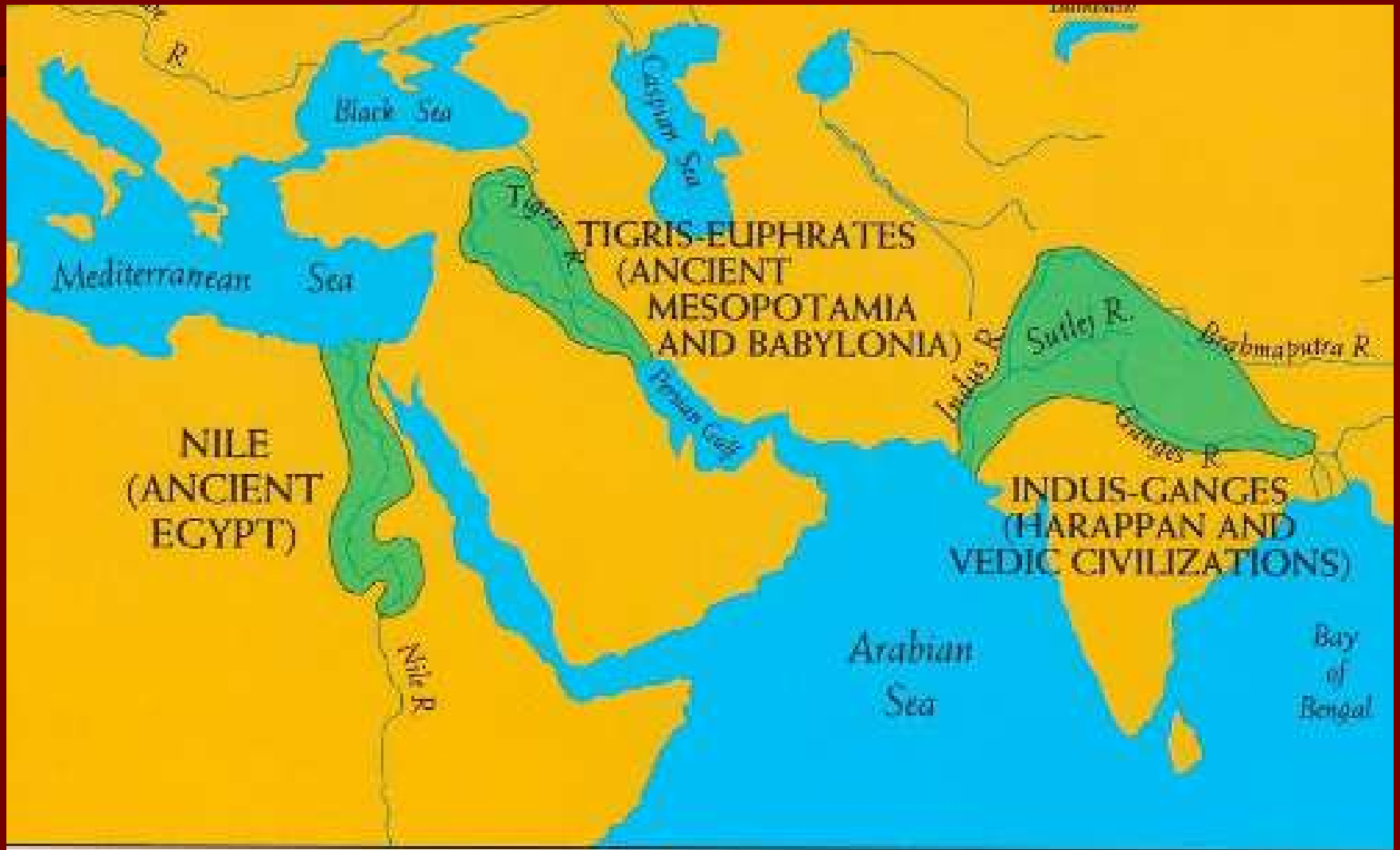


Indus River Valley Civilization

Warmup

Geography



Atlas Time!

