



SEPTEMBER - 2024

PRESERVATION ♦ EDUCATION ♦ RESEARCH ♦ INSPIRE

Dear Member:

Welcome to the 2024 – 2025 Fall Season. We start this month with “Hittite Rock Monuments” presented by Atakan Atabas of the University of Central Florida (UCF). He has spent his summer in Turkey excavating a Hittite village.

The 2024 - 2025 Season (page 4) continues in October with “Anthropology of Vampires and Zombies”, followed in November with “The Heritage All Around Us”. January starts the new year with “The Year in Review”. Please join us for coffee, cookies and powerful lectures.

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

Caesarea Maritima, Israel - 10CE—2020 CE.



September 18 - at 5:45 PM at the Selby Library in downtown Sarasota



"Hittite Rock Monuments: Their Relationship with Landscape in Central Anatolia "

Atakan Atabas
*Ph.D Student of Anthropology,
University of Central Florida*

The Hittites, an ancient Anatolian civilization with their capital at Hattusa, located in present-day Çorum, Türkiye, reached the zenith of their territorial expansion around the 14th century BCE. Towards the end of the Late Bronze Age, the Hittites constructed numerous rock monuments within their domain. These monuments were strategically situated near springs, mountain passes, rivers, valleys, and other prominent landscape features. This presentation will provide a phenomenological analysis of four central Anatolian Hittite rock monuments – **Fraktin**, **İmamkulu**, **Taşçı**, and Hanyeri. The discussion will focus on their interrelationships and their connections to the surrounding landscape, as revealed through computer-aided systems analysis. Atakan is a doctoral student in the

Anthropology Dept. at the UCF. He has earned a master’s degree in Classical Archaeology from FSU and a master's degree in Art History from the University of Illinois. His primary academic focus revolves around Bronze and Iron Age Anatolian Art and Archaeology. Currently, his scholarly pursuits involve the integration of artificial intelligence within the field of archaeology, specifically in the assessment of ancient architecture and the analysis of spatial usage at the Iron Age site of Kerkenes.



Photos: dreamstime.com; Atakan Atabas

Notes from a Time Sifter

Capital Punishment

By Evelyn Mangie, Time Sifters Board Member.

Crime is defined by the Oxford English Dictionary as “an action or omission which constitutes an offence and is punishable by law.” It has always been a part of civilization, and societies decided on their own moral values to determine whether the crime should be punished by death.

Early nomadic tribal communities expelled criminals, which was certain death because humans cannot survive alone. Other methods of capital punishment were beheading, hanging, boiling, burning at the stake, throwing the criminal under an elephant’s feet, and **drawing and quartering (being torn apart)**.

The first written laws requiring capital punishment come from the ancient Sumerians (ca. 2100-2050 BCE) in **the Code of Ur Nammu**.

Written in cuneiform, they cover a variety of crimes that were punishable by death such as murder, robbery, kidnapping, and having sex with another man’s virgin wife. Hammurabi in the 18th century BCE listed twenty-five capital crimes, but the upper classes were less likely to be executed than peasants or slaves.

The first recorded death sentence comes from **16th century BCE Egypt when a member of the nobility was forced to kill himself for his crime**. The criminal’s family was also executed.

The ancient Greeks generally punished capital crimes by stoning or beheading. When Draco was elected judge in Athens in 622

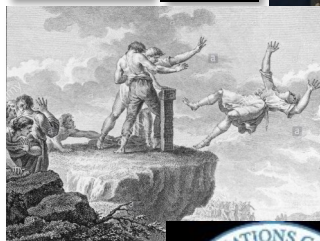
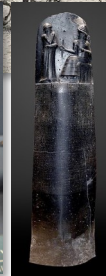
BCE, he established a legal code giving the death penalty for almost any crime, even for stealing food. Solon repealed those laws in 594 BCE and exiled Draco, but capital punishment remained for

insulting someone, cheating, perjury, or cutting someone’s crops. The Law of the Twelve Tablets specifically stated, **“Anyone convicted of speaking false witness is to be thrown from the Tarpeian Rock,”** an 80-foot cliff on the southern side of the Capitoline Hill. Other death sentences were carried out by crucifixion, drowning, beating to death, burning or burying alive, beheading, boiling in oil, flaying, disembowelment, impalement (Nero’s favorite), hanging, stoning, strangling, and **being thrown to wild animals in the Colosseum**.

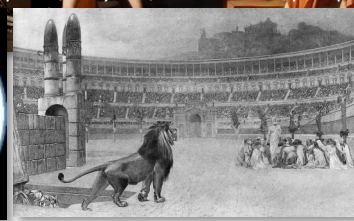
Ancient Chinese Laws (18th century BCE) established horrific death penalties by strangulation, beheading, waist chopping (slicing the criminal in half at the waist), or slowly removing parts of the body. Family members of the criminal were often punished in the same way. The Chinese

have used the death penalty even for non-violent crimes like bribery and embezzlement. China still executes more people than the rest of the world combined.

