

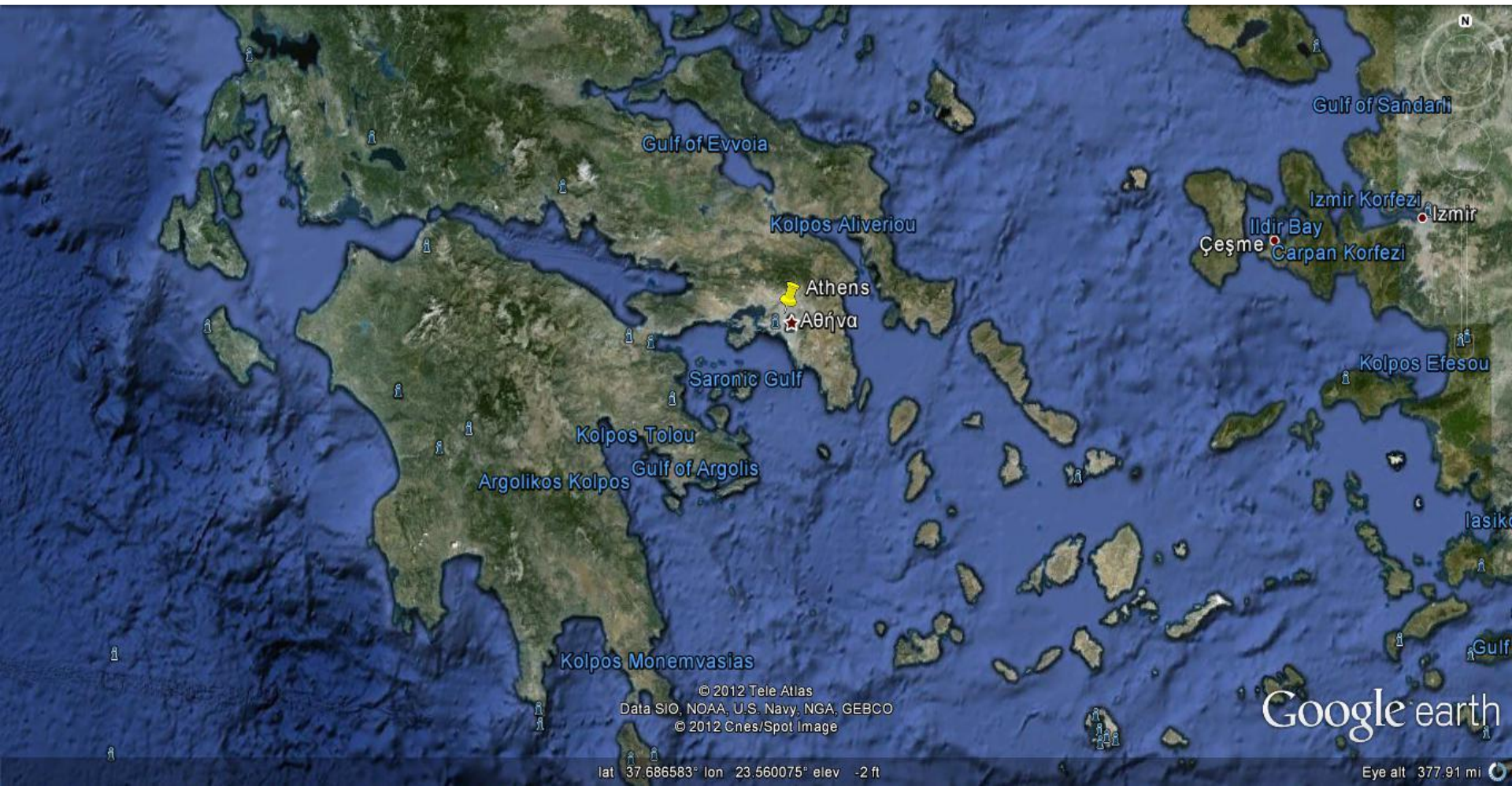
# Cities of Greek Civilization

Athens and Priene

# Athens of Classical Period

- In the classical period, Athens was a center for the arts, learning and philosophy.
- Athens was also the home of Socrates, Pericles, Aristotle and its many other prominent philosophers, writers and politicians of the ancient world.
- It is widely referred to as the cradle of Western Civilization.
- The birthplace of democracy largely due to the impact of its cultural and political achievements during the 5th and 4th centuries BC on the rest of the then known European continent.

