

Subject: Principles Of Human Settlements-I

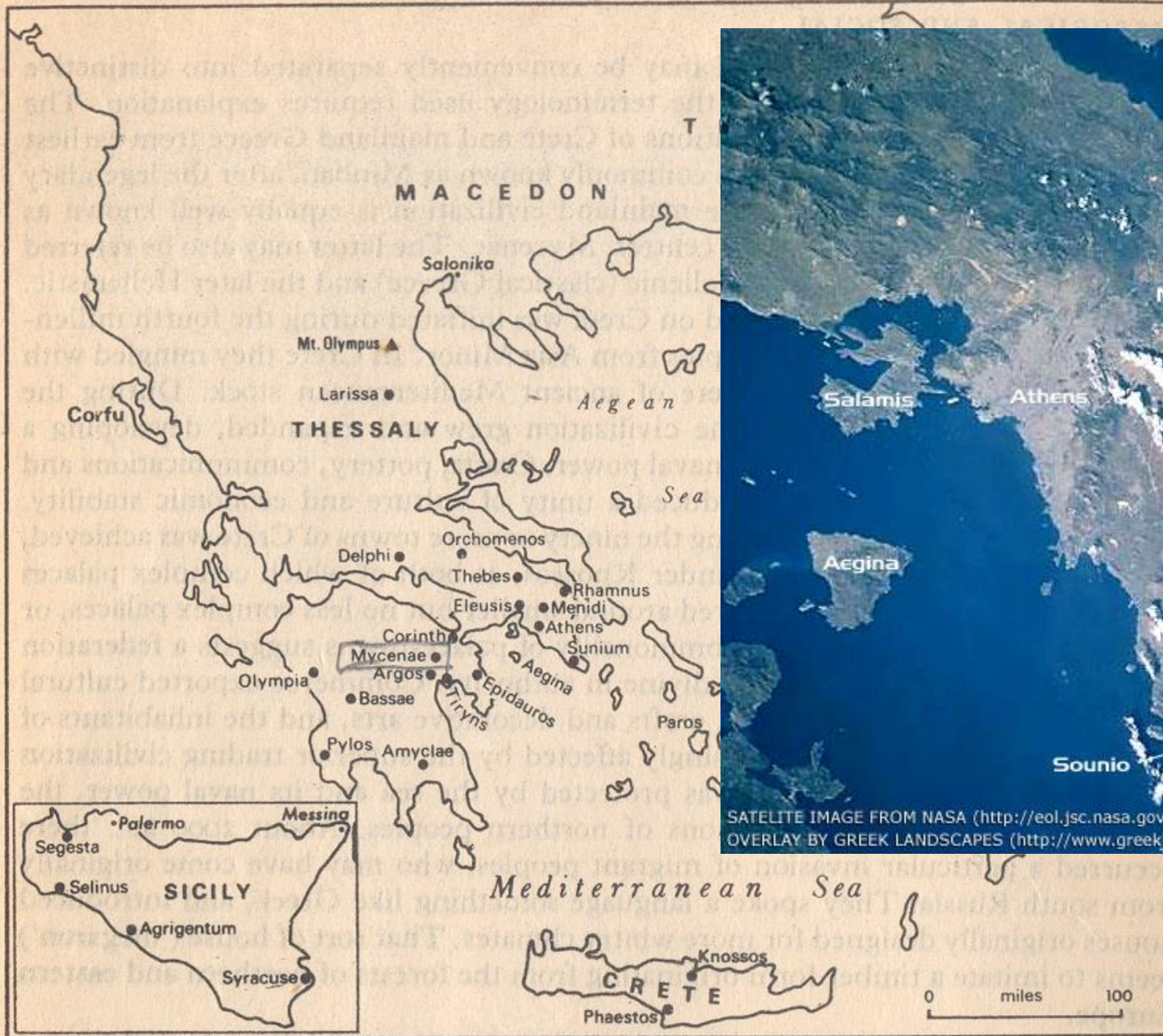
Topic: Ancient Greece Town Planning

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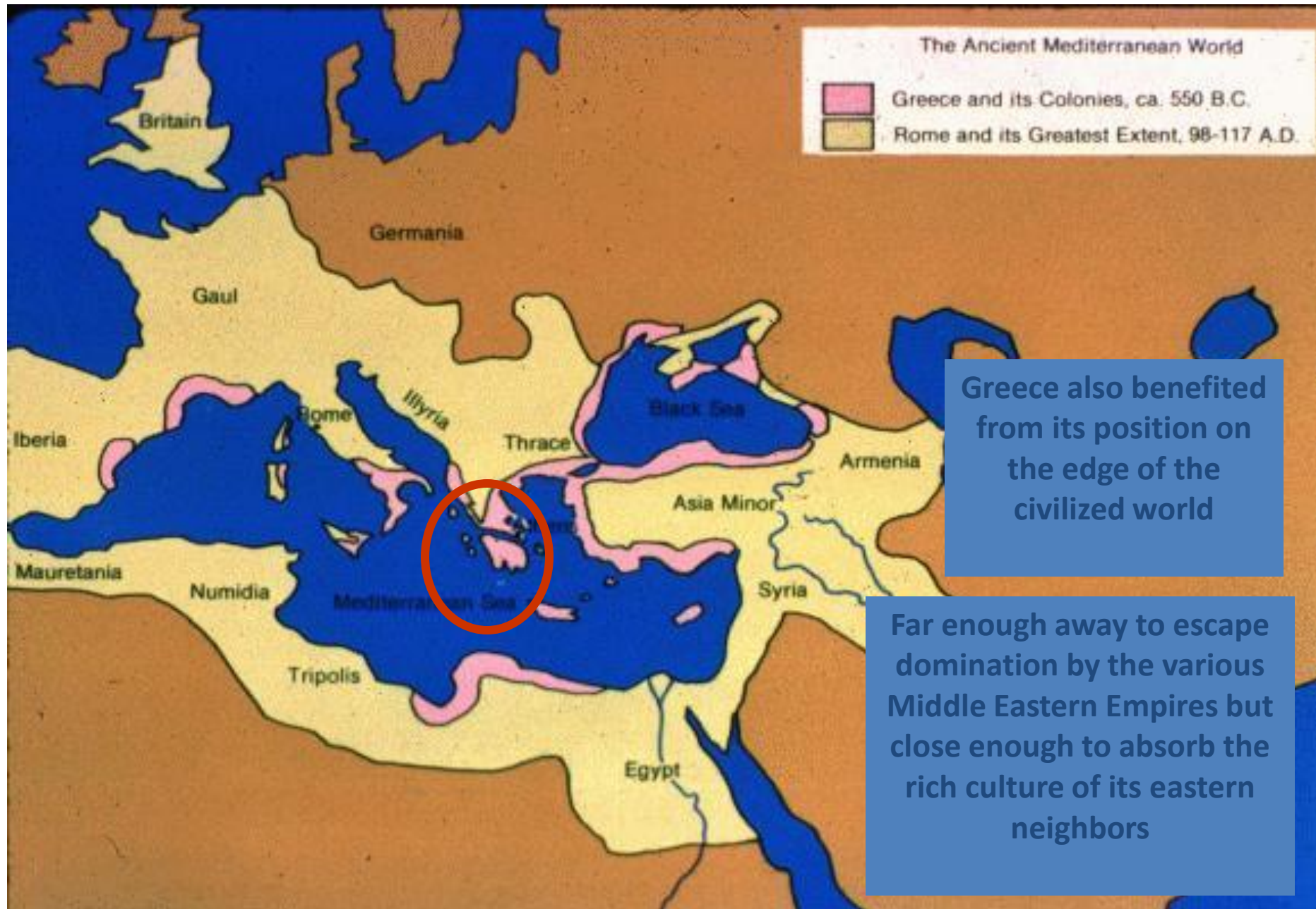
ANCIENT GREECE



- **Region of isolated valleys, hills, small plains, peninsulas, and islands**
 - **Sea formed its focal point**
- **Nothing more than barbarous fringe area to older civilizations of the Middle East**
 - **Tiny, unimportant, and poor in natural resources**



The Central Lands of the Greek World



FIRST GREEKS (2000-1400 BC)

- Either were Neolithic farmers who migrated from Asia Minor around 3000 BC
- Or were an Indo-European tribe from southern Russia who migrated into the region around 2300 BC
- In either case, when people did arrive in the peninsula, they soon came into contact with an already civilized people who lived on the nearby island of Crete - The Minoans