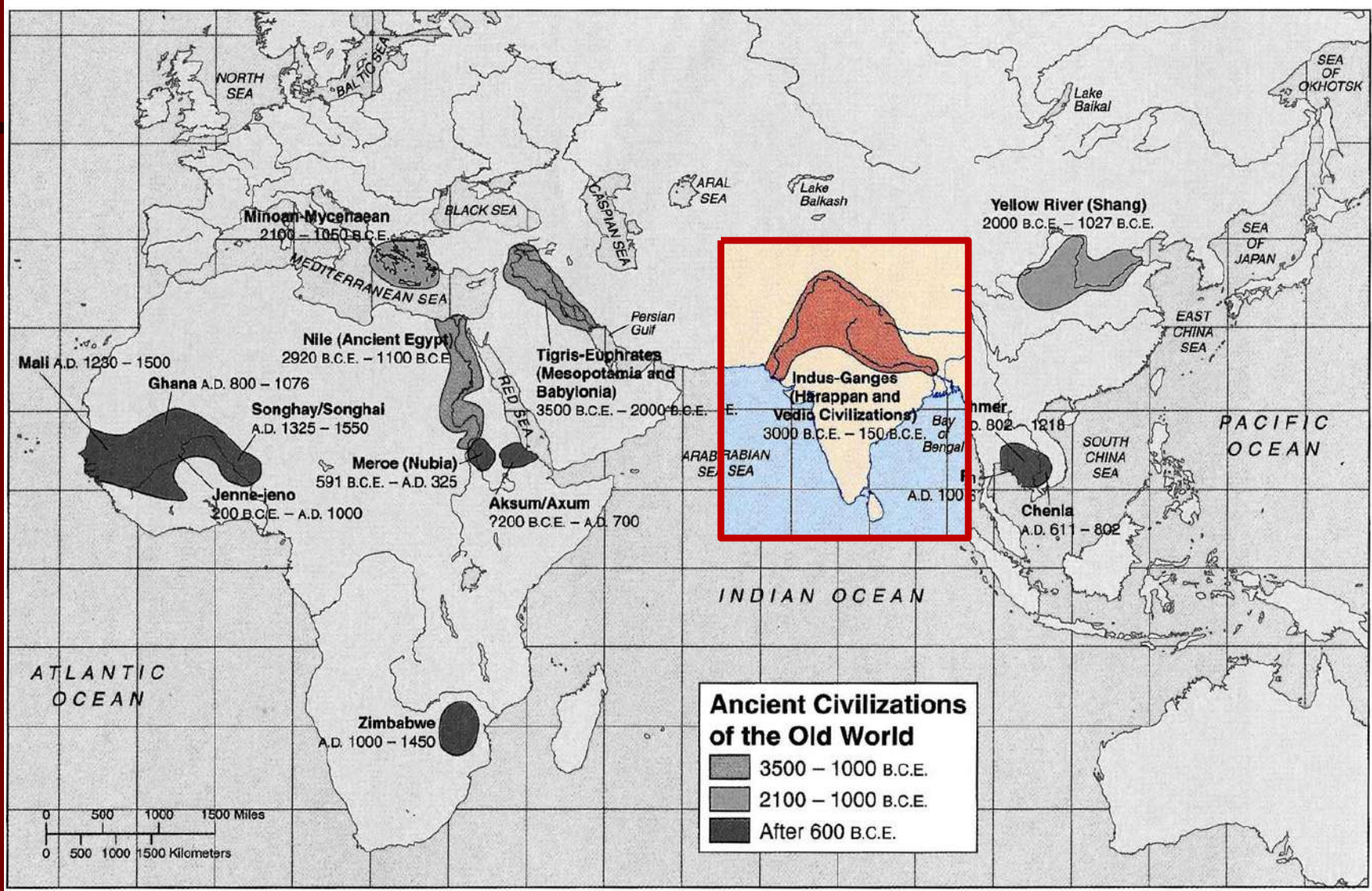
Monsoons



Subcontinent

- A large landmass that is smaller than a continent

Dig Site: Ancient



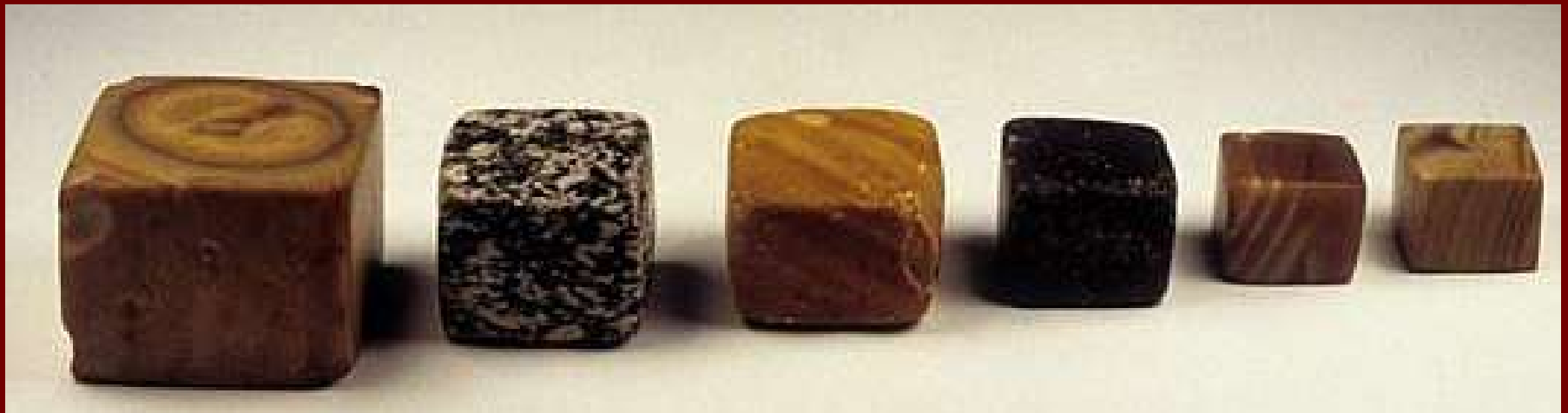


Geography of India





Artifact 1



Artifact 2



Artifact 3



Q

Artifact 4



Artifoe 5

Artifact 1 -- Great Bath at Mohenjodaro

- One of the earliest cities to flourish along the Indus River was Mohenjodaro.
- pool built of waterproofed brick. It was 39 feet long and 8 feet deep.
- Small dressing rooms circled the pool. One of the rooms contained a well that supplied the bath with water. Dirty water was removed through a drain that ran along one side of the bath.
- It seems certain that the people of Mohenjodaro used the pool to bathe.
- Some archeologists think the Great Bath was also used for religious rituals. They point out that bathing rituals are important in India's major religion, Hinduism. Ancient Hindu temples often featured bathing pools.

Artifact 2—Harappan Weights

- The other main city of the earliest Indus River Valley civilization was Harappa, where these cubical **weights** in graduated sizes were found.
- These weights conform to the **standard weight system** that was used in all of the Indus Valley settlements.
- The smallest weight in this series is 0.856 grams and the most common weight is approximately 13.7 grams, which is in the 16th ratio. In the large weights the system become a decimal increase where the largest weight is 100 times the weight of the 16th ratio in the binary system.
- These weights were found in recent excavations at Harappa and may have been used for **controlling trade and possibly for collecting taxes.**

Artifact 3—Harappan Graves

■ The body in the top picture is that of a man. He may have been wrapped in a shroud, and was then placed inside a wooden coffin, which was entombed in a rectangular pit surrounded with burial offerings in pottery vessels. The man was buried wearing a long necklace of 350 beads. Some of the beads were made of copper, gold, natural stone, and turquoise.

