



# AUGUST - 2023

PRESERVATION ♦ EDUCATION ♦ RESEARCH ♦ INSPIRE

Dear Member:

We are enjoying our summer, traveling, spending time with family and friends. The Fall & Spring calendars are coming together nicely. We have lectures on the Cape Canaveral field school, Bioarchaeology, Cuban Fish Rancheros, the Key Marco Cat and Human Origins so far. If you have any lecture ideas or other things on your mind, drop me a line. See you on September 20.

Darwin "Smitty" Smith, President  
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## *Archaeologists You Should Know* **Sir Max Edgar Lucien Mallowan** *Ancient Middle Eastern Excavator & Educator*

By Smitty, Time Sifters Board Member. Sources: Wikipedia, Encyclopedia Britannica.



**Sir Max Edgar Lucien Mallowan** was born May 6, 1904, in Wandsworth, London, England. His parents were Frederick Mallowan and

Marguerite Duvivier. He was educated at *Rokeby School* and *Lancing College* and studied classics at *New College, Oxford*. After receiving a degree in classics at New College, Oxford, he began his long career as a field archaeologist.

He first worked as an apprentice to **Leonard Woolley** at the archaeological site of *Ur* (1925-1931). It was at the *Ur* site, in 1930 that he first met **Agatha Christie**, the famous author, whom he married the same year. In 1932, after a short time working at *Nineveh* with **Reginald Campbell Thompson**, Mallowan became a field director for a series of expeditions jointly run by the British



Museum and the British School of Archaeology in Iraq.

Those excavations included the prehistoric village at **Tell Arpachiyah**, and the sites at **Chagar Bazar** and **Tell Brak** in the Upper Khabur area (Syria). He was also the first to excavate archaeological sites in the *Balikh Valley*, to the west of the

Khabur basin and continued

**A. H. Layard's** work at *Nimrūd* (1949-58).

During WWII he served in the RAF as a Wing Commander resigning his commission in February 1954.



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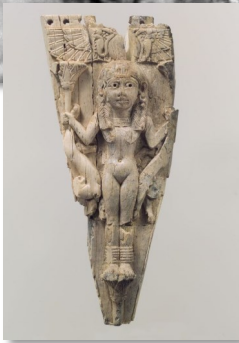
## Mallowan ...

After WWII he continued his academic career publishing the results of the expeditions he lead. These publications included "Early Mesopotamia and

president and directed the resumption of its work at Nimrud and published his findings in "Nimrud and Its Remains" a 3 volume set (1966).

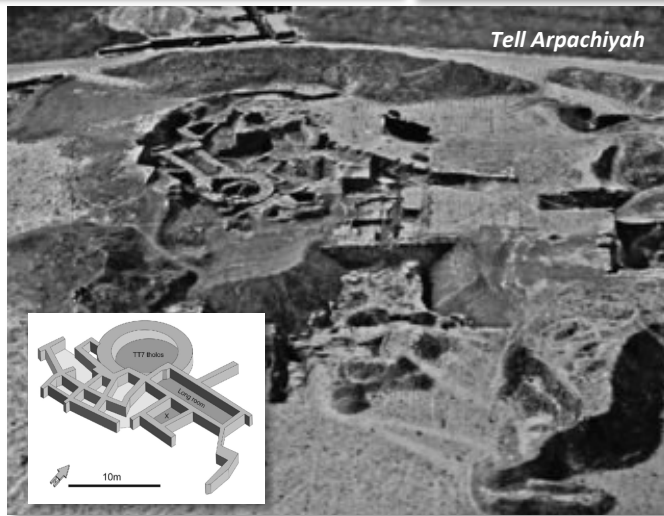
He was also professor and emeritus professor of western Asiatic archaeology at the

University of London; vice president of the British Academy; president of the British Institute of Persian Studies; and a trustee of the British Museum.



Iran" (1965), "Elamite Problems" (1969). He also contributed (1967-68) to the "Cambridge Ancient History" and edited (1948-65) the Penguin series on the Near East and western Asia.

At the British School of Archaeology, Baghdad, Mallowan served as director, chairman, and



Mallowan was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 1960 Queen's Birthday Honors and knighted in 1968. He and Dame Agatha Christie were among a number of married couples each of whom held knightly honors in their own right.