END OF MINOAN CIVILIZATION

- Civilization came to an end between 1450 and 1350 BC
 - All palaces destroyed and never rebuilt
- Theory 1
 - Invaded by Mycenaeans in 1400 BC
 - Destroyed Crete to eliminate Minoans as trade rivals
- Theory 2
 - Massive volcanic eruption on island of Thera showered Crete with debris, ash, and poison gas
 - Destroyed fleets with tidal waves
 - Mycenaeans arrived after catastrophe and destroyed what was left



MYCENEAN AGE – 600-1400 BC

- 1600-1150 BC
- Had some contact with Minoan civilization by at least 1600 BC
- Typical of the very warlike, semi-barbarian cultures that extended over most of Europe
 - Only difference was that contact with Minoans gradually ameliorated some of their barbarism and allowed them to develop a more sophisticated culture



MYCENEAN CIVILIZATION EMERGES

- **Assimilation of Minoan culture was complete by 1400 BC**
 - **About the time that they invade and destroyed Crete**
 - **Took the place of Minoans as commercial middlemen between civilized Middle East and barbarian Europe**
 - **Began to build huge palaces at Mycenae, Tiryns, Athens, Thebes, and Pylos**



DAWN OF THE “DARK AGE” – (1100-750BC)

- All Mycenaean palaces destroyed around 1250 BC
 - Except one at Athens
 - Survivors moved to Attica or moved overseas
 - Greece only contained 10% of its former population by 1200 BC
 - Trade network collapsed
 - Art and culture lost
- Greece entered a period of severe economic, social, and technological backwardness
 - Dark Age (1200-800 BC)

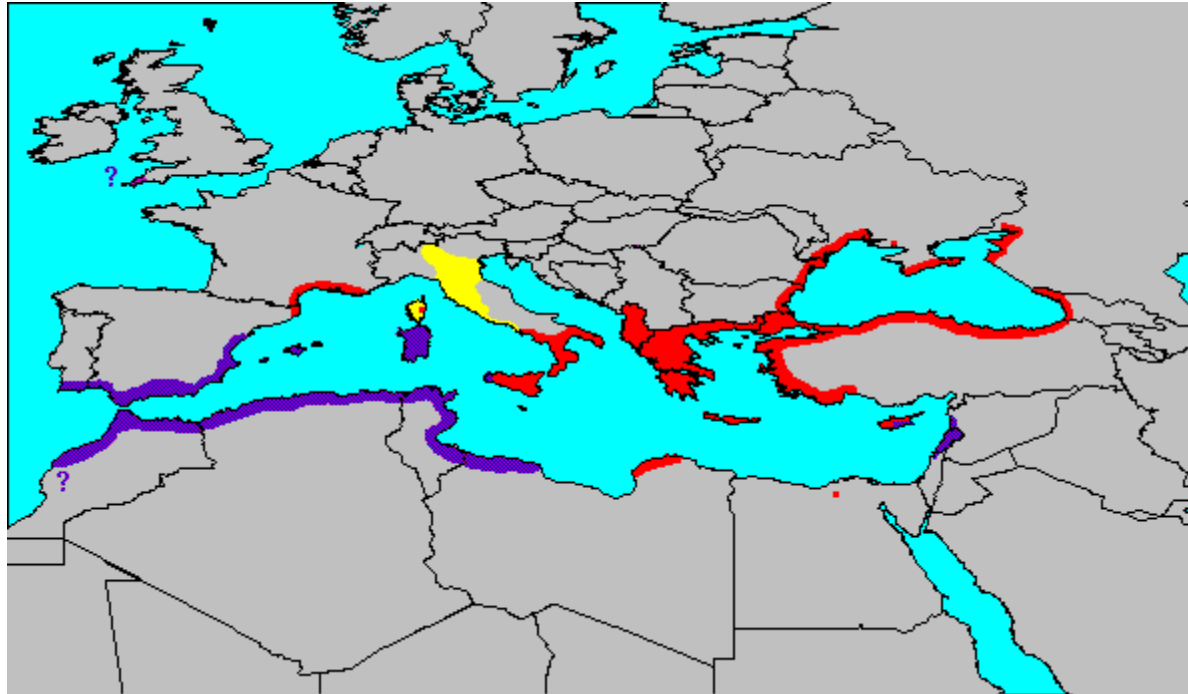


CAUSES

- Period in which Mycenaean kingdoms fell was one of general unrest
 - Lybians and Sea Peoples attacked Egypt
 - Sea Peoples destroyed Hittite Empire
 - Pirates roamed the eastern Mediterranean
 - Mycenaean palaces came under tremendous pressure
- Palaces destroyed over a long period
 - Perhaps victims of different groups of invaders arriving at different times
 - Small, vicious groups of raiding parties brought about downfall of Mycenaean civilization
 - Not a single, massive migration of new people



