toward the southern Levant
  - Anatolian plateau of the central and eastern Turkey has similar features to the fertile crescent
  - Rich in resources
    - Gazelle, acorns and wild grasses, wheat, barley, other grains, wild sheep, goats, cattle and pigs
  - With food resources available early men and women could live with relative ease
    - These people (nomadic)
      - Hunt wild animals and gather edible plants
      - Lived in small groups and moved with the seasons to track animals or collect fruit and vegetables
      - Tools were usually made from flakes of flint or bones

## Paleolithic and Mesolithic

- No art of pottery or metal working
- No literacy
- Little control over food sources

## Neolithic

- Development of pottery making, agriculture, animal husbandry, metallurgy, recording systems using clay tokens
- Changes developed over long periods of time
- Plant cultivation seems to begin in southern Levant (between Damascus and Jericho)
  - At first this place had a range of edible wild plants and animals and

- allowed people to establish settlements
- Later, drought occurred in late ninth to eighth millennia BC which reduced the fertility of plants and made people cultivate their own plants
- Animal domestication came later
  - Goats and sheep first
  - Cattle and pigs later
- Control of food sources allowed people to remain in one place

### Archaeology

- Plants remains can be collected by **flotation**
  - Sample of excavated earth poured into water seeds and other plant remains will float to surface and will be removed
- Forms of domesticated versions of seeds and bones have changed distinctly if slightly from their wild ancestors, specialist can assess how far the process of controlling certain plant and animal species had advanced at a particular place and time

### Cayonu

- Allows us to trace development of early towns in around 8250-5000 BC from PPNA and PPNB phases
- Appearance of metallurgy
- Doesn't have wall
- Have many public buildings, houses and open spaces
- Gives us a broad range of possibilities of town plans in the Neolithic period
- PPN has 6 stages
  - PPNA + PPNB is stage 1: round building subphase
    - Site consisted of round or oval houses made of wattle and daub, a rough lattice of twigs and branches covered with mix of mud, straw or grass and perhaps dung. Floors below ground level
  - Subphase 2: Grill Plan
    - Rectangular houses with foundations of parallel stone walls, pattern that resemble a grill. The floor consisted of twigs and branches covered with lime and clay
    - Superstructure is made of wattle and daub
    - Houses had 3 parts
      - Living area, courtyard, storage area
    - Houses were similar to each other
  - Subphase 3: The Channeled Building
    - House foundations were largely filled and leaving drainage channels unfilled
    - Village grew greater and houses scattered out even more
    - Cult area was erected on the eastern edge of settlement
    - Two rows of large standing stones were set onto the clay floor
    - Open space called Plaza
  - Subphase 4: Cobble-paved buildings
    - Houses protected from groundwater by cobble fill instead of drainage channels
    - Plaza continued as before
  - Subphase 5: cell building subphase
    - Houses much larger
    - Older houses/buildings were abandoned and filled in
    - New buildings were erected on top as a concerted renewal project

- Foundations divided into cell like compartments (foundations were stone)
  - The cells could be rooms
- Superstructures made of mud brick not wattle and daub
- Houses varied in size
  - Some had large courtyards
- Plaza was now encircled by the largest house of the settlement
  - Shows the importance of the place
- Finding in houses varied
  - Difference in house plans and contents
  - Non-uniform through out city suggest that there are social distinctions

#### Subphase 1-5

- Had 4 striking communal buildings
  - 3 are cult centers because their distinctive architectural features and contents
    - Exact placements in the architectural subphases is not certain because they were erected on their own terrace cut into the edge of the site and co-existed through various rebuildings
      - Earliest building was large round structure
      - Flagstone building contained a floor of polished limestone
      - Skull building was rebuilt at least 5 times
        - ◆ Always contained human skeletons or fragments
        - ◆ Charnel house for secondary burials
        - ◆ Commemoration of the dead
          - ◇ Variant of the ancestor worship postulated for Jericho
      - Terrazzo Building
        - ◆ Last made by burning limestone.
        - ◆ Linear patterns were created by white stones set into the floor (terrazzo)
        - ◆ After this period the technique of making terrazzo floors were forgotten
  - **Subphase 6**
    - Character of village changed drastically
    - Settlement became smaller
    - Houses only consisted of one to 2 rooms
      - Changes suggest a major social change happened
- Cayonu Pottery Neolithic (6000-5000 BC)
  - Appearance of pottery
    - Technique seems to be imported from outside (no beginning or experimental stages have been identified)
  - Communal buildings appear to be absent
  - Houses clustered and irregularly shape

#### Economy of Cayonu

- Food collection --> Food production (subphases 1-5)
  - Also hunted animals
  - Cultivation occurred
  - Late subphase 5
    - Domesticated sheep and goat appeared and hunting diminished

- Metallurgy
  - Use of copper and malachite
  - Used to create pins, hooks and drills
  - Simple technology evolved to be important
  - Annealing of copper imparts to shape them more easily (no smelting yet)
  - The metal works are among the earliest known use of metal in the Near East
- Other Crafts
  - Bead making and weaving
  - Obsidian and sea shells used for tools and decoration and also indicates long distance trade
- Childes list (Cayonu)
  - Might fulfill social stratification and monumental public architecture
  - If there were specialized craftsmen it would fit in the definition of more specialized jobs

### **Gobekli Tepe: An Early Neolithic Ceremonial Center**

- Decorations in the buildings which many predatory animals, birds and insects. Human represented by long thin arms carving on each side and the hands meeting on the narrow front side
  - Meaning of image connected to rituals celebrated and ideology

\*\*\* Absence of any established settlement indicates that this was a cult or ceremonial center

- Commanding view of the country side from the hilltop suggests that the center was developed and patronized by people from a large region.
- A somewhat realtade site in appearance is the Nevalı Cori

### **Catalhoyuk**

- Developments in town planning, architecture, agriculture, technology and religion come together dramatically in 12 well preserved building levels dated ca 6500-5500 BC
- Location: Konya plain
- Neolithic period the town was near a river, lake, marshes and hills
- Houses clustered together (walls touching neighbors)
  - People entered their houses from the rooftops (descending into house)
  - Could this layout be for defence
- Burials of ancestors beneath the floors of a house may have been a way for early agriculturalists to mark eternal possession of the land
- Cattle were domesticated
- Wild animals hunted: boar, wild cattle, red deer and sheep
- Woollen textiles show the presence of domesticated sheep
- Had accomplished craftsmen
  - Found obsidian spearheads and arrow heads and flint daggers
  - Finding of lead pendants and copper slag indicates knowledge metallurgy
  - Pottery (made without the recourse to a potter's wheel)
  - Wooden bowls, cups and boxes (containers of normally perishable)

- materials) played an important role in daily life
- Participated in an extensive trade network
  - Obsidian was a key commodity
    - A lot of obsidian was found there
  - Items from afar include mediterranean sea shells which were valued as beads and turquoise from Sinai
- Evidence for religious practice
  - Over forty houses scattered through many building levels have been identified as shrines
- Painting
  - Painted walls
  - Use natural pigments mixed with fat and applied on a background of white plaster
  - Images include vultures attacking headless humans, cattle and deer hunts, and wild bull being chased by humans
  - A picture shows a town beneath an erupting volcano
  - Some paintings were 3D built up from plaster
    - Depict bull or rams head sometimes leopards or bears
    - Free standing figures emphasize the magical power of animals and the desire for fertility
  - Sculpture of fat woman between 2 leopards
    - Fat = abundance
    - Shows her prosperity, her fecundity and mastery over animals
    - People wanted to obtain her status

### **Development of Chiefdoms and States**

- Catalhoyuk was abandoned in the mid-sixth millennium which caused a halt to innovations
- The Halaf and the Ubaid periods witnessed the gradual evolution of Neolithic communities into chiefdoms and states (centralized political system)
- Chiefdom
  - Single ruler exercises authority over two or more local groups
  - Ruler has subordinates
  - Has social stratification
- State
  - More formal system
  - Power invested in central government, economic, military legal and ideological institutions
  - Regulates affairs in an impersonal way (use force, can mete out punishments in order to support its decisions)
  - Has social stratification
- Hierarchy prevailed over egalitarian
  - Management of food sources seem to be responsible for this
  - Excess food can be stored and sold or traded which provides accumulated wealth and power for some
- Religion
  - offered ideological justification
- Periods marked with innovation in technology, transportation and agriculture
- Tradenetworks continued

# Covered on Test

Thursday, September 19, 2013 10:24 PM

What is covered from the test

- The book just gives background material
- Lecture looks like book now but is not going to look as similar
- Know some info from the book. Know about Catal Hyuck (pg. 25)
  - Know about their construction materials
  - DON'T have to know how many square feet of the house
- Questions from the book are usually about a places uniqueness and how might we analyse this  
How to study for this class?
- Review the class week and bi-weekly
- Take half an hour and go over the classes
- There is a website on the first page of the syllabus. It has some tests on some questions

# Early Sumerian Cities

Saturday, October 5, 2013 2:56 PM

**Ubaid Period: 5000 - 3500 BC**

**Protoliterate (Uruk) period: 3500 - 2900 BC**

**Early Dynastic Period: 2900 - 2350 BC**

## General Info

- First cities in the Near East - Mediterranean basin appeared in southern Mesopotamia or Sumer
- Human control over food production --> social change ( including fixed settlements)

## The Sumerians and Their Environment

- Invented writing in the 4th millennium BC
- Language has no known relatives and architecture and artifacts do not indicate ethnic ties with cultures of other regions
- Continuity of remains at their cities suggests however that the Sumerians had already settled in southern Iraq in the later Neolithic period at the end of 6th millennium BC
- Ubaid named after a site that has yielded a good sample of early remains
- Cities of Sumerians
  - Self-governing city was their basic political unit
  - Geography not a factor in political development ( landscape is flat and marked by rivers and canals)
  - Religion seems responsible (each Sumerian state seemed to belong to a deity)
    - Temple was the focus of both ritual and economic activity ( regional administrative center)
    - Towns grew around the temples
  - Kingship began in the city of Eridu
- Rivalries between cities became intense in the early dynastic period
  - Warfare displaced people from the country to the city
  - Cities became well protected
  - No city had the upper hand
  - Result: reinforcement of the city-state as the basic political and social unit
- Why in Sumer?
  - Soils had alluvial soil deposited by Tigris and Euphrates river
  - The rivers also supplied fresh water
  - There was also marshes, steppeland and further afield, mountains and sea ( important for long-distance trade, getting resources)
- Irrigation needed for agriculture
  - Canals developed to bring water to the fields at appropriate times
  - Chief grain was the barley due to the high salinity
  - Through time, the land became too salty and not many plants could grow anymore

## Uruk

- Dominant city of early Sumer
- Largest settlement of the region in the Protoliterate period
- Monumental religious buildings - Temples dominated in the early Sumerian times
  - The god or goddess for which the main temple was dedicated was the true ruler
    - Temples would continue to grow on top of each other become larger and more complex
    - Ziggurats are the key forms of Mesopotamian Architecture

- Smaller temples were scattered throughout for other divinities
- City would also contain, residential, administrative ( including palaces, if present), industrial buildings and cemetery
- Neighborhoods were divided by streets, walls and water channels
  - Gave sumerian cities a distinctive character
  - The canals were part of a larger system of water courses
    - Demonstrate the supreme importance of water canals in Sumerian geography
    - Gave rise to separate markets, commercial centers and harbors allr eachable by boat

### **The White Temple and Eanna Precinct**

- Two main temples
  - White temple ( 3000 bc) dedicated to the sky god: Anu
    - Example of high temple
    - Mudbrick was covered with white plater
    - Buttress were characteristic to the Mesopotamia architecture as decorations
    - Tripartite system
      - Large central space for the temple and two flanking sections which consisted of small rooms
      - Stair lead to flat roof
    - Ramp to temple implies a procession first climbing up to the top of the platform, then circulating around the building to an entrance on another side
      - Shows the importance of visible ceremony
  - Eanna Precinct ( house of heaven) dedicated to Anu daughter, Ianna which was the goddess of fertility, sex and war
    - Other names of Ianna were Ishtar or Astarte
    - Grand and ornate
    - Tripartite model
    - Didn't stand high on artificial platforms unlike An's
    - There was also a T-shaped variant design inconjunction with the Tripartite
      - Foreshadowing of the Christian basilica
    - N altar but hearths sunk into the floors
- Uruk survived till the third century AD but it seems unlikely that the White Temple was used till then.