■ In the grave shown in the bottom picture are the bodies of a mother and child. This burial was disturbed in antiquity, possibly by grave robbers. Archaeologists have determined this because the body is flipped, the pottery is disturbed, the woman's arm is broken, and the bracelets that would normally be found on the left arm are missing. The infant was buried in a small pit beneath the legs of the mother.

Artifact 4—Collection of Stamps and Tablets

■ This picture shows collection of **stamps** and tablets from a single house along the main street leading to the southern gateway of Mound E at Harappa. The association of these different types of objects together in one house show that some people, possibly merchants, were using a wide variety of inscribed objects.

Artifact 5—Harappan Drain

- This Harappan **drain** was part of the extensive **sewage system** that existed in the city. Drainage systems were located in every street. At the end of each drain was a wooden screen. Wastewater would pass through the screen and enter brick-lined cesspools or be tunneled to the local river for discharge.
- Homes had both rooms for bathing and latrines that were connected to sewers in streets. Rooms for bathing and latrines were often located next to each other inside each home. The bathing room being located next to the latrine indicates that people understood the importance of cleanliness. Water was used for flushing.

Next Class

- No Homework

- Map Quiz

- Ancient Mesopotamia

- Ancient Egypt

- Nubia

- India

- Make sure to know the bodies of water, deserts, mountains, and modern day countries

- You will be given a work bank.

- Use you Mesopotamia and Egypt GRAPES, Egypt Geography Skill Builder, and Today's India Notes

Subcontinent

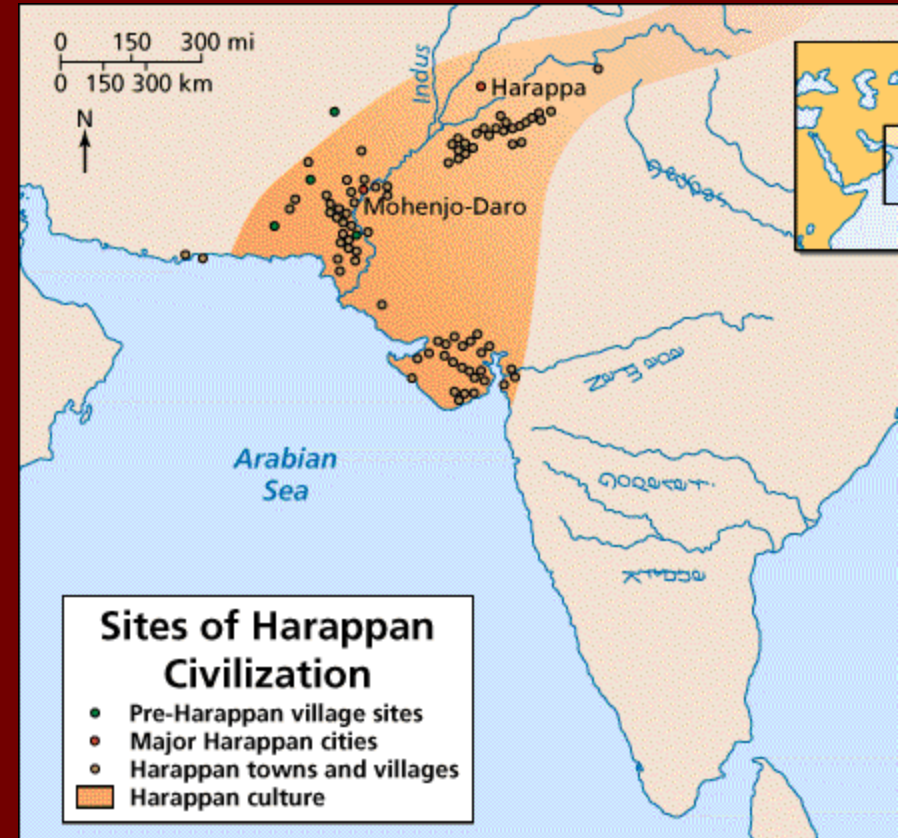
- A large landmass that is smaller than a continent