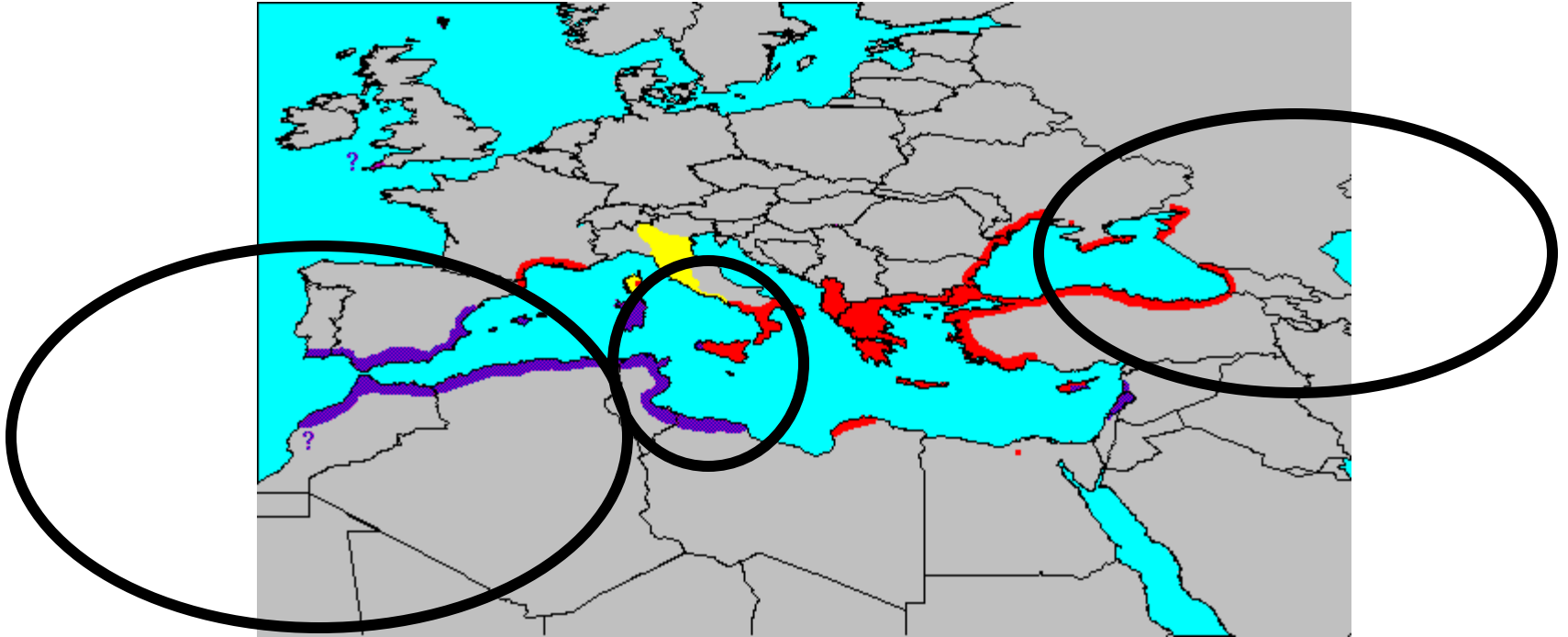
THE DARK AGE



Although generally isolated and backward, the Dark Age did see some technological and cultural innovations that would create foundation for future Greek civilization

People who fled Greece settled on Aegean Islands, coast of Asia Minor, and elsewhere, forming base for prosperous city-states that would develop there

Stimulated another wave of migration and Greek migrants from the peninsula and other settlements founded hundreds of new sites along Black Sea, the Adriatic, and western Mediterranean



