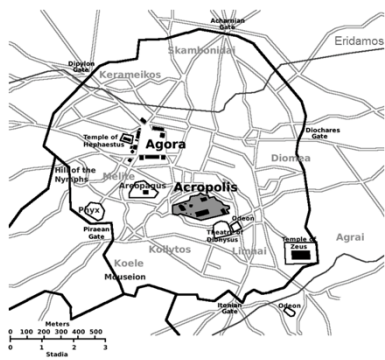


Urban History

Athens ~ Greece

Neolithic Athens

- Founded on the Acropolis ("high city") between 3rd and 4th centuries BCE
 - Natural defensive position
- 20 kilometers or 12 miles inland from Saronic Gulf
 - Center of Cephisian Plain
 - Fertile ground
 - Eridanos River flows through the city
 - Transportation, water supply, food supply
- The Agora located 400 meters or 1,312 feet north of Acropolis
 - Commercial and social center
- Pnyx Hill in the western part of the city
 - Assembly

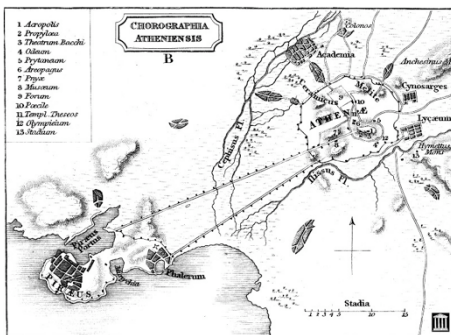


Population of Neolithic Athens

- Beginning of the Peloponnesian War – 431 BCE
 - 360,000 to 610,000 total
 - 40,000 male citizens
 - Voting power and ability to be elected into office
 - 100,000 male citizen family members
 - Women and children
 - 70,000 metics
 - No citizen rights; paid to live in the city
 - 150,000 to 400,000 slaves
 - based on Thucydides

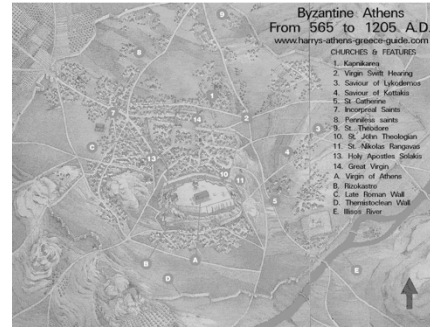
Roman Athens

- 2nd century BCE to 529 CE
- Athenian houses demolished – 88 to 85 BCE
 - Monuments and schools left intact
 - Left as a free city because of its widely accredited education system
- Emperor Hadrian
 - Library, gymnasium, aqueduct, temples, sanctuaries, etc.
 - Financed the finishing of the Temple of Zeus



Byzantine Athens

- 529 CE to 1205 CE
- Pagan temples converted into churches
 - Parthenon
- Athens reduced to a shadow of its former self
 - Raids
 - Slavs, Avars, Turks
 - No longer important in trade world

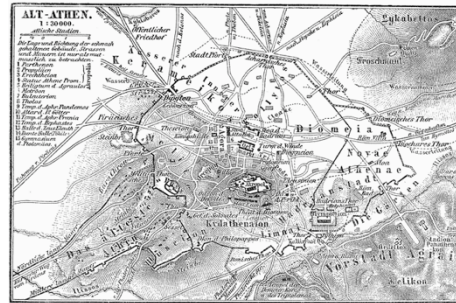


Latin Athens

- 1205 to 1458
- Replaced Byzantium as the capital of Latin Empire
 - Agora returned as commercial and social center of Greece
 - Attracted Venetians
 - Economic prosperity ensued
- Once Thebes was possessed by Latin Dukes, it overtook Athens as capital of empire
 - Athens remained influential ecclesiastical center
- **Burgundian period**
 - Under the Burgundian dukes, a bell tower was added to the Parthenon.
 - Chivalry and tournaments
 - Fortified the Acropolis
- **Catalan period**
 - The Acropolis was further fortified
- **Florentine period**
 - Florentines disputed the city with the Republic of Venice
 - Emerged victorious after seven years of Venetian rule
- Remained under Latin rule until Ottoman Turks rose to power

Ottoman Athens

- Ottoman Sultan Mehmet II the Conqueror – 1458
 - Forbid any pillaging of the ancient buildings
 - Parthenon became main mosque
- Turkish presence
 - Population decline
- Unintentional destruction – 1687
 - Parthenon and Propylaea
 - Gun powder storage
 - Lightning and misfire
- Intentional destruction – 1688
 - Fire throughout the city
 - Monuments destroyed
 - Provided material for protective walls
- Independence – 19th century
 - Lord Byron
 - Funding
 - 1833
 - Ottomans relinquish power
 - Kingdom of Greece formed



Modern Athens

- 1832 – Prince of Bavaria named King – Otto
 - Took on Greek customs and Greek spelling of his name – King Othon
- Population – 19th century
 - 4,000 to 5,000 distributed near today's Plaka district
- Athens named official Greek capital – 19th century
 - History and sentimental reasons
 - Education center of the Ancient world
 - Commercial and social center of Ancient Greece

Population of Modern Athens

- 20th century
 - Greco-Turkish War – 1919 to 1922
 - Population explosion in city as a result of refugees from Asia Minor
 - Suburbs created
 - » Nea Ionia and Nea Smyrni
 - Population Exchange – 1923
 - Turkey and Greece
 - Greek Orthodox followers in Asia Minor were to move into Greece, Muslims were to move from Greece into Turkey
 - 500,000 "Turks" from Greece and 1,500,000 "Greeks" from Asia Minor
 - WWII
 - Fighting between the Communist followers and Royalists (back by the British)
 - Diminished population
 - Post WWII
 - Migrants from surrounding villages and the Cyclades looking for work

Population of Modern Athens

Year	City population	Urban population	Metro population
1833	4,000	-	-
1870	44,500	-	-
1896	123,000	-	-
1921 (Pre-Population exchange)	473,000	-	-
1921 (Post-Population exchange)	718,000	-	-
1971	867,023	-	-
1981	885,737	-	-
1991	772,072	-	3,444,358
2001	745,514	3,130,841	3,761,810

Modern Athens

- Greece entered the EU in 1981
- Backed by EU funds
 - Built a new international airport
 - Instilled new metro transit system
 - Tackled air pollution
 - One of the worse places in the world
 - Restricted car use in center of the city
 - Daktylios Ring
 - Aided in slowing the corrosion of the ancient monuments
 - As a result, city awarded the 2004 Olympic Games
 - Wanted the 1996 Olympics