### **Religious Imagery at Uruk**

- Pictorial art is an important aspect of city life
  - Refelctson the changing ideologoes of the people
- Art in religious context shows the start of tradition
- The tradition, religious practices, the deities and scared architecture greatly influenced the chracter of religion and ritual in the anceint Near East
- Archaeologist depend on the depiction of art to show sumerian religious practices and to yield fuller information
- **Uruk Vase**
  - Has scenes of ritual activity and homage to the goddess Inanna
  - Most important action takes place in the top register
    - Ianna receives gifts from priests and by ruler
    - Behind Ianna are two posts with streamers which represent the gatepost of her temple
  - Middle zone
    - Nude preiests process with offering of food and drink
  - Bottom register divided into 2 small zones whicch provides wealth for goddess: world of animals and plants

- The Euphrates river at the bottom shows the ultimate source of fertility: the Euphrates river
- Show 2 important conventions of the Ancient Near Eastern and Mediterranean art
  - Carvings would be painted
  - Figures are shown in profile, the standard pose in relief sculpture and painting
- **Lime Stone Mask of a Woman**
  - Does it represent the goddess or a priestess?
  - Beautifully decorated
  - Multimedia sculptures like these were produced in all subsequent cultures of Mediterranean and Near Eastern Antiquity
- Religious imagery frequently decorates a category of objects that first appear in the Uruk period and would become one of the hallmarks of the Ancient Near East: the **cylinder seal**
  - Some seals used to indicate ownership
  - Some seals had pictures on them
  - Miniature scenes varied because of the need to individualize the designs,
    - Provide important evidence about their religious beliefs
    - Secular objects were as popular ( hunting or warfare)
- Impressions in clay
  - Seals were good indicators for dating
    - Seals yielded valuable information about Mesopotamian economies about the increasing circulation of goods between villages and cities and increased control of elite groups over these resources
    - Use of cylinder seals corresponds to the cuneiform script
    - Cylinder seals faded when cuneiform faded due to the alphabet being created

### The development of writing

- Cuneiform developed by the Sumerians in late fourth to early third millennia BC for bureaucratic recording
  - Gave way to the Phoenician alphabet and its derivatives
- Clay tablets were used for writing
  - Baked tablets survived extremely well
- Tablets contain information on economy, society and history and form the backbone of our knowledge of the Ancient Near East
- First lead to the pictographic system
- Uruk is key in the development of writing
- Sumerian cuneiform writing became more abstract ( many clusters of wedges together)
  - Syllabary writing

### Habuba Kabira

- Located in north-western Syria
- Shares material culture in common with the cities of Sumer
- Shows the influence of the Sumerians
- Town plan more complete than any other as yet known from Uruk or its neighbors to its south
- Has 2 sectors Habuba Kabira and Tell Qannas
  - Tell Qannas is the higher area which contained the major temples
  - Habuba Kabira represented the residential area
- Town was built as a complete entity in a short time indicating it was a colony of the Sumerians
- Had impressive sewage and water conduit system
- Large houses ( courtyard, workrooms and kitchen)
  - 2 forms: tripartite and two-part ( small rooms off to one side and the main room on the other)
    - Main room usually contained two hearths
- No particular large houses have been identified which might have belonged to wealthy or powerful people or served administrative purposes

- Missing are open market areas
  - Government offices and shops probably occupied not separate building but the rooms which lined temple complexes

### **The Early Dynastic Period**

- Succeeds the protoliterate
- King list becomes credible in around 2500-2400BC
- Uruk lost its preeminent position
  - Many of other cities formed with increasing prosperity and have developed political and economic authority
- Warfare around this period
  - Over water supplies and territory
  - The collaborative triumph of king and god together becomes a staple of pictorial imagery in the official royal art of the Ancient Near East, Egypt and later the Roman empire.

### **Early Dynastic Religious Life: The Temple Oval at Khafajeh**

- Sumerian cities during this period were located on a watercourse and protected with fortified walls
- Temple to the patron deity and his or her family would occupy the prominent position in time
- Smaller shrines were throughout the city
- Construction of palaces began (reflects increasing power and wealth of ruler)
- High temples
  - Temple Oval at Khafajeh
    - Worshipped deity unknown
    - The inner oval of the temple had rooms serving for workshops and storage
      - These non-religious things at the inner oval shows us of the multi-faceted concept of the temple as an economic and administrative and as well as a spiritual centre
    - Probably not the tripartite plan
  - Appearance of worshippers at such temples survives in sculpture
- Ground level temples were also existent

### **Ur: The Royal Tombs**

- Most extensively explored Sumerian cities
- Contains some 2000 inhumations
  - Contained high ranking officials and the monarchy and religious figures
- Known for the splendor of grave offerings, tomb construction but also for the traces of the elaborate mortuary ritual that included human sacrifice
- Had gold ornaments on clothes etc...
- Questions
  - Did attendants and soldiers in the tombs meet death willingly with resigned acceptance? What purpose did they believe they were serving? Such practices have been attested at no other city. Textual evidence offers no convincing explanation

### **Graves goods: a bull's headed lyres and the Royal Standard**

- Wooden parts of the lyre rotted away, the shape of the lyre preserved in the ground. By pouring liquid plaster into the cavity, the excavators could accurately reassemble the form and the non-perishable decorations
- Royal Standard known for the fine preservation of its inlay (one of the favorite crafts of the Sumerians), figural scenes, expression of royal imagery
  - The standard 3 registers (story from lowest to highest)

### **Arches and Vaults (Roofing Techniques)**

- Roofing of tomb chambers = evidence for the roofs of the Sumerian buildings

- Technique: corbelling, pitched brick
  - Pitched brick are essential components of a large temple of the early second millennium BC
- Arch is 2D
- Vault is 3D

# Aegean Bronze Age Towns and Cities

Saturday, October 5, 2013 10:05 PM

## Aegean Civilizations and Cities

- Includes the neolithic and Bronze Age cultures of the lands that borders the Aegean Sea and the Aegean islands
- Bronze age culture of Crete = Minoan
- On mainland Greece Late bronze age culture flourished in southern and central regions called Mycenaen
- Many names of cities of the Bronze Age are well known due to the written record
- All but one of Childes criteria for city were met
  - Missing: practice of exact and predictive science

## Crete and Knossos and the Minoans

- Crete is the largest island of modern Greece
- Landscape: rugged mountains with pockets of fertile agricultural land, while its Mediterranean climate features rainy, chilly winters and long hot, dry summers

## Minoan history

- Used linear A and hieroglyphic
- New Palace period ( high point of Minoan Civilization)
  - Controlled the souther Aegean
- New Palace period ended fin aroun 1450BC in a wave of destruction
- Mycenaens either contributed or benefited from the collapse ( they took control of Minoan territories)
  - They were on the ascendant
  - Imposed their language on their territories conquered and writing system as the medium of administration

## Knossos: The Palace of Minos

- Palace is the hallmark of Minoan architecture
  - Palace in this palce is a large architectural complex housing a variety of function
  - Built from the ashlar masonry
  - Yields most characteristic features of Minoan Civilization
  - Cosmological centre: focus of cultural origins, a wellspring of human and divine energy and cultural creativity
- Rulers of Minoan crete are unknown
  - No evidence
- System created by archaeologist Evans divided Minoan Culture into 3 periods: Early, Middle and Late Minoan with further subdivisions ( 1,2,3; A and B)
  - Serves well the study of pottery development but it doesnt correlate with the major breaks in the architecutral sequence.
- Second system: the Pre-Palatial ( early bronze age), Protopalatial (old or First Palace), Neopalatial ( New or Second Palace) and Post-Palatial periods.
- Palace is on a low hill top in a well watered valley
- Unfortified
  - It is usual for minaoon towns and palaces to lack fortifications
    - This suggests an age of political harmony
- Palace served many functions
  - Residence, seat of administration, treasury, depot for agricultural and manufactured products and cult center
  - Many of these activites are done in the basement rooms
- Complicated plan of Knossos is linked to the legend of the Minotaur

- No evidence from the bronze age attest to the existence of Minoas or his family
- Rectangular central court is a standard feature in all minoan palaces
- Minoans revered mountains peaks
  - Established shrines, near summits and orientated buildings toward them
- Sport of vaulting over bulls
- Basement rooms along the west side of the central court were devoted to cult
- Imaginary pictures of animals served as magical protective beings
- Lustral basins would be used as bathrooms or places for ritual anointing or ablutions
- Pithoi( large clay jars)
  - Were used for storage of olive oil, grain and lentils, important crops in the subsistence-based (or agricultural) economy of Minoans
- Information on the economy of Knossos during the later Post-Palatial period comes from the caly tablet inscribed in the Linear B script.
- But these tablets are associated with the Mycenaean occupation of the palace
- Queen Megaron and Hall of the Double Axes both illustrate key features of Minoan domestic architecture
- Minoan love of sea creatures is depicted in arts
- Double axes seems to have had mystical importance for the Minoans

### ***Minoan towns: Knossos and Gournia***

- Gournia
  - Only Neopalatial Minoan town excavated in its entirety
  - Has palace like building that sits at the summit of the hill and dominates the settlement
  - Houses often 2 stories with rooms for storage and animals on bottom floor and living quarters upstairs
    - Other features of houses can be seen in series of small faience plaques from Knossos known as the town mosaic and the caly model of a house discovered at Arkhanes
  - Plan of Gournia
    - Main building dominating a village of small houses is one type of layout seen in Neopalatial Crete
    - Other configs: central palace surrounded by large houses and villas;
    - house blocks aligned along cobbled streets without dominating palace or villas,
    - a cluster of villas and solitary villas off in the countryside, the centers of agricultural estates

