



NOVEMBER-2020

PRESERVATION ♦ EDUCATION ♦ RESEARCH ♦ INSPIRE

Dear Member:

We have decided that the entire Fall season will be presented on ZOOM. The Selby Library is unavailable for large groups and we agree that for safety reasons we should present our lectures on ZOOM. Our November lecture, “**Bioarchaeology of Medieval Transylvania**”, is by Dr. Jonathan Bethard, Assistant Professor at USF. A short description follows this letter.

We have added the **Herald Tribune Newspaper** to our **In-Depth Series** team that also includes **ACE** (Adult & Community Enrichment).

On **January 28 & 29 of 2021** we will be presenting via ZOOM “**USS Monitor & the Navies of the Civil War**”. The four part series will start at 9:30 am and finish by noon, with two, one hour presentations each day. We will have more information about registration soon.

Thank you for being a Time Sifters member.

Darwin “Smitty” Smith, President hmsbeagle22@gmail.com

November 18 - at 6:00 PM - ZOOM.



Bioarchaeology of Medieval Transylvania

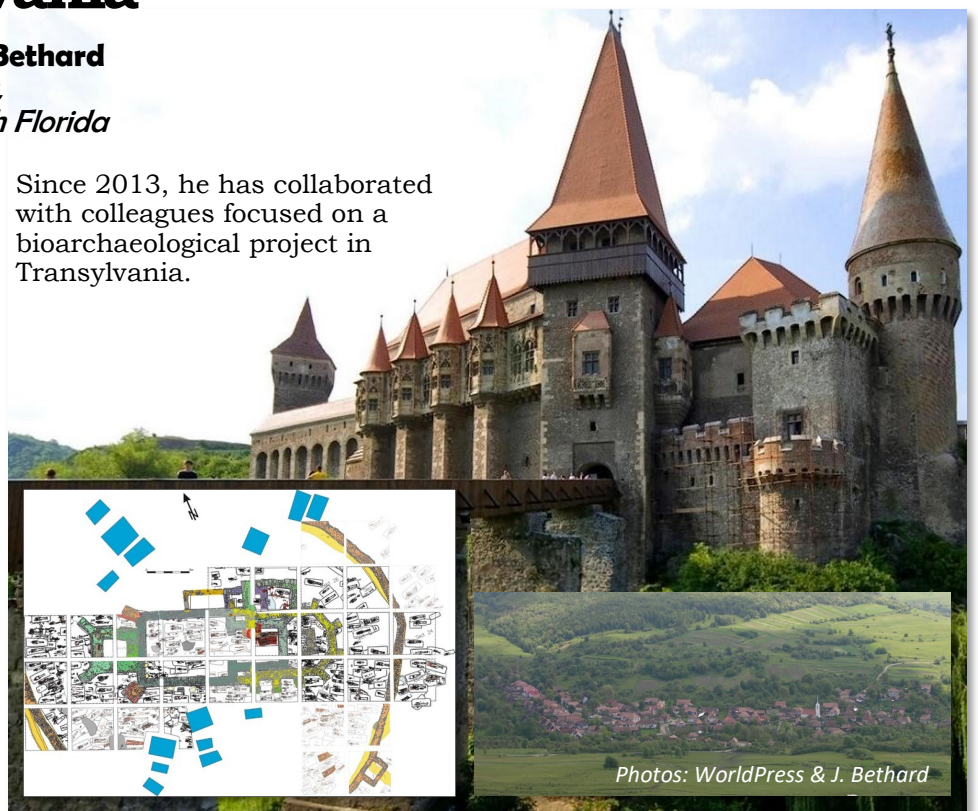
Dr. Jonathan D. Bethard
*Assistant Professor,
University of South Florida*

Studying People from Medieval Transylvania: Perspectives from Bioarchaeology

In studying the past, there is no better source of information than people themselves. Bioarchaeologists utilize tools from archaeology and biological anthropology to investigate the past in countless places around the world. In this presentation, on-going bioarchaeological research will be discussed that has helped shed light on people who lived in the Transylvanian region of Europe during the medieval period.

Jonathan Bethard is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of South Florida. He is a bioarchaeologist and a board-certified forensic anthropologist.

Since 2013, he has collaborated with colleagues focused on a bioarchaeological project in Transylvania.



Photos: WorldPress & J. Bethard

UNESCO World Heritage Sites

#87 - Karnak, Egypt

by: Dr. Steven Derfler, Time Sifters Member

Founded in 1975, UNESCO's World Heritage mission is to: Encourage countries to sign the World Heritage Convention and to ensure the protection of their natural and cultural heritage; Encourage States Parties to the Convention to nominate sites within their national territory for inclusion on the World Heritage List; Encourage States Parties to establish management plans and set up reporting systems on the state of conservation of their World Heritage sites.