Monsoons



First Civilization

- Fertile Land near the Indus River
- Flooding from the monsoons deposited rich mud on the banks of the river
- C. 3000- 1500 BCE
- More than 1,000 villages and towns
- Sometimes called the Harrapan or Indus civilization



Religion

- Not much is known about the Harappan religion
- Archeologists think there may have been a priest-king leading a theocracy
- Possible belief in an afterlife?



Great Bath



- Archeologists think the bath may have been used for religious rituals
- Cleanliness was thought to be sacred

Accomplishments: Planned City

- **Harrapa** and **Mohenjo-Daro** were two major cities
- **Planned cities:** the streets and buildings were designed before anyone moved there
- Main streets and side streets on a **grid pattern**



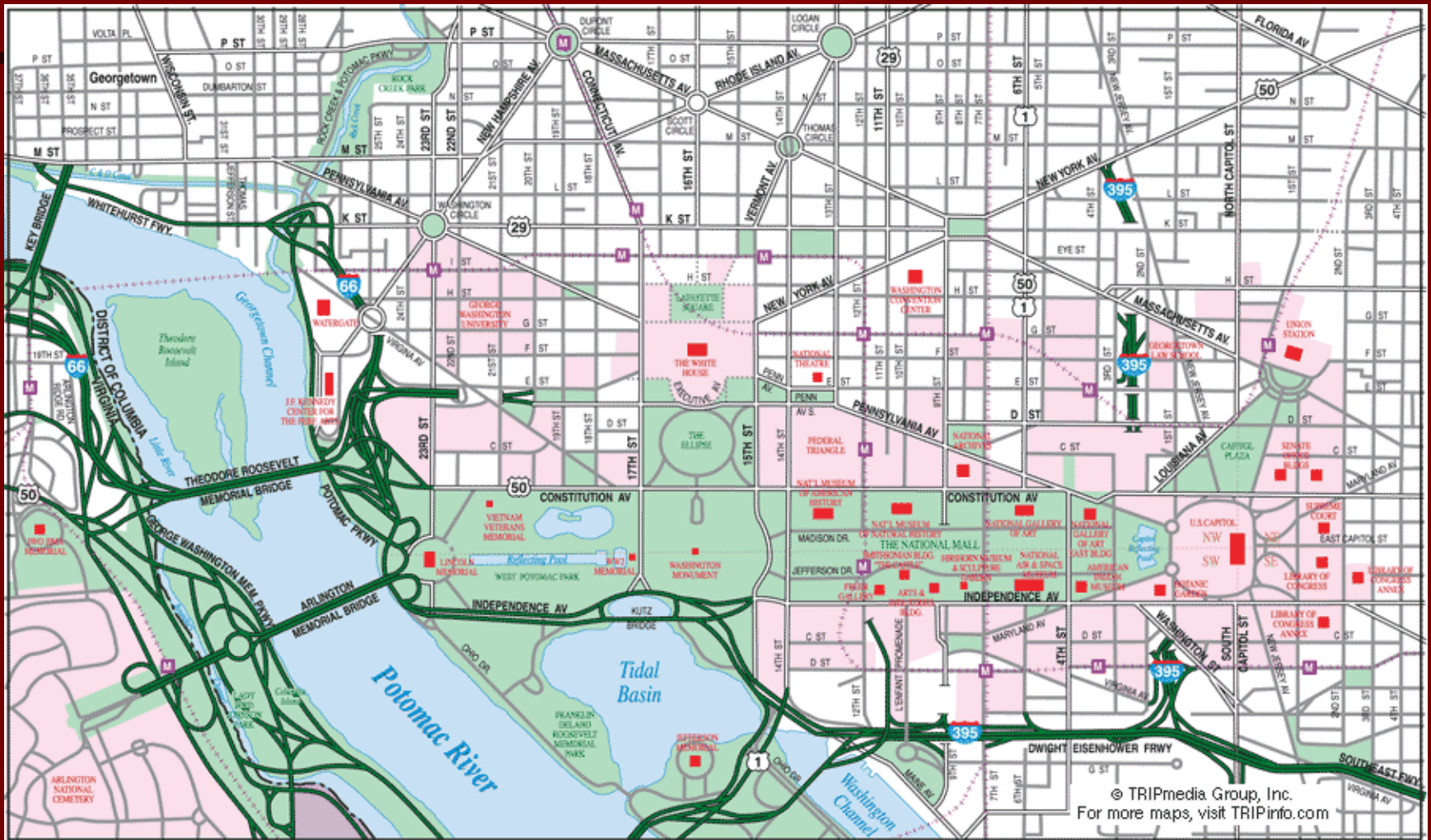
Planned or Not? NYC



Planned or Not? London



Washington, DC



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Accomplishments: Fortress



Accomplishments: Sanitation & Sewage