### **Thera: Akrotiri**

- Thera or Santorini is a cluster of islets in the southern Aegean that formed part of a single irregularly shaped volcanic island
- When volcanoes erupted, in second millennium BC, the center collapsed into the sea, leaving only the broken rim above water
- Akrotiri was buried in volcanic ash and pumice.
  - Pottery found was contemporary with an earlier phase on Crete and so the date of the explosion has now often placed at 1520BC
- Eruptions had no direct influence on the end of the New Palace period
- The inhabitants of akrotiri were aware of impending disaster unlike the Romans of Pompeii
  - They escaped and taking their precious belongings with them
  - Objects left in houses included pottery and cooking equipment, furniture, vases and stone tools
  - No metal or truly valuable luxury items were found
  - The wall paintings were left as they couldn't be removed and were well preserved

# Late Bronze Age Greece - The Mycenaens

Saturday, October 12, 2013 8:49 PM

## The Mycenaens: Mycenae and Pylos

- Held sway in central and southern Greece during the Late Helladic Period (the term used to denote the Late Bronze Age on the Greek Island) from ca. 1650 - 1050 BC
- Culture jelled into two regions, in Messine in south west Greece, and in the home region of Mycenae, Argolid
- From the fifteenth century BC they expanded their holdings across the Aegean to the Anatolian shore, taking over territories once controlled by the Minoans.
- Developed extensive contacts: Egypt, Levant, Europe and lands of the western Mediterranean
- Speakers of the earliest known form of Greek.
- Wrote of the Linear B script (derived from the Minoan Linear A)
  - Development of Greek language was linked to movements of people speaking other Indo-European languages
- Archaeological record shows major changes in material culture during the final phases of the Early Bronze Age but smooth development through the Middle Helladic into the Mycenaean period

## Mycenae

- Citadel sits on a prominent hilltop, itself in the protective crook of two larger hills
- Evidence of urban entity is disconcertingly fragmented due to erosion and building activities of post-Bronze Age inhabitants

## The Shaft Graves of Mycenae

- First dramatic evidence of the Mycenaens
- Contained their fabulous gold treasures
- Shaft graves occur in 2 clusters
  - Grave Circle B dates from 1650-1550
    - Surrounded by wall
    - Outside the 13th century citadel
  - Grave circle A
    - 1600-1500BC
    - Found inside the entrance to the citadel
    - Wall for the grave built after probably part of the rebuilding of the citadel in the 13th century
- Shaft graves is a stone lined rectangular trench placed at the bottom of a shaft dug out of the bedrock or accumulated earth and lined with rubble walls
- Bodies were placed on the pebble flooring and objects were left in the tomb with the body
- Trench was covered with a roof of thin stone slabs supported on wooden beams; the remaining shaft was then filled with earth
- After funerary meal, the debris, bones and crockery were thrown into the shaft
- Earth was mounded over top and in many cases, a stele or thin stone slab sometimes carved was planted upright in the earth as a grave marker.
- Tombs were reused and the shaft had to be cleared and the roof of the tomb removed (this was a lot of work and may explain why the shaft grave type fell out of use in the 15th century BC)
- Grave goods in Grave circle A were more lavish than in the burials of Circle B
  - Includes gold funeral masks, golden jewelry, bronze daggers inlaid with hunting scenes depicted in gold silver and niello, silver rhyton (ceremonial drinking cup with pointed bottom, vessels of pottery, stone and precious metals)
- Mycenaens recognized the Minoans as the providers of the finest in design and craftsmanship
  - Minoan style would continue to exert a great attraction for Mycenaean artists long after

Minoan Crete had lost its political independence

- Certain motifs however were specific to Mycenaean taste such as scenes of hunting and warfare mentioned above
- Horses entered Greece sometime in the Middle Bronze Age long after its fellow domesticates, the sheep, goat, pig and cow
- The horse was an import for central or western Asia and may be an authentic sign of migrating Indo-Europeans

### The Treasury of Atreus

- 15th century BC the shaft graves were no longer used but rather the *tholos* tombs were used
  - Tholoi were elaborate structures (round)
  - Round dome-shaped tombs built of fieldstones or exceptionally well-cut stone masonry laid in the corbelling technique and then buried, so the earth will provide the necessary counterpressure for the corbelling
- Mycenaean tholoi are the first attested in Messenia
- 9 best preserved tholoi is at Mycenae and is called *Treasury of Atreus*
  - Most of the contents of the tholoi were stripped of their contents in antiquity
  - Based on pottery and masonry techniques, it is thought that the tomb is made around 1300 BC
  - A dromos or an entrance way leads to the tholos
- Ordinary citizens usually had a chamber tombed which was a room cut out of the rock

### The Citadel

- fortified citadels are characteristics of the Mycenaean centers especially in the coastal regions of the eastern mainland of Greece
- Strong walls protected the nucleus of the settlement
  - The core of the city served a variety of activities, administrative, economic and religious
    - Unlike Minoans, these activities were carried out in separate buildings
- Bulk of populace lived outside city walls
- Had extensive system of roads, engineering projects to secure water, large scale drainage and dams
- Griffins were seen on frescoes
- Mycenaean used Cyclopean masonry
  - Cyclopean masonry is seen in Hittite capital: a puzzling coincidence considering that links between the Mycenaean and the Hittites are otherwise rare
- Series of shrines found in the south-west sector of the citadel
  - Room with the Fresco and the House of Idols are small dark rooms with respectively, wall paintings, grotesque clay figurines of humanoids and coiled snakes.
  - These small rooms, all that Mycenaean sites have so far yielded in terms of temple, recall the shrines in the Minoan palaces
  - Divinities revealed on Linear B tablets include: Zeus, Hera and Poseidon

### Pylos: The Palace of Nestor

- Palace did not have fortification wall (unusual for Mycenaean palace)
  - No rivals in its immediate vicinity
  - The palace served as the nerve center for a large area in south-west Messenia
  - Small, only a quarter the size of the palace at Knossos
  - Walls were built of rubble cores reinforced with a timber framework and faced with pale limestone ashlar masonry
  - Megaron is found in the palace (a distinctive core - a great hall)
    - Megaron is a unit of normally three rectangular spaces arranged along a single axis: a porch, a vestibule and a much larger main room
    - The main room at Pylos would have been attractive although dark and smoky

- A hearth dominates the large room ( low circular platform)
- The walls and floor were decorated with frescoes
- The megaron is surrounded by rooms devoted to the important economic activities of the palace
- Palace was the center for the collection and redistribution of the agricultural produce and manufactured products of the region
- There were store rooms for wine, olive oil and grain
- Workshops for smiths, masons and the manufacture of perfume
- Palace has also yielded much pottery

### **End of Mycenaean Civilization**

- Palace of Nestor was destroyed ca. 1200 BC
- People responsible were unknown
  - However the destruction fits in with a pattern of disasters that overwhelmed the established cultures of the eastern Mediterranean in the late thirteenth and twelfth centuries BC
- At Mycenae and the fortress of Tiryns, impending danger is seen in the citadel architecture
  - Both sites, the inhabitants secured their supply of water by enclosing a spring within a new-north east extension of the walls (Mycenae)
  - Or digging an underground passageway from within the citadel to the spring just outside (Tiryns)
- Mycenae underwent a series of challenges during this period and invaders were perhaps responsible but local unrest may also have contributed (due to crop failures and climate change)
- By the end of the 12th century, the sophisticated economic and social system based on the palaces and citadels and their dependent cities with records written in Linear B had collapsed
- Aegean basin reverted to a village based economy with little external trade and few luxuries
- Self-sufficiency became the byword of the Greek Dark Ages

# Archaic Greek Cities 1

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- Romans would absorb these conventions into their own rich architectural repertoire
- Effects of Archaic Greek Still Present today

## The Doric and Ionic Orders

- Greek society reserved best workmanship for the home of the gods (temples) and accompanying buildings in their sanctuaries
- Home of the mortals were modest through the Classical Period
- Temple in Archaic
  - 2 drastic difference
    - Stone was now used in the construction
    - Two main forms of design doric and ionic
      - Similarities in the shape (rectangular)
      - Entrances or temple usually on the East and the temples were usually oriented east-west
  - Usually had 3 rooms: the entrance porch (pronaos), the large room that housed the image of the deity (naos or cella) and behind the deity (with only access from the west) is the opisthodomos which provides the ground plan a symmetrical counterpart for the pronaos
  - Changes came slow but steadily as people didn't want to change tradition
  - Early temples were constructed partly of wood and have not survived by more recent temples made of stone have survived and are more monumental

## Doric

- Design system developed on the Greek mainland in the late seventh century BC
- Doric columns stand directly on the stylobate
- Triglyphs of the frieze are supposedly covering the ends of beams, the little peg-like protrusions below the cornice and the triglyphs would be the fastenings
  - Mark of the conservatism of the Greeks would preserve these tiny features long after the practical function had ceased

## Ionic

- Came a quarter century after the Doric
- Developed in East Greece
- Longer life span the Doric
- Columns rest on a round base

## Early Doric Temples at Thermon, Olympia and Kerkyra (Corfu)

- Experimentation leading to the doric order : 7th century BC in Corinth
- A century after this idea had spread to other parts of Greece
- Temple of Thermon
  - Temple of Apollo
  - Has evidence for the installation of Doric entablature
  - Shows a compromise, meopes at the ends of the frieze were made wider than the others thus pushing the corner triglyph out to site over the edge of the column
- Temple of Hera
  - Solution to Doric corner problem
  - Placement of columns are actually known unlike the temple of Thermon
  - The columns were contracted, brought in slightly from the proper corner position, set in closer to the next column instead of repeating normal spacing