He died on August 19, 1978, aged 74, in Wallingford, Oxfordshire, and was buried alongside his first wife, Dame Agatha Christie, in the churchyard of St Mary, Cholsey, Oxfordshire, England.

Photos: Wikipedia, Pinterest, Flickr, researchgate.net,

# Field School - Florida Style

## Excavating the Indigenous Town of Sarabay

By Victoria Hayes, University of North Florida

The University of North Florida (UNF) just completed its 4th consecutive field school at the Armellino site in Big Talbot Island State Park (Jacksonville). Archaeological and documentary evidence point to this site as the location of *Sarabay*, a 16th century Timucua-speaking Mocama town.

Led by **Dr. Keith Ashley**, UNF undergraduate students have unearthed subsurface pits, hearths, and other unique features, suggesting a large Indigenous building 18-20 meters in diameter. This year's collection of artifacts include various types of Indigenous pottery along with Spanish majolica (tableware), olive jar, and a gold gilded glass bead. We also recovered our first religious medal (bronze) depicting an unknown female saint.



Photos: University of North Florida

# A Complete Shang-Dynasty Town Unearthed

by Smitty, Time Sifters Board Member. Sources: Archaeology Magazine and Live Science.

July 5, 2023, Shaanxi Province, China.

Traces of a Bronze Age town covering more than a square mile and a cemetery containing aristocratic tombs have been discovered at the Zhaigou archaeology site in northern China's Shaanxi Province. The site is one of the largest ever discovered dating from China's early Shang Dynasty.

Archaeologists have now recovered hundreds of astonishing artifacts — including bronze drinking vessels, painted pottery, ornaments inlaid with turquoise and carved pieces of jade — at the site, about 70 miles south of the modern city of Yulin in Shaanxi province. Bronze pieces of horse chariots and horse remains have also been recovered from some of the tombs.

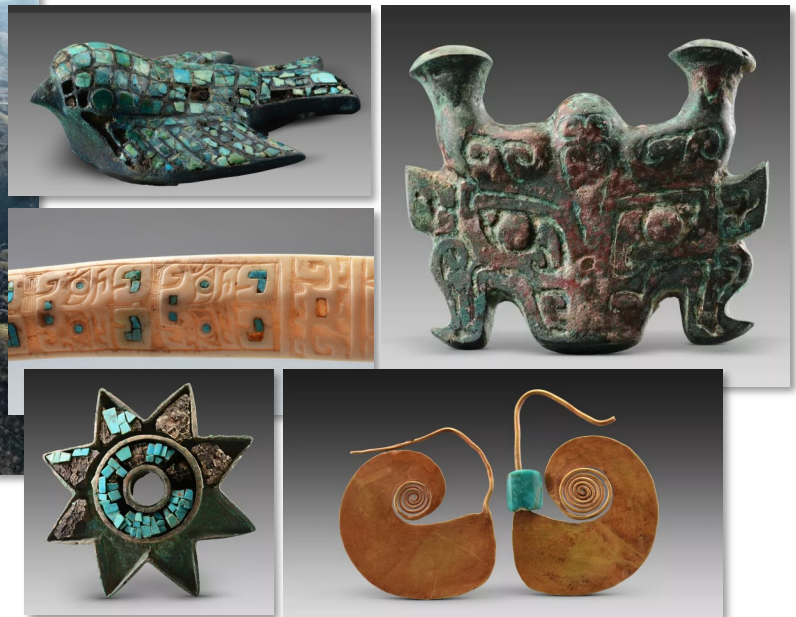
The relics, dating from more

than 3,000 years ago, were made during the Shang Dynasty, which ruled northern China from about 1600 BCE to 1046 BCE.

Shaanxi along with neighboring Henan and Shanxi, make up the so-called "cradle" of ancient Chinese civilization in the Yellow River basin; and the Shang Dynasty is the earliest for which there is archaeological evidence, although the Xia Dynasty is said to have preceded it between 2070 BCE and 1600 BCE. Experts said that local people had been unearthing ancient artifacts on their farmland since the 1940s, but their origins were unknown. Excavations at the Zhaigou site



started in June 2022, and now has spread over 11 hills and covering more than 1.2 square miles.



Photos: National Cultural Heritage Administration, Shaanxi Academy of Archaeology, and Chinahighlights.com.

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