Key Terms, Concepts and Characters

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New World / Old World (western and eastern hemispheres)

Middle East (Near East)

Mesoamerica

domestication (the process)

food production (agricultural production)

civilization (anthropological/archaeological definition)

History and archaeology in the general Western Tradition - notes

Greek writers: Hesiod (8th cent. B.C.) Herodotus (mid-5th cent. B.C.)
Thucydides (late 5th cent B.C.) Pausanias (2nd cent. A.D.)

Nabonidus: Babylonian king, 555-539 B.C.

Dilettanti
Stonehenge
Pompeii and Herculaneum
Elgin Marbles

Antiquarianism

The antiquity of humankind
Biblical vrs. geological chronology
Archbishop James Ussher (17th cent. A.D.)
Principle of superposition (Steno’s law)

Uniformitarianism
   James Hutton: Theory of the Earth (1785)
   Charles Lyell: Principles of Geology (1833)

Jacques Boucher de Perthes (1841)

Catastrophism (Special Creation Theory): Georges Cuvier

Evolution: Charles Darwin, On the Origins of Species (1859)

The Three Age system: C.J. Thomsen (1836)
   Stone Age
   Bronze Age
   Iron Age

Early systematic excavations
   Thomas Jefferson (1784)
   General Pitt-Rivers (1880’s - 1890’s)

Goals of archaeology

   culture history

   reconstructing past lifeways

   cultural processes