- Over centuries the wooden columns of this temple were replaced with stone versions
- Temple was decorated well with two large terracotta disks placed at the apex of the roof (acroteria)
  - This design became very popular
  - Can consist of human, abstract or floral designs
- **Temple of Artemis at Kerkyra**
  - Made of stone
  - One of the earliest stone temples and one of the largest
  - Laid out with 3 standard rooms
  - pseudo-dipteral: allows for extra space
  - Well preserved sculptures from the west pediment
    - Gorgon Medusa dominates the scene
      - Medusa was esteemed for her power to ward off evil
- **Early Ionic Temples at Samos And Ephesus**
  - Doric was preferred in the Greek Main land and West Greece,
  - Ionic was preferred in East Greece
    - The two styles merged in the Later fifth century on the Athenian Acropolis
  - Temples were colossal
    - Not many survived as people in the medieval times used that stone for their own construction
  - **Samian Heraion**
    - Temple to Hera
    - Had the first Ionic Style altar
    - Consisted only of a pronaos and cella ( each room had two rows of columns)
    - Built on low ground
  - **Temple of Artemis at Ephesus**
    - Dipteral
    - Burned down on the night of the birth of Alexander the Great
    - Completely disappeared by modern world
    - Discovery of an inscription in a theatre led to the discovery of the temple
- **East Greek Cities in the Archaic Periods: Samos, Miletus and The Ionian Revolt**
  - Samos
    - During the rule of Polycratean, the city was a regional power, economically strong and endowed with an effective fleet
    - Prosperity came not only from Heraion, a major pilgrimage site but also from the fertile land, with its wine enjoying considerable fame
    - Harbor was its focus : military and commercial
    - Tunnel of Eupalinos: most famous of the Polycratean building projects
    - Captured by the Persians after the Death of Polycrateans
- **Archaic East Greece**
  - Known for intellectual and commercial achievements
- **Miletus**
  - One of the greatest colonizing cities
  - Grew from maritime trade
  - Brilliance came to an end with the collapse of the Ionian Revolt against the Persian Control
  - The tyrant of Miletus led a revolt against the Persians and lost
  - Catastrophe for the Greek World
  - Ionian revolt
    - Had consequence for the rest of Greece
    - The Persians set out to have revenge on the Athenians

# Archaic Greek Cities 2

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## Sparta

- Located in fertile plain in the south-east Peloponnesus
- Conquered Lcania and the sou-west province of Messenia and amassing an unusually large territory for a Greek city-state
- Full-citizenship was only given to the Spartan proper
- Many male citizens devoted their energies to train for warfare
- Kept their own subjects in line and warded off enemies
- Had the finest infantry in the Greek World
- Was defeated in Leuctra in 371 BC
- Archaic and Classical periods, writers had no place in the society so many reports were written by outsiders
  - Making finding the reality of Sparta difficult
- Men lived in barracks until age 30 and thereafter ate together in mess
- Women also trained physically to ensure the birth of strong children
- Individuality was discouraged, products of creavity such as fine arts restricted
- Money was regarded as corrupting
  - Iron bars served as the medium for exchange
- System of government reamined oligarchy and little chnaged from the later Iron age throughte Classical period
- 5 ephors and a council of elders including two hereditary kings, relics from the past who had authority in times of war
- City itself has left few ruins

## Athens in the Archaic Period

- Writing flourished, leaving detailed accounts of their city society and history
- Had democracy in which its male citizens had an equal voice
- Controlled the whole region of Attica in late 7th century BC
- Class conflicts raged
- Solon, a famous wise man eected archon
  - Tried to resolve class conflicts (eliminated debt of the farmers and kept high office spots only to elites)
  - However this did not eliminate class tension
- Council of 500
  - Created by Kleisthenese
  - 50 men from the 10 tribes of athens would meet
  - A tribe was incharge for a period of 36 days
- Popular assembly continued open to all citizens as did the Arepagus (open-air jury court)
  - These developments help lead to the development of democracy in Athens
- The Acropolis turned into a religious space (home of Athena)
- Peisistratos laid foundations for amonumental temple to the Olympian Zeus but never finished it
  - Completed by roman emperor Hadrian
- City center is the Agora
  - Gives ideas of the institutions around the area
  - Not a sanctuary but had sanctity
  - Basins of holy water were placed at its entrances reminding people that events taking place in agora had a religious cast
  - The entrance to the precinct was restricted ( people thought to sully the precinct were not allowed in)
  - Events in the Agora could be connected to buildings and some werent
  - By 6th century BC, important civic buildings lined the foot of the low hill ( Kolonos Agoraios)
    - Some buildings were the Royal Stoa and the Old Bouleuterion
      - ◻ Royal Stoathe second highest official in the city and the overseer of religious observances had his base
        - ◆ Later on law codes were inscribe on stone slabs and set up on the walls
      - ◻ The Old Bouleutrerion housed the Council of 500
  - The south edge had open air law curt and fountain house
  - North East sides not yet defined by buildings but the central space was used from various thetrical performances and athletic contests
  - Altar of the 12 Gods

- Most important monument
- Identified by an inscribed statue base
- Served as a recognized haven for those seeking refuge
- Marked the center of the city
- Panathenaic Way was used for the great procession up to the Acropolis during the Panathenaia, the annual festival to Athena
- Most important civic buildings would be in place in the Agora
- Continued as the civic center through the Roman empire
- Went through many changes over time

### Archaic Art: Pottery and Sculpture

- **General Info**

- Transmit their culture to a variety of non-Greek neighbors
- Affected greatly our understanding of their world

- **Attic Black-figure and Red-figure pottery**

- Manufacture of pottery was considered a craft in ancient Greece, so its manufacturer had little social status
- Leading pottery produced in the classical and archaic period was Athens replacing Corinth
- Athenian painter and potters used black figure and red-figure techniques
  - Black paint was painted onto the red of the pottery
    - Black was itself was not paint but rather a refined solution of clay
    - It starts of red but once fired it turns black
  - Sequence of firing
    - Oxidation: oxygen is let into the kiln and the caly and the paint styaed red
    - Reducing: the air vent is closed cutting the oxygen supply; the fire heating the kiln takes oxygen from the gerric oxide in the caly and the ferric oxide turns blk
    - Partial reoxidation: oxygen is let in again, the black pot returns to the original redl the moe compact pain will do the same but more slwly
  - Red Figure was simply the reverse of black figure
    - The backgroundd was covered in black and the figures and decorations were leftin natural clay colour
    - Both techniques were used through the late Classical period but died out later on
- Mythological painteres were populat
- Daily life subjects became popular after
- Twisting poses were now depicted in both vase painting and relief sculpture, giving the illuson of depth of the third dimension
  - Represented a major break with Near East, Egypt and Mediterranean basin

### Sculptures

- Life sized and indeed over life sized
- Sculpture in stoned developed in the later seventh century
- Influence of egyptian scultupres on Greek was very improtnat
- Greek sculptures showed free-standing male and female statues (Kournos) and (Kore)
- Many cities produce them but athens left us a particular fine set
- The appeal of hugeness was short lived
- Stone and metal statues of any size wer costly
  - Only wealth could afford such offerings
  - Poor people gave smaller terracotta figurines mass produced in molds
- Representations of men and women are generic rather than specific potraits
  - These Kournos were used as votive offerings, tomb markers and cult statues
- Usually naked sculptures conveying the Greek Ideal of the male body
- Male nudity was accepted into Greek cultures in contrast to the Ancient Near East and Egypt
- The Kore ( statue of young women is always ressed)
- Later on life sized bronze statues were made
- All Greek statues are painted with light colours
- There were also relief sculptures in addition to the nude sculptures

### The Persian Wars

- In 490, 480-479 persians attacked the city states of mainland Greece as punishment for their part in the Ionian Revolt
  - The war marked the transition from the archaic to the Classical period

- Three major battles ended in Greek Victories: Marathon, naval battle off the island of Salamis and the land Battle at Plataea
- The victories gave the Greeks new confidence but Athens itself was sacked and Ionia was crushed
  - Persians came into Athens and Destroyed it
  - The Athenians however, shoveled in the ruined votive and architectural sculptures and buried them to purify their great sanctuary.
  - Destruction gave rise to the great urban renewal projects of the mid-to late fifth century BC

# Athens in the Fifth Century BC

November-10-13 7:38 PM

## General Information

- Extraordinary achievements in literature, architecture and visual arts matched by political power and wealth

## Historical Introduction

- After the Persians had retreated from the Persian War, the Athenians decided to build a strong set of fortification walls
- Themistokles was the leading statesman at the time
  - His far-sighted promotion of shipbuilding in the 480s had saved Athens from annihilation
    - The ships were paid for by silver mined at Laurion
- Delian League formed in 478 BC was a coalition of states under the leadership of Athens that maintained a large navy with states that contributed either ships or money
  - Members were usually coastal and island cities of the Aegean and the Sea of Marmara
- Later on money was the only accepted tribute, ships were no longer accepted
- After the Persian Invasion, the Greeks decided not to rebuild the temples destroyed by the Persians in order for the temples to serve as memorial to those who come after the impiety of the barbarians
  - Athens decided to rebuild on the acropolis (broke the Oath of Plataea)
  - Construction began under the leadership of Perikles
- Athenian ambitions did not go unchallenged
  - Corinth and Sparta were against Athens
  - Sparta won the war between them and decided to pull down the Athenian walls.
  - The war had exhausted Sparta as well, it was unable to capitalize on its success
- When Athens was freed from Sparta, they decided to rebuild the walls under the leadership of Konon and regained a measure of its former importance

## The Athenian Acropolis

- Earliest known of the hilltop usage dates to the Bronze Age
  - Mycenaean citadel can be still seen (including a stretch of the cyclopean masonry belonging to the fortification wall)
- Archaic period
  - Changed from a fortress to religious sanctuary with the worship of Athena predominating
- The Parthenon (Temple to Athena Parthenos - warrior form)
  - Most important building of the Periklean refurbishing of the Acropolis
    - Has both ionic and doric features
  - Foundations had to be built up from many courses
  - Was decorated with sculpted metopes on all four sides and sculpted pediments
  - There is also a sculpted frieze (an Ionic feature), high inside the colonnade, on the top of the exterior walls of the cella, the Parthenon and the two truncated porches
  - There were also deviations from strict vertical and horizontal lines and proportional arrangement (refinements)
  - Combines many doric and ionic features

## The Parthenon: Sculptural decoration and the cult statue

- The sculptural decorations had important messages to impart
- Interior reserved for the cult statue without additional imagery
- Illustrated theme concerned both the city and the patron goddess

- Different from the Near East, Egypt as in these places have the monarch and deity showed together
- Many of the metopes were destroyed
  - The metops illustrate the combats of Lapith vs centaurs, Gods vs Giants, Greeks vs. Amazons and probably Greeks vs. Trojans, all allegories for the battle of Order vs Chaos, civilization vs Barbarism
- The **Frieze** was far better preserved
  - Records the procession during the Panathenaic Festival that led through the city up to the acropolis with the aim of presenting a newly woven, brightly colored peplos to dress the venerable cult statue of Athena Polias (Athena as patron goddess of the city)
  - The Panathenaic festival was the most important religious festival of Athens and was held every year in mid-August
  - Every fourth year a grander version took place
- The Pediments
  - Returned to mythology
  - Only a small number of the pediment figures were decently preserved
  - Shows the birth of Athena from Zeus head
  - Shows that Athena won a contest against Poseidon for the position of patron deity of the city

### **The Cult Statue**

- The large statue of Athena disappeared in the late antiquity but there are detailed descriptions and statuettes that roughly copy it and depictions on coins provide evidence for reconstruction
- The statue was 12 m high
- She wore a peplos and her armour, a breast plate and a triple crested helmet and with her left hand she held a spear and shield
- The image of Pandora at the statue bases reminds cautions the Athenians in their hour of triumph
- The sculpture was made of a skin of ivory and costume of thin sheets of gold fitted onto a wooden framework.