Population of Greek world began to grow rapidly around 800 BC

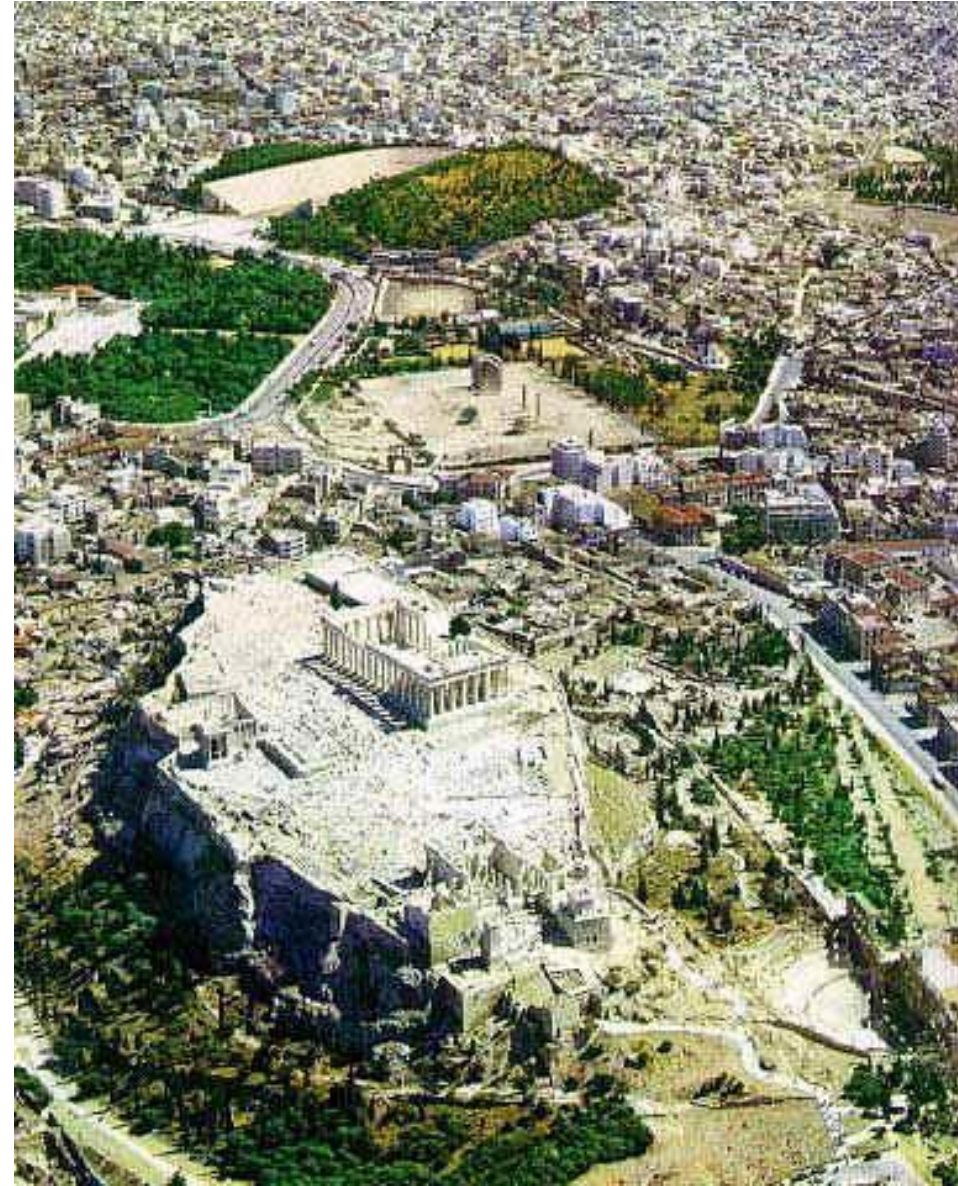


SATELLITE IMAGE FROM NASA (<http://eol.jsc.nasa.gov/sseop/>)
OVERLAY BY GREEK LANDSCAPES (<http://www.greeklandscapes.com>)

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GREEK CITY – STATES (700 - 338 BC)

- Polis (city)
 - City surrounding a fort
- Absolutely independent and self-sufficient
- Based on 3 ideas:
 - Geographical territory
 - Community it represented
 - Economic independence it produced