The area of ancient Thebes (modern Luxor) was incorporated into the World Heritage Site map in 1979 as site #87. The two great temples - **Luxor and Karnak** - and **the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens** are among the great achievements of ancient Egypt. In this installment, we'll only cover **Karnak**. It is the world's largest open-air museum; 1.5 x 1.2 miles in size. It took over 500 years to build.

The New Kingdom, when "Egypt Ruled the East", spanned

a period of 1550-1070 BCE. Its capital was moved to Thebes (modern Luxor) and tremendous building activity was undertaken.

The monumental architecture of the day was the temple. The temple complex consisted of a series of architectural features. **1) A Causeway and Avenue of Sphinxes** - where royal barges would disembark their passengers. **2) A Pylon** - a gateway complex that would include festival banners. **3) A Courtyard**, open to the air, surrounded by a peristyle colonnade **4) A Hypostyle Hall** - a veritable forest of columns. **5) Small chapels and storerooms** - dedicated to the deities **6) An Inner Shrine** - or Holy of Holies dedicated to the principal deity. **7) Sacred Lake** - for priestly ablutions. After the First Pylon (gate), which was the last to be built, a magnificent open air courtyard measured 103 x 84m. The north and south sides have a peristyle with papyrus bundle columns.

Next came **the Great Hypostyle Hall of Seti I, with additions by Ramses II**. It is just beyond the 2nd Pylon. This magnificent hall is

102 x 53m. Both St. Peter's in Rome and St. Paul's in London could fit in it! There are 134 columns. Rising over 23 m, the bases are nearly 3m diameter; and the columns themselves 2m diameter.

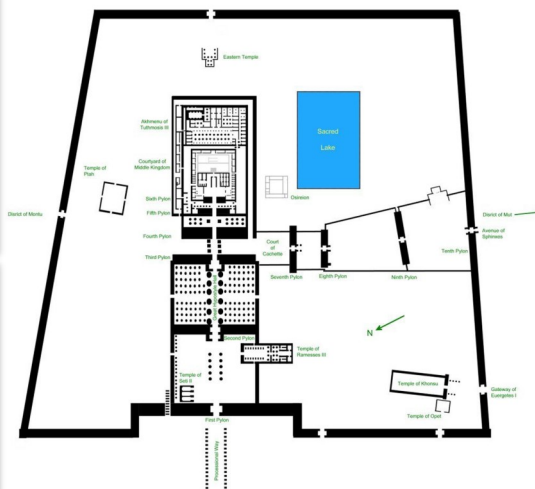
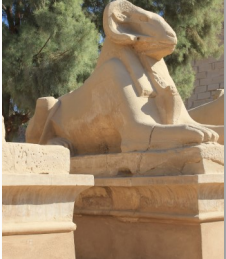
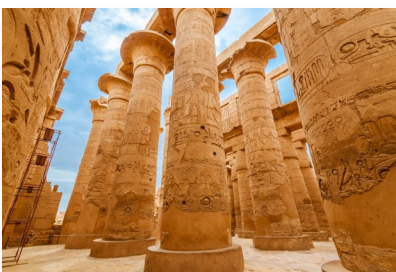
The interior of the central temple complex is a jumble of small shrines and sanctuaries. As the complex grew, and space became at a premium, the pharaohs built towards the south.

Between the 3rd-4th Pylons there originally were four obelisks on bases; two ascribed to Hatshepsut. Of the two remaining, the tallest "skewer" is 29m high. They were considered to be "petrified rays of the sun". So, how long would it have taken to create an obelisk. According to records, it took Hatshepsut 7 ½ months to have her two obelisks at Karnak cut and moved downstream from the quarry at Aswan.

The main small chapel, **the Holy of Holies**, dates to Hatshepsut and Thutmose III. Inside is a granite altar. To the rear is the sanctuary of Thutmose III. Adorning the outer wall is the famous city-list of Thutmose - mentioning the cities conquered. Inside the sanctuary, running around the interior lintel, is the famous Megiddo Inscription of Thutmose III - "*The capturing of Megiddo is the capturing 1000 towns.*" (1468 BCE)

Finally, a 200 x 117 m. **Sacred Lake** was used for priestly ablutions and ritual purification of sacrificial animals.

Today, excavations are still being carried out on the south side, near the 8th - 10th Pylons.



Photos: Blue Heaven Travel; S. Derfler; Smitty; Planetware; Oriental Tours; S. Derfler.

Notes from a Time Sifter

An Idea born 2,500 years ago.