### **The Propylaea**

- The construction of the Propylaea was completed when the Parthenon construction was coming to an end
- Displays Doric order
- The building was never finished which was shown by the lifting bosses
- There was a statue of Athena Promachos that stood at the centre of the Acropolis

### **The Temple of Athena Nike ( winged victory)**

- Built later after the Parthenon and the Propylaea in 420 during the Peloponnesian War
- Small one room temple
- Ionic order
- Bore rich sculptural decoration but was badly damaged
  - A frieze showed battle scenes and pediments

### **The Erechtheion**

- Last of the great 4 buildings of the Peisistratid program and the most unusual
- Ionic temple
- It honors Erechtheus a legendary king of Athens and the temple itself may stand on the site of Mycenaean palace known as the House of Erechtheus
- Sheltered a variety of cults and had irregular ground levels
- Most prominent shrine was of Athena Polias (Athena patroness of the city of Athens, the oldest, most venerable cult of the goddess)
  - It was to this particular Athena that the peplos carried to the Acropolis in the Panathenaic

- procession and depicted on the Parthenon frieze
- Impressive concentration of sacred, ancient relics of the city

### **Theater of Dionysos and Choregic Monuments**

- Slopes of acropolis crowded with the remains of miscellaneous monuments and shrines from many periods
- The best preserved is the Odeion of Herodes (built by the Romans)
  - It was on this site where the theatrical representations began
- Theatre developed as a religious celebration

### **Houses and The Agora**

- **Urban plan and houses**
  - Layout of roads were haphazard, narrow, twisting streets of hard earth and gravel
  - The houses were irregular in outline and simple in plan, small rooms without distinctive character arranged around a central court
  - Lighting was poor as windows didn't exist
  - Doorways were blocked by curtains not door flaps
  - Walls consisted of mud bricks on stone foundations, the whole protected with a coating of stucco and roofing of clay tiles on a timber framework
  - Furniture was simple
  - People relied on wells for water
  - Stone-lined pits served as cesspools and in many towns waste was simply tossed into the streets

### **The Great Drain**

- Collects run off in its stone-lined channel and carries it northward toward the Eridanos River

### **The Agora**

- The city centre
- Building occurred from 479 - mid century, a period when the Acropolis lay fallow because of the Oath of Plataea
  - Construction lively in the Agora
- A lot of the buildings were secular so when the Persians destroyed the buildings, the Athenians were allowed to rebuild
- Kimon dedicated three large herms to mark his victory over the Persians at Eion
  - A Herm was a plain rectangular shaft with a portrait head of the bearded god Hermes on top and male genitalia halfway down
- Early Periclean period, work began on an impressive temple dedicated to Hephaistos god of the forge and to Athena, here the goddess of arts and crafts, patrons for the many craftsmen who worked in the vicinity.
  - The Hephaisteion was situated in order to be seen from the front from the Agora (a focus on the front view was unusual for Greek temples but would become hallmark of Roman temples)
  - Temple was traditionally Doric in plan and elevation
  - Surrounded by formal plantings (discovered through planting pits with large terracotta flower pots indicated that two rows of bushes lined the temple on the long north and south sides, three rows on the west)
- Agora also had a state prison
  - Socrates died here
- Bouleuterion served as the building for the 500 member council

# Rome From its Origins to the End of The Republic

November 16, 2013 6:44 PM

## Geography

- Salt road - east-west route important in the transport of salt from the sea to the Sabine herders and other peoples in the interior. It is known as the **Via Salaria**
- The Tiber River marks the boundary between Etruria (Etruscans to the north) and Latium, a region dominated by Rome
- Latium
  - Primarily of plains
  - Includes Alban Hills and their lakes
    - Hills are a good source of tufa (soft brown volcanic stone)
  - Rome itself encompasses seven main hills, projections of plateaus extending westward toward the Tiber

## Early History and Settlement (Ca. 752-509 BC)

- Beginning (ruled by 3 Latin Kings then later 3 Etruscan Kings)
- Thought that Romulus and Remus founded Rome.
  - They were grandsons of a deposed king of Alba Longa and potential threats to the usurper
  - In adulthood, restored their grandfather to his throne
  - Romulus killed his brother in an argument but went on to rule
- Earliest known settlement is the Palatine Hill
  - Houses were simple: one room with walls of wattle and daub and vertical poles supporting a thatched roof
  - Further evidence of the houses comes from hut urns, small pots in the shape of huts that held the ashes of a cremated body
  - Area at the foot of the north slope of the Palatine Hill was destined to be the site of the Roman Forum
  - Changes in the material culture was noticed in the 6th century BC as the Etruscans took over.
    - The Etruscans are noted for their skills at regulating water, drained the swamps and channelled the streams that fed them
- Capitoline Hill that lies adjacent to the Palatine, they built their principal temple and citadel
  - Temple was to Jupiter
  - The temple had 3 cellas
    - Jupiter in the centre and Juno and Minerva on either side
      - These 3 became the chief deities of the Romans

## The Roman Republic: Civic Institutions

- Participation in the Roman Republic was limited
  - Male citizens took charge thereby excluding a large part of the population: women, slaves and freedmen and conquered peoples
  - Within the male citizenry, power was weighted in favor of the aristocratic families, especially if wealthy: the patricians as opposed to the common people the plebeians
  - The central institution was the **Senate**
    - People in the senate were wealthy influential citizens and were appointed for life
  - The plebeians forced concessions from the patricians as the republic grew
  - There was also a magistrate which consisted generally of aristocrats
  - There were assemblies that organized the Roman People
    - Curiate Assembly

- Divided into 30 curiae, possibly originating in kinship groups or regional families
  - Duties include: confirming of appointments of magistrates and priests
- Centuriate Assembly
  - Was based on military organization. The centuria was the basic unit (a group of 100 men, the smallest unit of a legion).
  - In the 4th century bc the centuria lost its link to the military and became simply a voting unit
    - This assembly consisted of 193 centuriae arranged in five ranks according to property ownership. Greater ones wealth = greater influence
  - Even though there was a lot more poor people, their number gave them no advantages in voting power
  - This assembly voted laws and declared war and peace
- Plebeian Tribal Assembly and the Peoples Tribal Assembly
  - This last open to patricians as well as plebeians
  - Citizens grouped according to thirty-five tribes: four urban (city of Rome), 31 rural (in Italy)
  - Election of certain officials, enactment of certain laws and the holding of minor trials constituted their role in government
- The government broke down in the late 3rd century BC
  - Lead to dictatorship and civil war, social unrest

### The Expansion of Rome

- Expansion of Rome originated in the early fourth century BC with the conquest of Veii, the Etruscan city closest to Rome
- In later 3rd century BC, Rome controlled all peninsular Italy, plus the islands of Sicily, Corsica and Sardinia
- Absorption of the Etruscan and Greek regions with their rich cultural traditions had a tremendous impact on Roman society
- Celebrated on going victories, the **triumph** became an institution. A parade in Rome paid by the victor from the spoils
  - These triumphs were commemorated by large free-standing arches
- Octavian defeated Mark Antony and the Egyptian Queen Cleopatra VII at the Battle of Actium off the north-west coast of Greece, thereby securing for Rome possession of the entire eastern Mediterranean.
- In 27BC Octavian adopted the title Augustus. The Republic and the period of Roman expansion had come to an end. The Roman Empire had begun

### Roads, Camps and Colonies

- **Roads**
  - First century AD, a vast network of roads would cover the empire.
  - Much of the Roman Roads were built by the state as opposed to local or private sources
  - The roads were stone-paved suitable for all weather and well maintained
  - There was also security on the roads
    - The conditions above were deemed essential for facilitating rapid communication and deployment of troops across long distances
  - Roads were suitable for foot travelers and vehicles
  - Stones were inscribed with stances and perhaps dates of construction or repair and the names of the reigning emperor, local officials and military units
  - Road maps and itineraries existed, although they were diagrams, not to scale or lists of places on a single route
  - Along the way there were roadside establishments at periodic intervals for room and board, mail services, stables and other transportation services

- **Army Camps**
  - Established throughout Roman territory but especially in frontier zones
  - Plan was a square with straight streets crossing at right angles with the commanders tent placed in the center, soldier barracks and other facilities neatly arranged along the streets.
  - Greco-Roman city plans featuring the Hippodamian grid must have influenced camp layout and camp layout in turn influenced town plans
  - The camps themselves often developed into permanent towns
  - The commanders tent was first laid out and everything else was built around it
  
- **Colonies**
  - They were towns initially established in order to assure military control or political domination of a region both on land and (in coastal locations) on sea
  - Ex. **Ostia**
    - Developed as a port of Rome
    - Was one of the earliest colonies founded in the mid-fourth century BC at the mouth of the Tiber to control maritime and river traffic and to protect Rome against incursions by sea
    - Laid out as a rectangle rather than a square
  - As Romans consolidated their control in Italy, the need for fortified camps diminished and the towns may safely expand beyond the original confines of the camp
  - In later Republic and during the empire, colonies were established to relieve population pressure in large cities and to reward veterans with gifts of free land, sometimes confiscated from previous owners
  - The size of the colonies varied in population from a few hundred families to several thousand and in territory as well
  - Their governments imitated the institutions in Roman
    - Colonies controlled by council (senate) and officials (magistrates)
  - Temples, *curia* (meeting place of the senate), *comitium* (meeting place of the Assemblies) and *Basilica* (law courts; miscellaneous business matters) were deliberately placed in frontier zones or in conquered lands
    - These helped extend patterns of the Roman Urban life to the diverse people of the empire
  - Colony established by a fixed route
    - Ritual boundary line, the pomerium was ploughed by a bull and cow yoke to a bronze plough.
    - At the streets or gates, the plough was lifted up and replaced on the other side
    - The land for the colony was surveyed in a process called centuriation
    - The land was divided into quadrants and then into long narrow units

### **Cosa, A town of the Roman Republic**

- strategically placed to block Etruscan access to the sea
- It was sacked in 70-60 BC by pirates
- Surrounding farmland was fertile
- 90% of the citizens lived outside the walled area of the colony
- Lagoon behind the harbor gave rise to a prosperous local industry
  - Fishery with specialization in eels and mullets and perhaps production of garum (a fish sauce much loved by the Romans)
- Citadel known as the **Arx** occupied the town's highest point
  - Romans used this area to plan the rest of the town
- City walls were erected first
  - The contours of the site were irregular but the space inside was laid out in a regular grid
- The **Arx** had its own fortification walls and contained the principal shrine of the town