GREEK CITY - STATES



Athens, the city which by itself means Greece

- Athens was an almost Oriental mixture of splendid public buildings with mean and ill-grouped houses.
- The streets of Athens as narrow and tortuous, unpaved, unlighted, and more like a chaos of mud and sewage than even the usual Greek road

Sparta, the rival of Athens, remained wholly untouched by it

- There neither public nor private buildings were admirable,



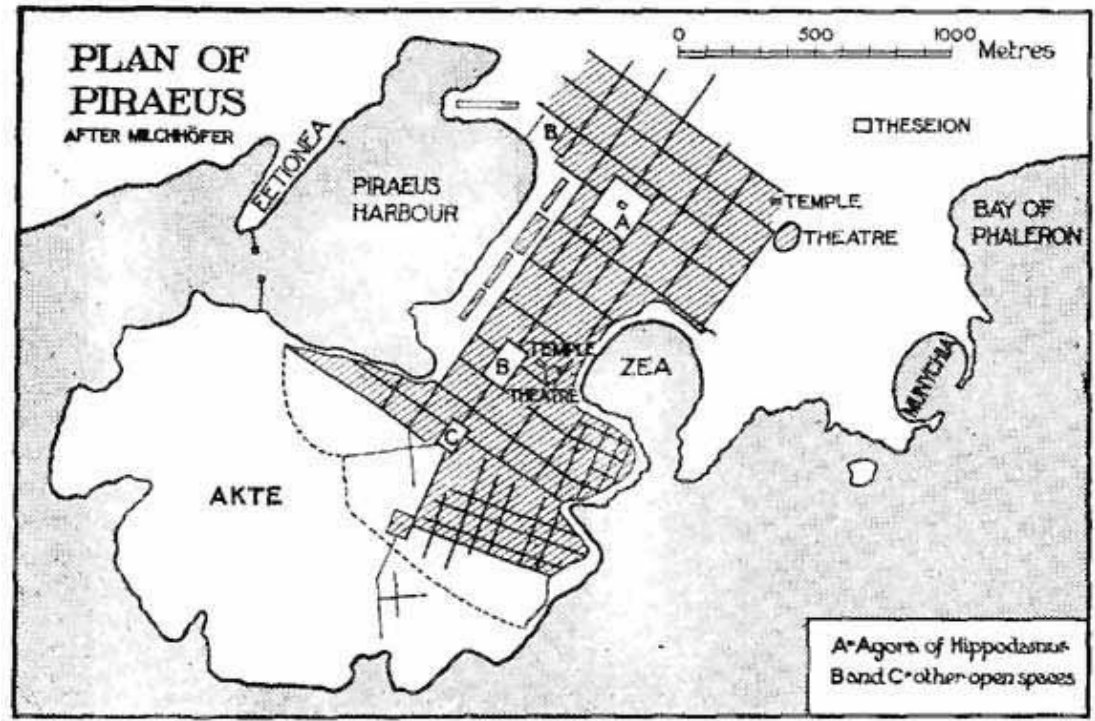
GREEK CITY - STATES

- More similarities
 - Original forts created on an acropolis (hill)
 - Each city-state had an agora (marketplace)
 - Served as a meeting place for the people