By Evelyn Mangie Time Sifters Board Member

In 509 BCE, the citizens of the small city-state of Rome overthrew its monarchy and created a new government, a republic. The power once held by a king was transferred to a representative assembly (a **senate**) to work with elected magistrates (**consuls**) to make laws and maintain the army.

They added judges (**praetors**) who supervised the courts, and **censors** to count the population. This system was designed to allow citizens to have a voice in their government, and to keep any person from becoming too powerful. It took a while to develop but eventually it turned into a system that was so successful that it endured there (with adjustments) **for nearly 500 years**. This simple government was so admired that even after the Republic fell in 27 BCE, the dictatorial Roman Emperors pretended that it was still a republic as they spread their Empire into Europe and across the Mediterranean.

Christianity was born in the 1st century CE as a faith of the oppressed during the Empire's occupation of the Levant. The Romans adopted Christianity in the 4th century CE, organized it and made it a Roman institution that mirrored their government. They

gave its activities and officials the same names as those given to similar government entities.

The Church's officials are **bishops** (English translation of the Latin *episcopus*, Roman/Greek government official). The highest bishop was given the name of the highest Roman religious official, the **Pontiff**, (from Etruscan/Latin *pontifex*= bridge maker), who is also called pope (Greek/Latin for

father, patriarch). The pope's assistants are called **the Curia** (the Republic's senate house), the priests are called **clerics** (from Greek/Latin *klqros* meaning "priest") and the Christian assembly was an **Ecclesia** (Greek/Latin *ekklesia* meaning "those called out"). It became a Roman Church with Roman organization and it spread across the huge Roman empire. It was **catholic** (from Latin *katholikos* meaning universal).

When Rome fell to the various barbarian tribes in the late 5th century CE, the Roman emperor was eliminated, and its government collapsed. That might have ended the Republic ideal, but the local Christians were still served by the Church that remained as the lone survivor of that Roman government. The invading barbarians mingled with the locals and formed small chiefdoms that had no need for a big organized government. However, the settlements soon merged into larger kingdoms (Merovingians, Carolingians, etc.), and the only model for organized authority was the Roman Church.

Through the Dark Ages, the leaders of the Christian kingdoms mingled the secular with the religious

and struggled to be the strongest.

Charlemagne was the most successful when in 800 CE, he gained control over several European kingdoms. He legitimized his power by having the pope crown him as **king of a "Holy" Roman Empire**. Medieval Russian kings boasted that they were the real successors of the Roman Empire by claiming that **Moscow was the "third Rome"** (Constantinople was the 2nd,), and their kings took Caesar's name, Russianized as **"tsar"**. The German emperor called himself **Kaiser** (Caesar) and Napoleon Bonaparte referred to himself as **Consul**. The new United States continued the link to the Roman Republic. They divorced it from the religious bent, adjusted words to fit American/English speakers and created a government with an elected assembly (**the Senate**) added the House, (**the plebians**) and an executive branch (**a consul** called a "president" from Latin *praesidens*, to sit in front of). They added a Judicial branch (**the praetors**), and instructions for counting the residents (the **censors**).

After 2,500 years the Roman Republic ideal lives on.



Photos: Wikipedia

What's is it?

Can You Help Solve this Artifact Mystery?

Sometimes, identifying an artifact and its probable use involves alternating research and speculation. This knotted and linked wire is a mystery. We have found multiple lengths of it at the Manatee Mineral Spring site. It is made out of differing wire gauges and the various links are of differing lengths. The knots are all the same. Any ideas? We'd love to hear them!

email ssvekis@gmail.com.



New College Public Archaeology Lab Videos Celebrating the Underground Railroad

With so many lectures and in-person events canceled, it's a good time to remember that so much good information, lectures, and discussions are available online. Dr. Uzi Baram, Director of the New College Public Archaeology Laboratory in Sarasota, continues to document the freedom seekers who founded a community on the Manatee River in the early 1800s, which was attacked and destroyed in 1821 by allies of Andrew Jackson. The survivors of this raid escaped to Andros Island in the Bahamas where their descendants live today. Please see the links below. Dr. Baram has been excavating this site for 15 years.



Tragedy and Survival: The Southward Movement of Florida Maroons

A short introduction.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXORI_imu5E



Tea & Trowels: Ep 34 What kind of ancestor do you want to be?

Dr. Baram's personal take on his career and his work documenting Angola.

https://youtu.be/6im_tsj3UzA



Commemorating Angola 2020: International Underground Railroad Month

A visit to the lab, the ongoing process of analyzing the artifacts from January's excavations, and the meaning of Angola within the larger struggle for Civil Rights.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tsroyYmVHXU>

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