- The basilica was not a religious building in Roman times but rather it was a site that provided space for lawyers, judges and other officials involved in the city and legal affairs
  - Always located alongside a forum or a similar open space with one of its sides penetrated by doors
- True arches were the hallmark of Roman Architecture.
- At Cosa's triple archway, mortared rubble is one element used in its construction, an early use of concrete
- Concrete
  - Mixture of lime, sand and water, a combination that makes a sort of glue with the property of hardening as well
  - By the time of Augustus, they included volcanic dust
    - This new compound can be used for harbor foundations and as an impervious lining for aqueducts and cisterns as it can set underwater
  - Concrete would become a characteristic feature of Roman architecture
- A concrete core of a structure would normally be faced with cut stones or brick to give a regular appearance to the exterior
- Cosa derives its appearance and foundation from a precise moment in time

### Rome During the Republic

- It is hard to assess the growth of Rome in these centuries because architectural remains tend to be fragmentary, damaged or destroyed by construction activity in later imperial times
- The city of Rome assumed its characteristic form in the late republic with most standard building types introduced then. Many of which stood in the Roman Forum
- **The Roman Forum**
  - Civic centre
  - In earlier periods in Rome, the Roman forum was located at marshy lands which the Etruscan kings had drained earlier
  - During republican times, the forum consisted of an irregular rectangle with its corners at the curia, the site of the later Temple of Antoninus, the Temple of Castor and the Temple of Saturn
  - Leading into the forum was the Sacred Way
    - This road indicates religious and civic activity in the forum
  - **Religious buildings**
    - 3 major temples to the deities Vesta, Saturn and Castor
    - Temple of Vesta
      - Damaged multiple of times
      - Last reconstruction: it was a structure like a tholos surrounded by twenty columns (Corinthian style capitals)
    - Temple of Saturn
      - Italic style
      - Contained the state treasury
    - Temple of Castor
      - Stood on high podium but otherwise was largely Greek in feel with a peristyle of Corinthian columns around all four sides
  - **Civic buildings**
    - Regia (small building), headquarters of the pontifex maximus (the head of state religion)
    - The senate met in the Curia
    - Comitium: officially consecrated open area
    - Lapis Niger: an area paved with black marble that covered the earlier shrines, including according to legend, the tomb of Romulus.
    - 2 basilicas

- The Basilica Aemilia
  - Basilica Julia
    - ◆ Used for banking
  - Tabularium
    - Where state archives were held
    - Plan is irregular and uncertain
- **The Capitoline and Palatine hills**
  - Capitoline
    - Stood the most important shrine of the city, the Temple of Jupiter
  - Palatine
    - Upper class Romans had their city mansions
    - Had the Temple of Magna Mater
      - Housed the sacred black stone of the Anatolian mother goddess brought to Rome from Pessinus in central Anatolia, an early and famous example of the syncretistic in-gathering of cults from the many people conquered by the Romans
- **Outside Roman Forum**
  - Markets
    - Located near river
    - Market areas contained temples
  - Bridges
    - Permanent bridges eventually spanned the Tiber
      - Aemilian Bridge was the first stone bridge
      - Milvian bridge
        - ◆ Important road leading to the north, the Via Flaminia crossed the Tiber here
          - ◇ This bridge was built in 220 BC but the stone version of the bridge arrived a century later in 109 BC
          - ◇ It was here that Constantine defeated his rival Maxentius, thereby securing his rule over the western half of the Roman Empire
  - Aqueducts
    - Were channels by which water was brought to towns and cities
    - Channels were usually underground but if necessary could be carried on arches
    - Aqua Appia is the oldest aqueduct
    - The longest aqueduct was the Aqua Marcia
    - The Pont du Gard
      - In France
      - Lined with hydraulic cement, at its top and thereby ensured that the carefully maintained level of the water channel would not be interrupted by the river valley
      - 3 stories high
      - Each story contained typical round Roman arches
  - The Theatre of Pompey and the Circus Maximus
    - Circus Maximus had heavy Greek influence and was a formal structure for amusement
      - A large track for horse racing events
      - Capacity of 250,000
      - A race normally consisted of seven laps around the spina; full day consisted of twenty-four races
    - The Theatre of Pompey would remain the city's most important
      - Based on Greek models

- There were temples connected to the theatres in order to renew religious connection
- Subsequent roman theatre didn't have the religious connections
- Was not built on hillside

# Rome in the Age of Augustus

November 23, 2013 4:36 PM

## Introduction

- Augustus set a new standard for the physical world of the Roman city that would continue for several centuries

## Augustus, The First of the Roman Emperors

- Octavian, adopted son of Julius Caesar assumed complete control of the Roman state after defeating Mark Antony and Cleopatra at the Battle of Actium in 31 BC
- 4 years later, the Senate granted him the title Augustus
- He ruled the Empire until his death in 14 AD
- He had enormous vision, competence, bringing enduring peace and prosperity after decades of civil war
- Understood the value of grandeur in the public area

## The Augustus of Prima Porta

- The statue of Augustus Prima Porta brings to the fore his understanding of power images
  - Work incorporates Greek and Roman features
  - Shows Augustus as Young Man
  - The body departs from reality
    - Augustus was short and even if well-proportioned
  - The body reproduces the stance and the heavy musculature of the Doryphoros (connects Augustus with the heroic images of nude Greek athletes)
  - Augustus is clothed, has military garb which symbolizes him as a soldier and recalls his personal heroism on behalf of the Roman state.
  - Armor shows details of Augustus military achievements

## Augustus and the Architecture of Rome

- Changed a city made of brick to be made of marble
- Knew the importance of making the capital Rome into an architectural showcase for the world
- Arts featured the integration of Greek forms and materials with Italic features
- Three buildings in particular illustrate his approach to symbols, architecture and the image of his own personality: House of Augustus, the Forum of Augustus and the Ara Pacis (Altar of Peace)

## House of Augustus

- The house was surprisingly modest for a ruler
- Two stories, rooms fairly small but certainly well appointed
- Wall paintings of high quality, often showing architectural scenes
- Not a lavish palace preferred by many of his successors
- Augustus believed moderation was important
- Significance: symbolic value of location
  - Located on the Palatine hill
  - Allowed Augustus to connect symbolically with the legendary founder of the city
  - Adjacent to the house was the Temple of Apollo Palatinus
    - Apollo credited to giving Augustus key support in victory of Actium
- House abandoned after his death and seriously damaged by the great fire during the reign of Nero

## Imperial Fora: The Forum of Julius and the Forum of Augustus

- Greatest architectural complex in the city of Rome during this period was the Forum of Augustus.

- Forum of Julius consisted of an open air space lined with colonnades
- Temple of Venus Genetrix dominated the square
- Julius Caesar considered himself a descendent of Venus, the goddess of love
- Temple in colonnaded court is a Greek concept
- The Temple was Italicized as it was built on a high podium at one end of space
- Temple was dedicated to Caesar in 46 BC but completed by Augustus
- Forum of Julius was the first of a series of imperial forums
- **Forum of Augustus**
  - Centrally located civic complex that is monumental; civilized with its Hellenic decoration, connected with the gods (by including temple) and rich with symbolism important for the state
  - After Victory over the Assassins of Caesar, Augustus decided to build a temple to Mars the Avenger
    - The Forum of Augustus would serve as the frame of the new temple
    - Temple was placed at rear of forum
    - Had hemicycles to bring light into temple
    - Had corinthian columns (establishing the Greek tone)
    - Italic features: stood on high platform and its frontality, with a broad flight of steps leading up to the porch
  - The forum used for centre of administration of the provinces, place where boys formally put on the toga (symbol of manhood); commanders sent abroad to begin their missions and the senate voted triumphs to victorious generals and where those victors paid homage to Mars, god of war by dedicating to him their crown and scepter of victory and military standards
  - Decorated with sculptures to the illustrious past of the Roman state
  - In the Hemicycles, there were statues that combined reference to the founders of the Latin nation and of Rome itself
  - Inside temple 3 statues
    - Mars
    - Venus with cupid
    - Julius Caesar
  - Above the corinthian colonnade were 62 caryatids
    - Represented defeated peoples, subjected in order to bring about peace

### **Ara Pacis**

- Largest of the great architectural monuments from Rome during reign of Augustus
- Altar of Augustan Peace
- Built on campus Martius along a main thoroughfare, the Via Flaminia
- Altar proper lay inside an open-air space bounded by an enclosure wall
- Relief sculpture decorated the entire monument with figural scenes on the upper half of the outside of the precinct wall
- Monument commemorates the peace brought to the Roman state by Augustus and discreetly honors Augustus as a new founder of the city and state
- Important to link Augustus with the legendary origins of the state
- A relief panel of goddess Roma sits on a pile of armor
  - Message: peace through conquest
- A relief panel showing Fruits of peace
  - A female personification of plenty variously identified as Mother Earth, Venus, Italia or Peace holding two babies
- Relief panel showing nymph-like creatures
- A panel shows she-wolf suckling Romulus and Remus
- There is a scene with Aeneas
- The south and north exteriors again the upper half are decorated with a different scene all together

- A historical event: men, women and children in procession, coming to celebrate the laying of the foundation stone of the altar on July 4, 13
- Augustus walks among them in the center of the southside, but he is inconspicuous, as befitted the public persona he liked to project
- There were also officials, priest and members of the Augustus family
- Different from Athenian (Parthenon frieze) as the Athenian frieze shows gods, horseback riders, animals brought for sacrifice but not political leadership
- Message imparted by Ara Pacis procession is the orderly, beneficial rule of Augustus and his family
- The achievements of Augustus were made clear to the people, never for his own glory but always really for the stability and the prosperity of the Roman state
- Legitimacy was stressed by connections with the key gods and heroes of the Roman people
  - The last 2 bullet above are themes Augustus made basic to his concept of rule

Augustus and his successors will continue to make Rome a great city but in a Hellenistic way

# Rome from Nero to Hadrian

November 24, 2013 9:14 PM

## Historical Introduction: The Empire

- Two centuries after Augustus = great period of prosperity and power for the Roman Empire
- Roman peace, agriculture, industry and trade thrived, bring in a stable and prosperous life to a large number of ethnically, religiously and linguistically diverse people
- There were citizens, free noncitizens and slaves
- Citizenship was restricted at first but granted to free people in the third century
- Throughout the first and second centuries it was possible to change status, for slave to become free and free to become citizen
  - However, the class distinctions would become more rigid and impede social mobility
- Army was important
  - Stationed along the frontier
  - Maximum of 400 000 men
  - Army helped spread Roman institutions to the provinces
  - Army camps often developed into towns
- One power could match the Romans and that was the **Parthians**
  - Parthians ruled in Persia and Mesopotamia
- Essential institutions and shrines occupied places of honor
- Legal system developed in the Republic helped with social and economic cohesion