- Waste flowed out of each house through drains
- Wells for each house to get fresh water
- Indoor toilets
- City government must have been well organized to build all of this



Accomplishments: Writing System

- Found on stamps
- Experts have not been able to translate the language



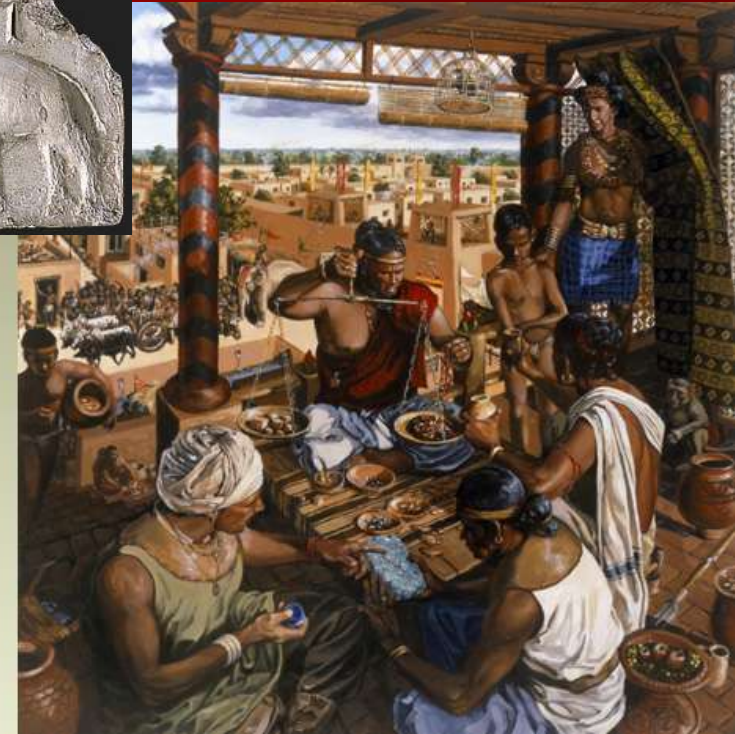
Politics

- Royal palaces and temples were built inside the fortress
- Connection between politics & religion
- Unsure of the type of government

Economics



- C. 2300 BCE
Harrapans began to trade with Mesopotamia
- Harrapan seals (stamps) have been found in Mesopotamia



Economics

- Most Harappans were farmers
- Grew rice, wheat, barley, peas, and cotton
- City people made copper and bronze tools, clay pottery, and cotton cloth
- Also made jewelry from gold, shells, and ivory



Social

- Archeologists are unsure of the type of social structure

Decline of the Harrapan Civilization

■ Different Theories!

- Natural Disasters
- Invasions of the Aryan peoples
- Flooding
- Plate tectonics: earthquakes