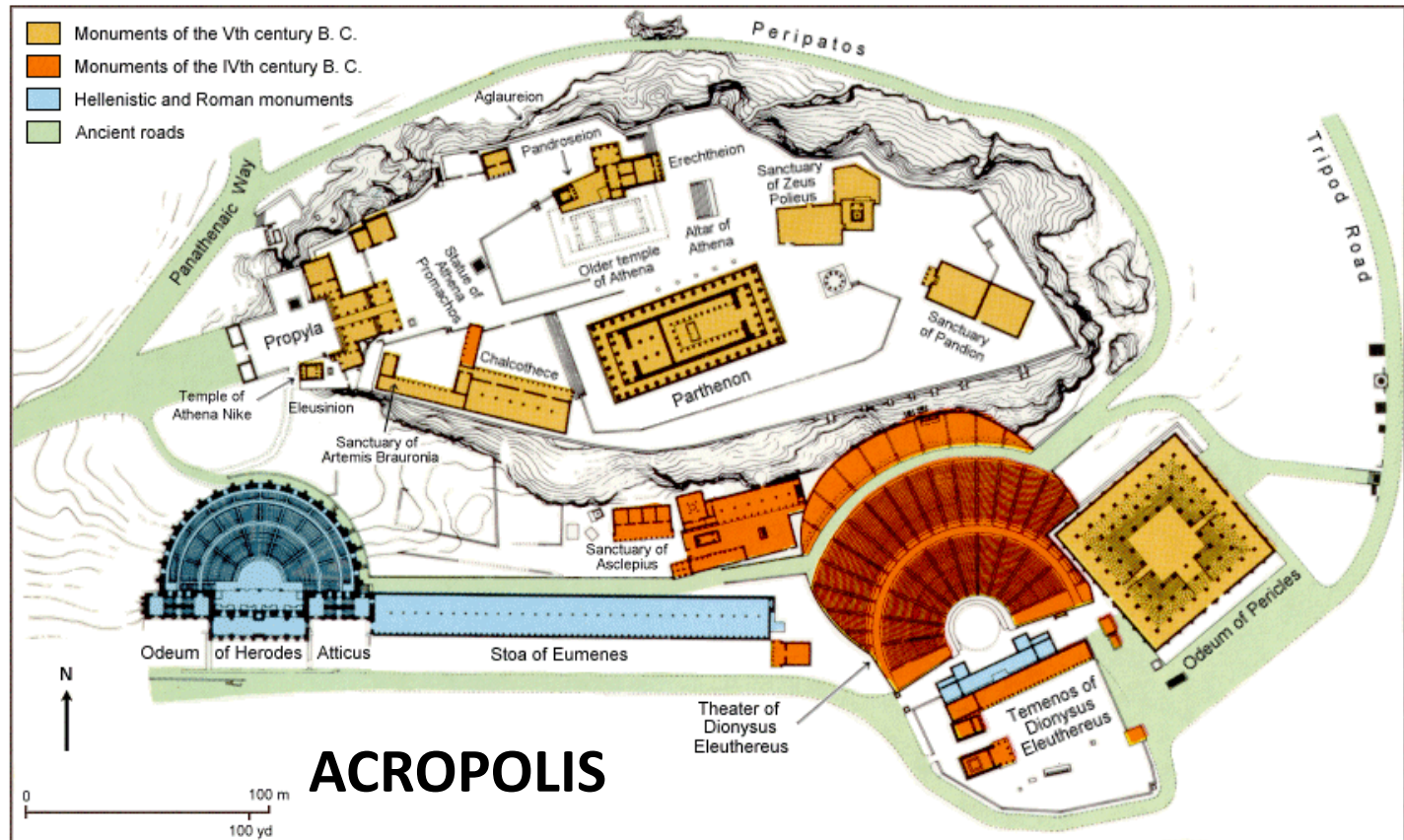
- The art of town-planning in Greece probably began in Athens.
- The architect Hippodamus—have worked in Athens and in connection with Athenian cities, under the auspices of Pericles.
- He introduced the principle of straight wide streets, made provision for the proper grouping of dwelling-houses and also paid special heed to the combination of the different parts of a town in a harmonious whole, centred round the market-place.

•Cities named as laid out by Hippodamus-**Piraeus**, the port of Athens, with broad straight streets, running parallel or at right angles to one another and rectangular blocks of houses; the longer and more important streets ran parallel to the shore, while shorter streets ran at right angles to them