Capital punishment continued until the 19th century when people began to oppose it. By the end of WWII, many western nations, weary of so much killing, encouraged the United Nations to adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that called for a global moratorium on executions, hoping to eventually abolish it. More than half of the world’s countries have done that, but it is still legal in the



Photos: Etsy, World History, geogedifhs.blogspot, Wikipedia, DailyMail; United Nations, pantip.com.



major crimes like murder. They also considered impiety (“failing to acknowledge the gods that the city acknowledges”) as a major crime, and **in 399 BCE, they sentenced Socrates to death** for corrupting the youth with his philosophy. He was given poisonous hemlock, which paralyzed him and eventually stopped his heart.

Romans executed people for murder, treason, robbery, arson, adultery, and libel. Peasants and slaves were executed for defaming or

Cornelia Futor Memorial Student Research Grant

Clovis to Cowpokes: Wyoming Field School Report.

By Sofia Arias, Grant Winner



Attending this field school offered by the *University of Wyoming* included a lot of first times for me, such as my

first time visiting out West and my first-time camping. As these were all very exciting milestones to accomplish, I was very nervous being born and raised in Florida without a mountain in sight and having to acclimate to the 7,000 ft elevation for over a month while doing intense fieldwork. Now I am even more confident that archaeology is my passion. I am grateful to have been given this opportunity and to receive this grant from the Time Sifters as it has helped me tremendously in pursuing my goals.

The first field session was at *Willow Springs*, a Late Prehistoric campsite with a brief historic occupation. It was a great area to reside as there is a spring in the middle of the site providing a water source. There were a couple of things about this site that made it interesting. One aspect was that it had prehistoric ceramics, which are uncommon in Wyoming.

Other unusual finds were obsidian flakes and tools. One obsidian point was traced to Yellowstone, about 400 miles away. I learned how to excavate a 1-x-1-m unit and identify flakes as well as surface collect.

The second session was at a site called *La Prele Mammoth Site*. La Prele is a mammoth kill site from about 13,000 years ago. Here, we worked on excavation units and water screening through 1/16th mesh, as there were very small flakes and bone



Photos:

1. Total Station in Excavation tent at La Prele.
2. Sign for an Episcopal Church in Carbon City.
3. Me in Excavation Unit at Carbon City.
4. Frozen Charlotte Doll.
5. Field school members in front of La Prele Creek.
6. Willow Springs Site.

fragments to recover. While in the excavation tent, we also took turns learning how to use a total station to point-plot and get elevations. We located the rod used to record points through the lens and recorded the data. At this site, I learned a lot from the graduate students and got a lot of experience working in a 1-x-1-m unit.

My last site was the historic ghost town of *Carbon City*, a 19th century coal mining town. It was abandoned when the Union Pacific Railroad moved, and the town moved with it. There were still building foundations and surface artifacts such as glass, metal and ceramics. There we did

more 1-x-1-m units. In my unit, the most interesting find was a *frozen charlotte doll* dating from mid 19th century early 20th century.

Attending this field school was one of the most influential experiences of my life. I met such amazing educators and peers whom I plan to stay in touch with throughout my archaeological career. I really enjoyed that this field school had pre-contact and historic archaeology. After working and being fascinated with Carbon City, I hope to pursue historic archaeology.

You are invited! Join Sherry and the folks at **Reflections of Manatee** for food, music, and fun at the museum's season opener event, **Pioneer Field Day**.

Costumed re-enactors will be hosting yard games such as the frying pan toss (it's harder than you think!). Spinning and metal working demonstrations, food trucks, craft vendors, and historic groups. The museum exhibits, including the archaeology of Angola exhibit, will be open from 11:30 - 12:30. Archaeologists will be on hand to give first person tales of their experience excavating a maroon community site in Bradenton.

Event will take place between Reflections and the adjacent Manatee Mineral Spring Park. Parking is available at either location. Email Sherry with any



questions: ssvekis@gmail.com
 Reflections of Manatee, 1302 4th Avenue East, Bradenton.
 Manatee Mineral Spring Park, 1312 2nd Avenue East, Bradenton.



Continued from page 2 ...

Punishment ...

United States although the majority of states have either paused or abolished the practice. Only three people were executed by the federal government from 1972 to 2003, and there were no federal executions from 2009 to 2017. But from January 20, 2017, to January 20, 2021, 13 people were executed, more than any president's administration in the last 120 years.

The Justice Department announced a moratorium on federal executions on July 1, 2021, to review policies and procedures. There are still 46 prisoners on federal death row.

Speakers for 2024/2025
 All are at 5:45 PM live at the Selby Library
 1331 First St., Sarasota

September 18

Hittite Rock Monuments:
Their Relationship with Landscape in Central Anatolia
Atakan Atabas

October 16

Anthropology of Vampires and Zombies:
From History to Speculation
Dr. Maranda Almy Kles

November 20

The Heritage All Around Us, if we look:
Ancestral Seminole History in Sarasota/Manatee
Dr. Uzi Baram

January 15, 2025

Year in Review: What's been Discovered & What's being Talked About
Dr. David Miano



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