# Athens



# Athens of Classical Period

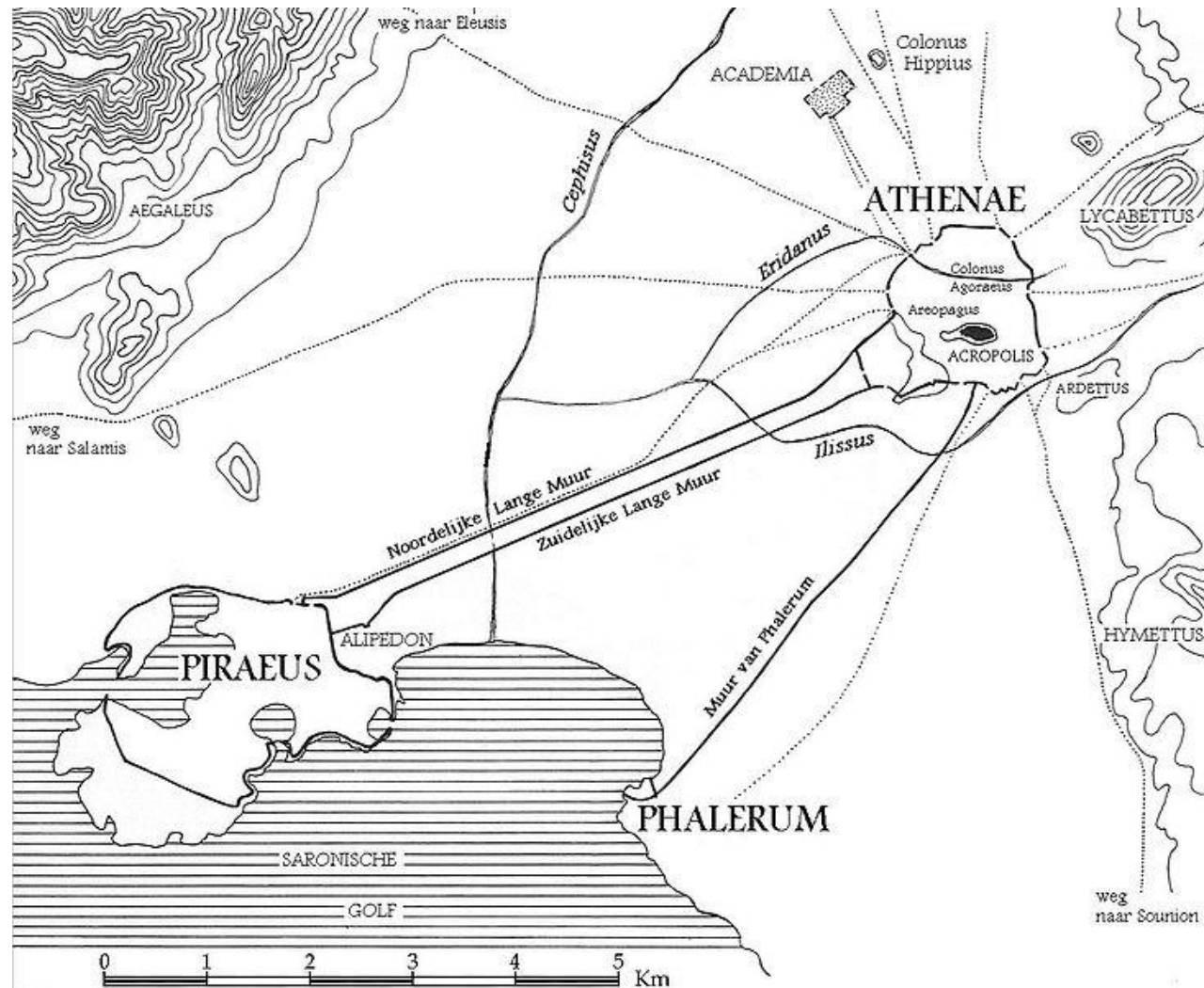
- Athens was also located in a geographic advantageous place. It had steep slopes to the north, east and south, allowing only the west to be a good side for an invading army to attempt to attack.
- There was available water and near by agricultural land which supported large olive orchards. In the middle of the city was a fortified citadel, the Acropolis.
- The supreme period in Athenian history is know as the Periclean Age, after their most famous leader, Pericles, who dominated the assembly from 461 to his death in 429. His policy made Athens the undisputed artistic center of Greece."