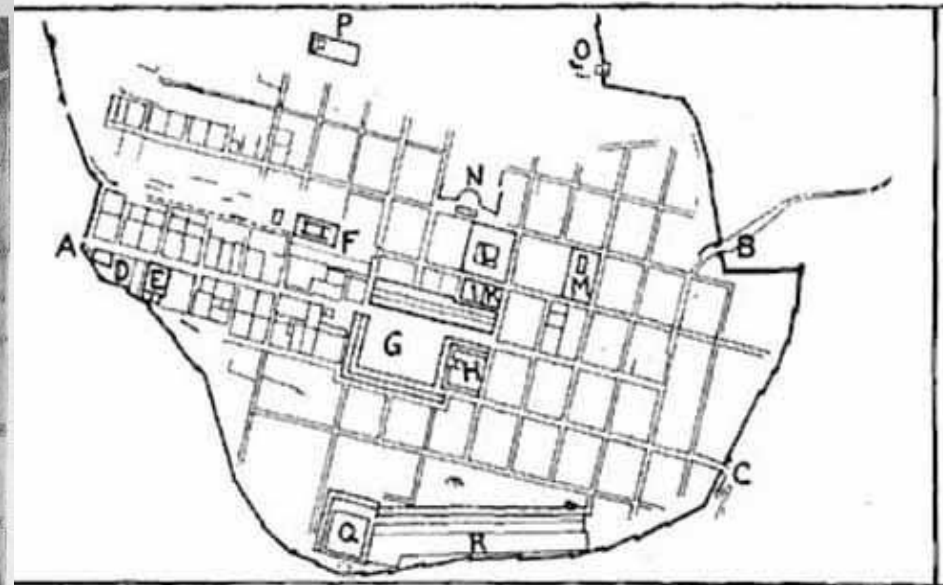
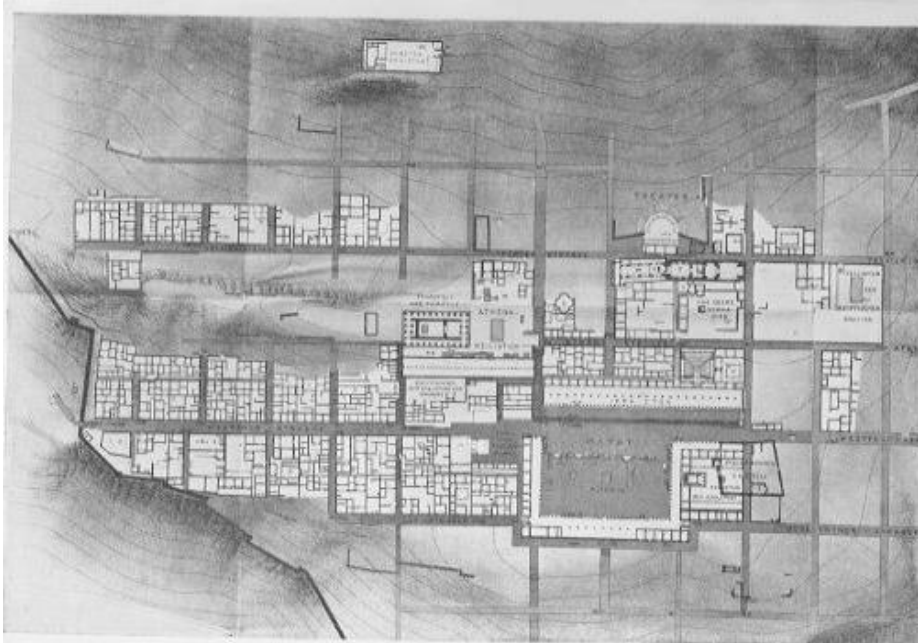
PLAN OF PIRAEUS

- Acropolis, a town of irregular, rudely pear-shaped outline with a distinct though not yet fully excavated town-plan.
- Two main thoroughfares ran straight from end to end and crossed at right angles the longer of these thoroughfares being just a quarter of a mile long and 30 ft. wide.
- From these two main streets other narrower streets (12-18 ft. wide) ran off at right angles; the result, though not chess-board pattern, is a rectangular town-plan.



THE MACEDONIAN AGE, 330-130 B.C.

- The more systematic, method of town-planning.
- These towns were laid out with a regular 'chess-board' street-plan.
Priene was a little town on the east coast of the Aegean and in the Macedonian age it was refounded.
- The old Acropolis was given up.
- Instead, a broad sloping terrace, or more exactly a series of terraces, nearer the foot of the hill, was laid out with public buildings—Agora, Theatre, Stoa, Gymnasium, Temples, and so forth—and with private houses. The whole covered an area of about 750 yds. in length and 500 yds. in width.



- In the centre was the Agora or market-place, with a temple and other large buildings facing on to it;
- Round them were other public buildings and some eighty blocks of private houses, each block measuring on an average 40 x 50 yds.
- The broader streets, rarely more than 23 ft. wide, ran level along the terraces and parallel to one another.
- Other narrower streets, generally about 10 ft. wide, ran at right angles up the slopes,

