



# AUGUST-2021

PRESERVATION ♦ EDUCATION ♦ RESEARCH ♦ INSPIRE

Dear Member:

The 2021/2022 Season brings a new Board & Officers. See page 4 for their photos and titles. The only change to the previous Board is that we must say goodbye to Don Nelson, who like most volunteers is over committed. We want to thank him for his work, ideas and service.

The 2021/2022 season is coming together really nicely and we look forward to **September 15** for our first lecture - **"The Horror of the Trenches: WWI Trench Warfare & the Flanders Peace Field Project"** presented by Dan Stephens. We follow on **October 20** with some forgotten Florida history **"Checking Into Sarasota's Past: Yesterday's Lodging"** by Jeff La Hurd. On **November 17** we are honored to have the City of Alexandria's Archaeologist Dr. Eleanor Breen talk to us about her work on the waterfront of the Colonial City of Alexandria VA. The topic is **"Archaeology at the River's Edge"**.

Please go to our website for the complete Calendar ([www.timesifters.org](http://www.timesifters.org)).

Thank you for being a Time Sifters member.

Darwin "Smitty" Smith, President

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## *In Memoriam*

### **William Korp**

*Time Sifters President 2005—2009*

Time Sifters Archaeology Society is sorry to announce the death of a long time supporter and board member, Mr. William Korp. Bill and his wife, Kate, joined Time Sifters in 1997. He joined the board as Vice President in 2000, served as President from 2005-2009, and then as Vice President again until 2013. His commitment to Time Sifters was a key factor in the society's continuance during some lean years of transition after many of its founding members retired from board leadership.

Bill and Kate were deeply committed to learning about the human story through archaeology and anthropology. Bill



had interesting questions for our speakers and enjoyed taking them to dinner for further conversation. He and Kate traveled to archaeological sites around the world, including with their children

to Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania, the paleoanthropological site that has been invaluable in furthering understanding of early human evolution. Their travels also made them true ringers playing archaeological themed games at Time Sifters' holiday parties. Whether it was identifying a picture of an archaeological site, a description of an excavation, or a poor play-doh facsimile of an ancient sculpture, Bill was usually the first to shout out an answer. Time Sifters owes him a debt of gratitude, and we will miss his presence when we return to meeting again. RIP Bill.

# Archaeologists You Should Know

## Charles Frank Wandesforde Higham

### Angkor Civilization in Cambodia

By Smitty, Time Sifters Board Member. **Sources:** Wikipedia; Archaeology Magazine; World Heritage Encyclopedia Edition and Good Reads.



**Charles F. W. Higham** was born in London, England on January 1, 1939. He is a New Zealand archaeologist most noted for his work in Southeast Asia.

Among his noted contributions to archaeology are his work (including several documentaries) about the Angkor civilization in Cambodia and his current work in Northeast Thailand. He is a research professor at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand.

He was educated in London where he developed an interest in archaeology while at school. He spent two years at the



Photos: World Archaeology

Institute of Archaeology, London University. His teachers included **Sir Max Mallowan, Sheppard Frere, and Dame Kathleen Kenyon.** During his time at the Institute, he excavated at **the Roman city of Verulamium** and the

Iron Age site of **Camp du Charlat**

in France. In 1959, he went to St. Catharine's College,

Cambridge to pursue his doctorate. He played rugby for Cambridge University and for Bedford, Eastern Counties and tried out for the England team in 1963-64. In

1966 he was awarded his doctorate. In 1964, he married **Polly Askew.** They have two sons and two daughters.

He and his family moved to New Zealand in 1966 when he accepted a position at the University of Otago. In 1969, he began his fieldwork in Thailand with excavations in **Roi Et and Khon Kaen Provinces.** He joined **Chester Gorman** between 1972 and 1975 for excavations at **Ban Chiang, Pang Mapha District's Banyan Valley Cave,** and has subsequently excavated the sites of **Ban Na Di (1981-82), Khok Phanom Di (1984-85), Nong Nor (1989-92), Ban Lum Khao (1995-96), Noen U-Loke**

Continued on page 4 ...



Photos: briegull.com; Ban-Chiang Archaeological Project; Wikipedia; Research gate; World Archaeology.