## Rome: The Imperial Capital

- Rule of Augustus marked the change of the Republic to something new
  - To ensure stability he stressed continuity with what had come before
  - He held a low profile (avoidance of personal ostentation)
- Other Emperors that followed gradually abandoned Augustus's low profile adopting opulent trappings of kingship in the Hellenistic World
  - The changing concept of Kingship was mirrored in the appearance of Rome
    - Grandiose palaces, temples, commemorative monuments and civic buildings commissioned by the emperors
    - Concrete was being used to build buildings (departure from the traditional post and lintel system enshrined in the conservatism of Greek architecture)

## Palaces

- Population of Rome swelled to over one half million
- Most people lived in squalor, in ramshackly multi-story apartment buildings along narrow streets
- Disaster was endemic with collapsing buildings and fires
- The wealthy were protected by retainers and spared hardships
- 3 palaces give us a good look on royal expectations in the Augustan centuries
  - Domus Aurea of Nero; The Flavian Palace on the Palatine Hill and Hadrian's Villa at Tivoli outside Rome
- **Domus Aurea**
  - Was in the heart of the city (50 ha in size)
  - Had parks, lakes and buildings
  - The Domus Aurea was a country villa placed in a downtown urban setting
  - There was a statue of Nero outside the main entrance that was 35.48 m
  - Artificial lakes were created in the low lying land
  - The whole complex was built over after Nero's death probably a way of reviling his memory
  - The central dining room, an original and influential piece of architectural design
    - Was octagonal
    - There was a complicated but regular arrangement of niches alternating with the straight walls
    - Most unusual design was the revolving ceiling (which was thought to be some sort of canopy) representing the heavens

- Above the ceiling is a dome
      - The dome curves out as it descends and represents a new concept of roofing
      - The spherical dome design is seen later in the Pantheon
    - The spherical design is contradictory to the Greek architectural design where rectilinear post and lintel structure and the exterior view dominated
- **The Flavian Palace (Domus Augustiana)**
  - On the palatine hill
  - Site of Augustus's home, the house of Livia and the wattle and daub hut attributed to Romulus
  - The name of the hill often denoted the residence: the Palatium (the palace)
  - Tiberius (Augustus's successor) replaced the House of Livia with a grander residence on the north side of the hill overlooking the Forum Romanum
  - Refurbished by Flavian emperor Domitian and supplemented by a much larger palace on the south half of the hill
  - Had 2 sections
    - Public /official
      - Entry is to the North
      - There was a basilica, a rectangular hall with an apse at the south end, was roofed with a barrel vault (unusual for the period)
      - Central room served as the royal audience hall with the imperial throne placed in the apse at the south
    - private
  - Palace was multistoried
  - Had domed roofs
  - From the south end of the private sector was the imperial box which overlooked the Circus Maximus (direct access from palace to viewing stand is a design feature that will be repeated in the fourth century capital, Constantinople)
- **Hadrian's Villa at Tivoli**
  - Hadrian chose not to live on the Palatine Hill
  - Hadrian was a different emperor
    - He traveled relentlessly throughout the empire for peaceful as well as military purposes
    - The most ardent champion of Greek Culture since Augustus and Nero
    - Renewed official interest in Greek art and architecture in the capital city
  - 25km East of Rome
  - 120ha
  - Pavilions and courts, water features and gardens and substantial buildings has survived well thanks to its suburban location
  - Had interesting construction to some parts of the buildings as they include reminiscences of places Hadrian visited on his travels
  - Hadrian may have designed certain features to his building himself
  - The dome over the Canopus (the part of palace which had his reminiscences)
    - Had a half segmented dome
    - There were alternations between horizontal members and arches (Refer to textbook pg.379)
  - Piazza d'Oro a large building consisting of an octagonal vestibule ( a large porticoed court with water canal in the center) and opposite the entry a nymphaeum (fountain)
    - This room had a fountain in every corner and in the centre and a sixth broad curving fountain at the rear opposite the courtyard

## Temples

- Still relied heavily on Greek and Tuscan traditions
- The Pantheon
  - Hadrian responsible for rebuilding Pantheon
  - Temple dedicated to all gods
  - Originally built by Marcus Agrippa but later Hadrian reconstructed the whole thing
    - However, he kept Agrippa's dedicatory inscription was kept

- Turned into a Christina church
- There were brick-stamps on the bricks which represent a distinctive component of the archaeological record of imperial Rome.
- Bricks were used as building materials from Augustus to Hadrian
  - The bricks had the stamp which could tell people about the type of product; the source of the clay or the name of the brick yard; the owner of the clay source; the brick maker or the consul in office when the brick was made
    - Date of consul is especially useful for dating purposes from 110-164 AD
    - The consuls served for one year terms
- The temple has a Tuscan-Greek porch approached from a large colonnaded court and behind a circular cella covered by a hemispherical dome
  - The Porch area is made of granite, marble
  - The cella was made of concrete with brick and stone elements
  - The walls are not solid but have vaulted spaces one on top of the other
  - The vaults of bricks redirect the downward pressure toward the eight massive piers in the circle
  - The dome is made of concrete that was poured over a huge wooden frame
  - Dome decorated with coffers or squares one inside the other
  - Originally a gilded bronze rosette decorated the centre of each coffer
  - At the top is an oculus (opening to the sky)
  - There were drain holes on the floor to carry off water
  - Dome of Pantheon had great influence on post-antique architecture
  - The dome represents the triumph of human thought
- **The Temple of Venus and Roma**
  - Survives only in ground plan
  - Constructed after the Pantheon
  - Sits on a stylobate of seven steps standing free in the centre of a large platform at the east end of the Forum Romanum
  - The formal entrance to the precinct lies on the south, through a propylon in the middle of the colonnade
  - Looked Greek on the exterior
    - Rectangle surrounded by a typical Greek Peristyle
    - Inside 2 cellas
      - Western cella facing the Roman Forum for the goddess Roma (Rome), eastern for Venus
  - Made of concrete faced with brick and then covered with marble imported from Greece
  - The workmen that made it came from the Aegean
    - The foreign workmen and materials indicate a shift from the previous century, reflects the wide-ranging tastes of the well-travelled Hadrian but also indicates the increasing prominence of cities and regions outside the capital and Italy
  - Apollodorus said that the building was lying too low and if placed on a higher platform its unusual width would have had greater visual impact
    - Hadrian didn't like these comments especially since they followed earlier expressions of contempt and Hadrian had Apollodorus put to death

### Commemorative Monuments

- The Arch of Titus
  - Victory parades are often commemorated by a monumental arch
  - First of these was built in 196 BC but no longer survives
  - Monumental free-standing single arch made of stone and the curved arch framed inside a rectilinear shape
  - Built by Domitian to honor his deceased brother Titus
  - Built to commemorate the suppression of a Jewish revolt in Palestine by Vespasian and Titus
  - Relief sculptures were placed just above eye level on the inside of the arched passageway
    - Two scenes illustrate two moments in the triumphal procession held in Rome after the victory had been secured
    - Both scenes the figures march westward toward the Temple of Jupiter on the Capitoline Hill
    - One side shows the general in his chariot being pulled by four horses with spear-holding soldiers

around

- Divine and mortal connection as Roma leads the chariot
- The other scene shows the the carrying of important spoils from the Temple of Jerusalem

- **Trajan's Column**

- Offers a long continuous spiral of pictures in order to convey a similar message
- First columns carved with narrative bands that were erected in Rome and Constantinople, this column commemorates the emperor Trajan not only with the sculpted images of his victorious campaigns in Dacia but also with a bronze statue of him on top
- Trajan's ashes were kept in a golden urn in the base
- It had 17 drums on which the inside had an internal staircase
- Shows Trajan two Dacian campaigns
- Continuous band that begins at the bottom and winds a spiral to the top
- The sculptures give us a pictorial record of a military campaign unparalleled in ancient art

### **Civic Buildings**

- Vehicles for imperial largesse, important elements of propaganda for the emperors
- Best known
  - Colosseum, Trajan's Forum, market and Baths of Trajan
- Colosseum
  - Most famous amphitheater in Rome
  - Known as the Colosseum due to the colossal statue of Sol
  - The amphitheater or double theatre is an architectural type prominent in towns of Italy and the central and western parts of the empire but rarely seen in the eastern half
  - Built on top of the artificial lake of Nero's Domus Aurea
  - Used for gladiatorial games and for shows with wild animals, including hunting
  - Built of concrete with occasional brick facing
  - Seating was covered with marble
  - Exterior was 4 stories
    - First 3 floors had arches flanked by attached columns
    - Lower story had columns in the Tuscan order, Second in Ionic and third in Corinthian
    - The top story was a solid wall with Corinthian pilasters with rectangular windows between every other pair
    - Statues may have been intended to fill the arches of the second and third stories
  - Two boxes (separate entrance to each)
    - One for magistrates
    - One for the emperor
  - The arena was surfaced with wood. Below it was a complex warren of four parallel rows of cells surrounded by three annular passages, an area provided with drainage
    - At one end machinery lifted wild animals up to the arena

# Ostia

November 30, 2013 8:50 PM

- Remains of the Port of Rome
- Located at the mouth of the Tiber river
- City of commercial importance
- Began in 350 BC as a fort
  - Guarding access to the Tiber River and to Rome
  - 2 main streets crossing at right angles leading to four city gates
  - Early example of the grid plan in Italy
- Used as a military fort during Punic wars
- Ostia expanded beyond the walls of the original colony
  - Purpose: to feed the large population of Rome (imported food supplies were crucial)
  - Key port for entry of Grain (from Sicily and Egypt)
  - Old castrum (where the two main roads crossed) became the forum of the city
  - In Early empire, the mouth of the Tiber proved to be small, and the port kept filling with silt
    - As a result an artificial harbor was built 3 Km north of the Tiber mouth
      - Began in Claudius' reign and finished under Nero
      - Canal linked the port to modern Rome's airport
    - Trajan added a hexagonal harbor to Claudius's port
    - Late empire the settlement was granted status as a town separate from Ostia with the name of Portus
      - Remained under the control of Ostia

## Commercial buildings

- Portico of the Corporations
  - Ostian business centre
  - Existed under Augustan Age
  - Rectangular in shape
  - Probably had a small temple in the centre of the building dedicated to Mercury and a garden in the centre as well
  - Offices advertised their speciality in the mosaic pavement in front of their door.
    - Ex. An image of an elephant with a legend *Statio Sabratensium* signalled traders from Sabratha in Tripolitania (modern Libya) who dealt in ivory and who may even have arranged the transport of African elephants for the Colosseum
    - Business portico speaks eloquently for the cosmopolitan character of the city
  - Warehouses (Horrea Epaphroditiana and Epaphroditiana)
    - Built by freemen
    - Made of brick
    - Exterior of warehouse contained shops open to the street
    - Over 800 shops are known from Ostia
    - Inner courtyard was paved with mosaics and surrounded by arched porticoes
    - Building had 16 rooms on the ground floor
    - Stairs with separate entrances led to the upper stories, to offices and possibly an apartment for the owners
    - Some of the products housed in the warehouse were left such as huge pottery vats (100 dolia)

