Key Terms, Concepts and Characters

September 12, 2006: The History and Goals of Archaeology

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.)

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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
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