# UNESCO World Heritage Sites

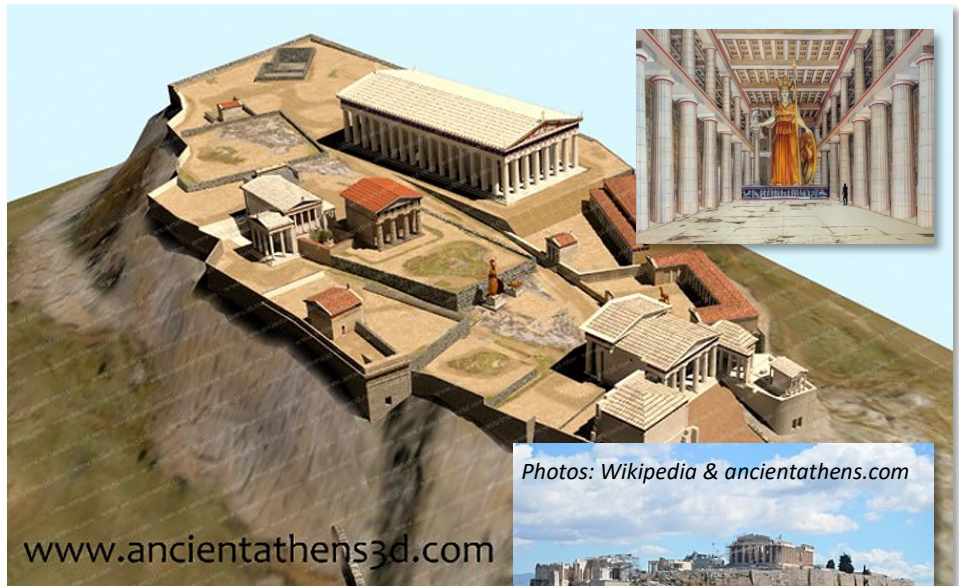
## #404 - Acropolis, Athens, Greece

by: Dr. Steve Derfler, former Time Sifters Board Member. Sources; Educational Resources & World Heritage Site

**The Acropolis of Athens** and its monuments are universal symbols of the classical spirit and civilization and form the greatest architectural and artistic complex bequeathed by Greek Antiquity to the world. In the second half of the fifth century BCE, Athens, following the victory against the Persians and the establishment of democracy, took a leading position amongst the other city-states of the ancient world. In the age that followed, as thought and art flourished, an exceptional group of artists put into effect the ambitious plans of Athenian statesman **Pericles** and, under the inspired guidance of **the sculptor Pheidias**, transformed the rocky hill into a unique monument of thought and the arts. The most important monuments were built during that time: **the Parthenon, built by Ictinus, the Erechtheon, the Propylaea, the monumental entrance to the Acropolis, designed by Mnesicles and the small temple Athena Nike.** The city of Athens and its Acropolis were **inscribed in 1987 as site #404.**

During Pericles Golden Age (middle 5th BCE), ancient Greek civilization was represented in an ideal way here and architectural masterpieces of the period were erected on its ground.

The monumental gateway to the Acropolis, **the Propylaea**, is the main entrance to the complex. It comprises a central building and two lateral wings. The colonnades along the west and east sides had a row of Doric columns while two rows of Ionic columns divided the central corridor into three parts. **The Parthenon** is the most



Photos: Wikipedia & ancientathens.com



important and characteristic monument of the

ancient Greek civilization. It is peripteral, with eight columns on each of the narrow sides and 17 on each of the long ones. Of the Doric style, it measures 117 x 237 ft. The central interior, **the Cella**, must have been frightening in its day - as petitioners were dazzled in the dark by **the 45 foot tall statue of Athena**, gold overlay reflecting the warm, buttery light of a 100 oil lamps. How did it get destroyed? As part of the Morean War (1684-1699), the Venetians attacked Athens and captured the Acropolis. The Ottoman Turks had fortified the Acropolis and used the Parthenon as a gunpowder magazine. A Venetian mortar round blew up the magazine, and the building was partly destroyed. Over 300 were killed.

**The Erechthion** is a split-level Ionic temple with four levels. It was named

such as it was thought that the mythical King Erechtheus was buried here. **The Panathenaic Procession** always ended at the eastern naos. It has a prothesis on the east side, a monumental propylon on the north. Most archaeologists assume that there was to originally be a "west wing" with prothesis to give geometric and aesthetic balance to the building. It was damaged, perhaps even before it was finished, by a major fire. It was built by Mnesicles 421-405 BCE.

On the south side is **the Caryatid Porch**, whose statues were sculpted by Phidias.

**The Ionic Temple** is dedicated to Athena Nike, 427 BCE, by the architect Kallikrates. Nike means "Victory" in Greek, and Athena was worshiped in this form, as goddess of wisdom.

The Acropolis Museum opened to the public June 2009, at the foot of the Acropolis, it is a glass and steel structure with many sculptures and fantastic views of the Acropolis.

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## Charles F. W. Higham ...

(1999-2000), **Ban Non Wat** (2002-07) and **Non Ban Jak** (2011-17).

Since 1969 he has set his sights on filling in what he calls "the *tabula rasa*" of Southeast Asian prehistory by probing how its hunter-gatherers became farmers, its farmers became metalworkers, and its village elders became kings. His discoveries and books have illuminated a culture that stretches back 30,000 years.

His research at the Bronze Age sites of **Ban Non Wat** has shown that the initial Bronze Age began in the 11th century BCE in Southeast Asia. He has re-dated the site of **Ban Chiang**, showing that bronze

casting also began in the 11th century BCE. His current research involves excavations at the Iron Age site of **Non Ban Jak** where he has identified, for the first time in Thailand, an area comprising the residential quarter of an Iron Age town, complete with houses, a lane, an iron working area and several ceramic kilns. In 2018, he was a co-author of a publication on ancient human prehistoric DNA from several sites in Southeast Asia. The result identified a series of population movements beginning with the arrival of anatomically modern humans over 50,000 years ago and evolving at a later date to the expansion of rice farmers from the Yangtze

Valley.

Because of his work, Higham has been awarded many honors including: he is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London; a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy; an Honorary Fellow of St. Catharine's College Cambridge; a former Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge; and a Fellow of the Royal Society of New Zealand. He was awarded the Grahame Clark Medal of distinguished research in archaeology by the British Academy. He was awarded the Mason Durie medal by the Royal Society of New Zealand in 2014. In the 2016 New Year Honors, Higham was appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to archaeology.

Higham lives with his family in Dunedin, New Zealand.



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