## Residential buildings: insulae

- Multi-story apartment buildings

- Need apartments due to big population
- Buildings made of concrete is probably attributable to the Great fire in Rome as before the great fire many of the buildings were made of wood and mud brick, cheap- and highly combustible
- After the fire:
  - Street widths specified
  - Building heights restricted to four or five storeys maximum
  - Construction materials were regulated
- However some buildings, the architectural quality and maintenance could be poor and side streets were dark, noisy and filthy
- The insulae resembled warehouses
- The exterior might include shops
- Multiple entrances into the building and into individual apartments
- Central courts, if present provided air and light, supplementing windows on the exterior
- Typical apartment was spacious
  - With corridor hall with small rooms off it dominated the plan
  - At the ends were large reception and dining rooms
  - Mosaics in geometric patterns often covered floors
- In poorer dwellings, patterns in the brick flooring sufficed
- Walls painted simply
- Utilise rooms might include a kitchen but no chimney
- Toilets were a luxury
  - Usually there were communal toilets on ground floor
- Other facilities on ground floor and are communal include
  - Running water, and in the courtyard and oven for baking
    - Easiest access to these to these were the bottom floor rooms therefore they were costlier and most desirable
- Ex. Of a Ostian insula is the House of Diana
- In the late empire 3rd century AD the population declined
  - Luxurious free standing houses of the sort seen at Pompeii made a comeback
  - Despite the general commercial decline, it served as a retreat for the wealthy Romans
    - Ex. House of Amor and Psyche of the 4th century AD exemplifies this trend
      - Luxury showed on the decoration of polychrome marble on floor and the walls
-

# Pompeii

November 30, 2013 9:30 PM

## Introduction

- First settled in sixth century BC
  - Greeks established themselves at the north end of the bay of Naples two centuries early
    - A late 6th century BC Doric temple in the Triangular Forum records their influence in early Pompeii
  - Etruscans entered the area later but in 474 BC they were expelled by the Greeks
  - 5th century BC: Pompeii was the preserve of the Samnites
  - In 290 BC Romans expanded and beat the Samnites and took control of Campania (area where Pompeii lies) but Pompeii remained ethnically Samnite
- Social War
  - Pompeii joined other Campanian cities in an uprising against the Roman domination
  - Rome won the war
  - Roman general Sulla established a veterans colony in Pompeii, with his veterans displacing local Samnite notables
  - The Romanization of the city was now complete
- During first century
  - Prospered as a commercial and farming centre
  - Chief commodities included wool, flowers and perfume and garum (prized fish sauce made of fermented sardine entrails)
- Earthquake struck in 62AD
- In 79AD, Vesuvius erupted without warning, spewing forth pumice, stone, poisonous gases, ash and mud
  - Most people escaped
  - Some people were trapped
- Salvaging and looting took place and sporadic occupation at Pompeii
- Full-scale reconstruction must have seemed an impossible task therefore ruined towns fell into oblivion

## Town Plan

- Early city in the south west
  - Had irregular streets
  - Location of the forum
  - By 4th century BC, town extended North
    - The buildings in the North are some of Pompeii's oldest remaining buildings
- In 200 BC much buildings took place (theater, baths and the portico that framed the forum)
- Arrival of Sulla's veterans stimulated a new building boom (amphitheater and the odeum)

## Forum

- Long and unusually narrow
- Porticoes or covered walkways hid most buildings behind in the typical Hellenistic fashion
- Temple of Jupiter at the North end
  - Built in the second century BC in Italic style but had Corinthian columns
    - Built on high podium
  - When Romans took over, the temple was modified to fit Juno and Minerva
- Forum was further marked by the display of statues of prominent citizens and by a prohibition on wheeled vehicles
- Variety of buildings that served as religious, civic and commercial purposes

- Connected to the forum were atleast 2 other temples besides the Capitolium
  - Temple of Apollo
  - Temple for the deified emperor Vespasian
    - He was worshiped as he contributed to the repairs of the buildings of the Earth quake
- Civic buildings occupied the south end of the forum
- The Comitium met here and so did the chief magistrates of the town, the aediles (police) and the town council
- South west lies the basilica
  - Earliest preserved example of the type anywhere, a large roofed with the higher-ceiling central part allowing for a clerestory
  - Its columns were made of baked brick but was covered with stucco in order to make it look more expensive
  - Ionic capitals were used on the lower level and Corinthian above
  - Had many functions such as law courts and business activities
- Commerce was the purpose of the remaining major buildings
- Eumachia was a guild hall for the wool processors of Pompeii
  - Eumachia was a wealthy woman who dedicated the building in the names of herself and her son
- In the extreme north east lies the macellum a complex containing the meat and fish markets and a small chapel to the imperial cult.

### Street Life

- Streets were paved with lava blocks, had sidewalks and curbs and large stepping stones at intersections to get safely over any mud or sewage
- Shops were frequent, they included thermopolia, wine shops or snack bars with big clay storage jars embedded in the counter for easy serving of the beverages
- How wine was a great favorite
- There was also a mill and bakery with stone mills
- The street walls displayed advertisements for carpenters, politicians and gladiatorial shows
- Representation of phallos are widespread and have helped identify brothels.
- Graffiti is everywhere

### Theater and Amphitheater

- Theatre district lay in the south part of the city
- Large horseshoe shaped theater was in the Greek manner against a natural slope
  - Dates older than the oldest theatre in Rome
  - Remodelled when Romans arrived
- Odeum
  - A small roofed theatre
  - This type of building became a favorite building type in Rome
    - Used for small concerts and recitals
- Behind the large theatre
  - Large square surrounded by a Doric colonnade intended as a shelter for spectators in case of rain and as a backstage area for the theatre
  - In the time of the Destruction of Pompeii the back area was converted into barracks for gladiators
  - On the east side of the colonnade many skeletons were found of people trying to escape but failed to
- Gladiatorial Shows
  - At first the games were had distinct funeral rites (Etruscan and Campanian culture)
  - Later, they became a part of public celebration and often sponsored by a wealthy person
  - Very popular
  - Reward for success of gladiators are enormous

### ○ **Amphitheatre**

- Used for the gladiatorial games
- Unusual attributes
  - Its floor lies below ground level and the seating was partially supported by earth but it was rising above ground level
- Shows were normally free
- Seating was set according to social status with important people in the best seats at the bottom, middle classes in the middle zones and the poor and perhaps most women at the top
- A riot broke out in the amphitheatre between the Pompeians and the Nuceriaans
  - Caused death
  - Led to the banning of gladiatorial shows for 10 years

### **Baths**

- Pompeii had 4 large public bath complexes and many smaller ones
- Not only for cleaning but were social centres
  - Allowed for exercise, relaxation, food and attending cultural events and met friends and business associates
- Men and women were separated
  - Different hours
  - Different buildings
  - Different days
- Origin of baths are disputed (Greek or Roman)
- Stabian Baths
  - Built in the second century BC but has been remodelled
  - Plan is irregular
  - Rooms include
    - Tepidarium
    - Apodyterium
    - Laconicum
    - Caldarium
    - Frigidarium
  - Had a large open air swimming pool - natatio
  - Court for exercise palaestra, smaller rooms and a latrine
  - Heating was done by portable braziers in the early baths
  - Later baths a hypocaust system was installed by Romans
  - Slaves operated the furnaces and kept the premises clean
  - Food was offered to the citizens using the baths
- The baths depended on the aqueducts bringing large quantities of water; maintaining the aqueducts necessitated in turn economic and political stability
  - The system fell apart in the middle ages
- Western Europe - bath culture ended
- Eastern Europe - bath culture still exists

### **Houses**

- Many private houses of high ranking at Pompeii
- Italic houses (features atriums)
  - Atrium houses are prominent in Pompeii as town houses and not apartments and not free standing villas surrounded by gardens
- Extend right to the streets with shops lining the street side of many and they share walls with adjacent houses
- Construction of these buildings is of rubble and stone faced with concrete, plastered and on interior surfaces often decorated

- Two types of Atrium houses dominated
  - Tuscan
    - House of surgeon
      - Has a Tuscan atrium at its core
      - Absences of columns around the basin which collects water for the water tank
      - Room that opens to the sky upon entering the building (compluvium)
        - ◆ Lets in light
        - ◆ Has the basin in the area
        - ◆ Very warm in the summer
        - ◆ But chilly in the colder season
        - ◆ Off the atrium are small rooms used as bedrooms, two wings in which bust portraits of ancestors and at the rear the most important rooms, dining room and the main reception room
          - ◇ Here is where the family formally greet guests
      - Was odd shaped
        - ◆ Unusually trapezoidal shape of the garden represents the shape of house
        - ◆ The kitchen also occupies a curiously shaped corner
        - ◆ In these houses kitchens were small and squeezed in wherever possible
  - Tetrastyle
- Largest house in Pompeii was the House of the Faun
  - 3 parts
    - Public quarters
      - Tuscan atrium
    - Private quarters
      - Tetrastyle atrium
    - Peristyle gardens
      - Between two peristyle, there was the room exedra
        - ◆ This room was decorated with the Alexander mosaic
- House of Vetti
  - Plan of house was compact but complex
  - House decorated with architectural scenes of the last style of Pompeian wall paintings

### Wall Paintings and the Villa of Mysteries

- Eruption of Vesuvius preserved hundreds of wall paintings in Pompeii
- Contains paintings from late republic and Early Empire
- 4 styles
  - Style originates in the Greek East
    - Easy to pick out
    - Depicts well cut stone masonry and figures absent
    - Appears in the early second century BC
  - Alexandria
    - Around 90BC
    - Introduces architecture and the illusion of 3d space
    - Theatrical scenery and architectural backdrops of stages influenced the development of this style
    - Villa of Mysteries outside Pompeii figure enact a dramatic cult ceremony in front of only a minimal architectural backdrop
  - Ornamental style
  - Fourth style
- Villa of Mysteries
  - Country side
  - Large estate

- Combined living quarters with rooms devoted to farm activities
- Agricultural installations were added right in the middle as if the villa had become strictly a business centre (occurred in the final years of Pompeii)
- **Named after the paintings of Dionysiac Mysteries**
  - The paintings decorate a modestly sized room
  - The scenes unfold in a continuous narrative like a comic strip with figures realistically depicted in the finest Hellenistic Roman manner
  - None of the figures are labeled and surviving texts say nothing about the scenes
  - The precise meaning of the images and their presence in this country villa remain unexplained
- The third style of wall painting (Ornamental)
  - Downplays architecture and instead emphasizes 2D framed spaces sometimes with small panels inserted in the large fields as if they were paintings hung separately on the walls
  - Frames can be highly decorative
  - Style appears in Rome during the reign of Augustus and continued to be in use until the Earthquake at Pompeii in 79 AD
- Fourth style
  - Used in the final years
  - Combines characteristics of two previous styles
    - Features large paintings of 3D architecture and figures set inside complex frames
  - Prominent in the house of the Vetti