# City Parts

Athens consisted of two distinct parts:

- *The City*, properly so called, divided into The Upper City or Acropolis, and The Lower City, surrounded with walls.
- The port city of Piraeus, also surrounded with walls connected to the city with the Long Walls, built under Conon and Pericles.

# Classical Athens



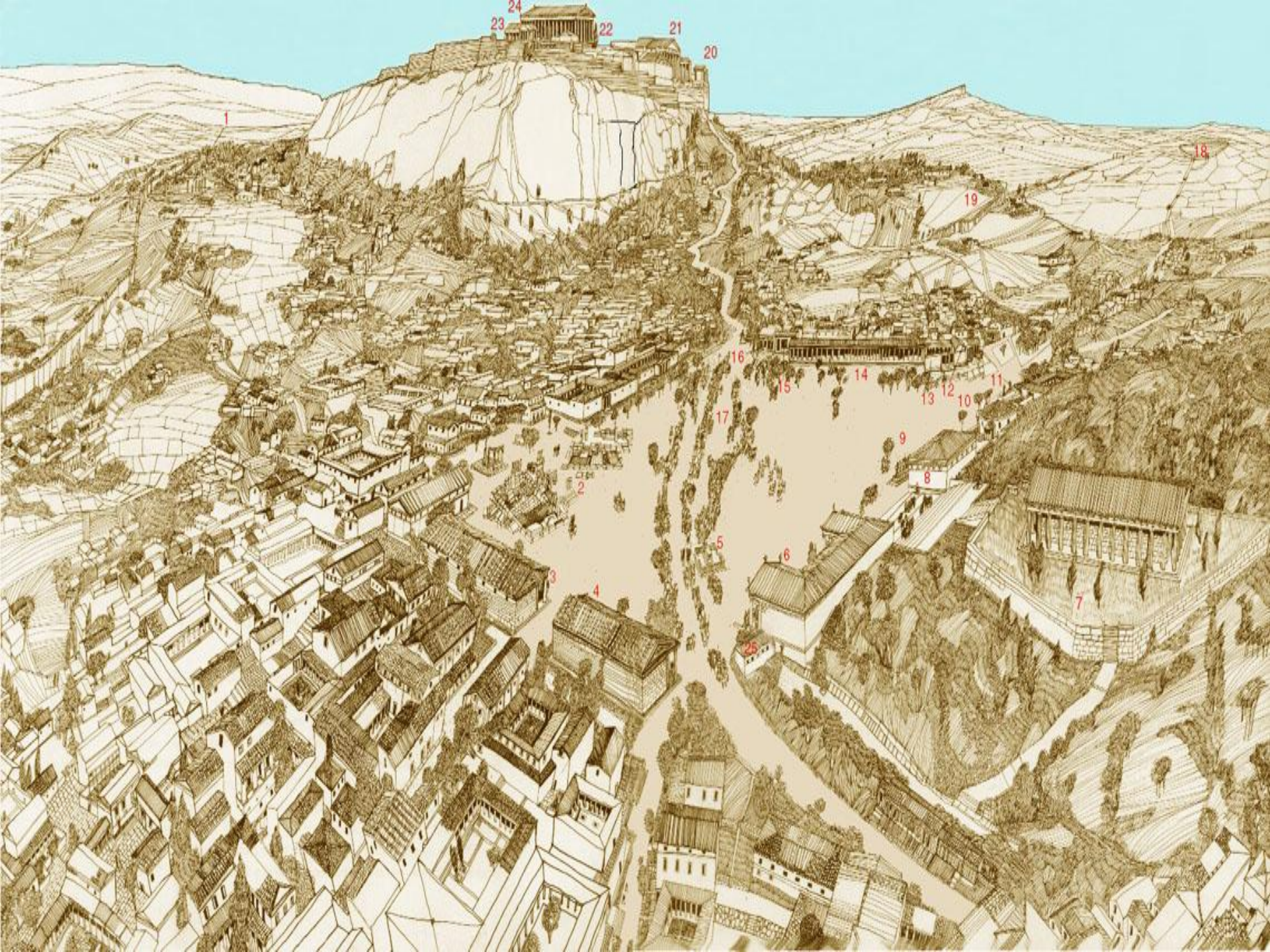


# Classical Athens



3. Classical Athens seen from the northwest. (Watercolor by Peter Connolly)





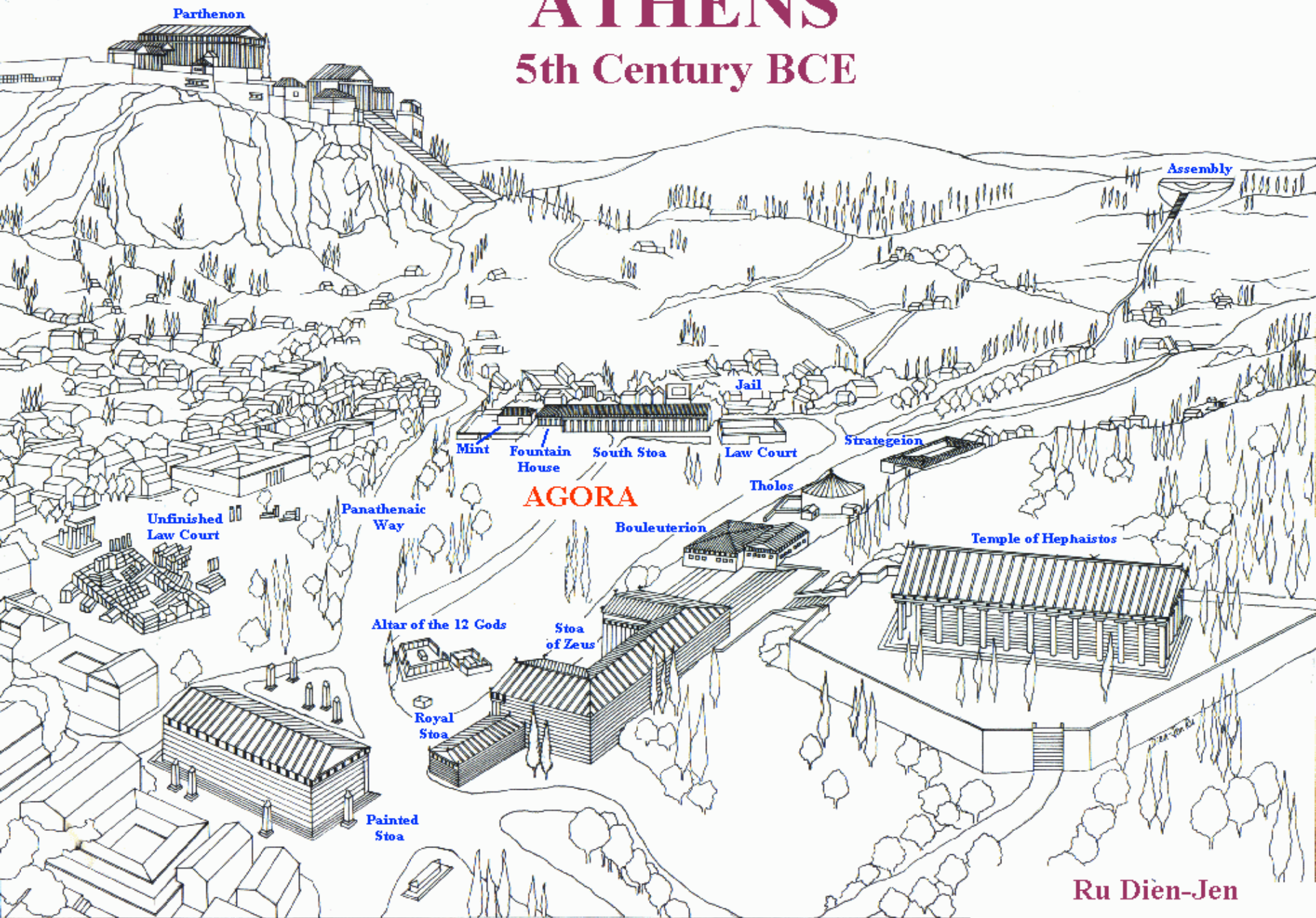


## ACROPOLIS

Parthenon

# ATHENS

## 5th Century BCE



Ru Dien-Jen

# Layout Features

- Athens was in Attica, about 30 stadia from the sea, on the southwest slope of Mount Lycabettus, between the small rivers Cephissus to the west, Ilissos to the south, and the Eridanos to the north, the latter of which flowed through the town.
- The walled city measured about 1.5 km (0.93 mi) in diameter, although at its peak the city had suburbs extending well beyond these walls.
- The Acropolis was just south of the centre of this walled area.



# Layout Features

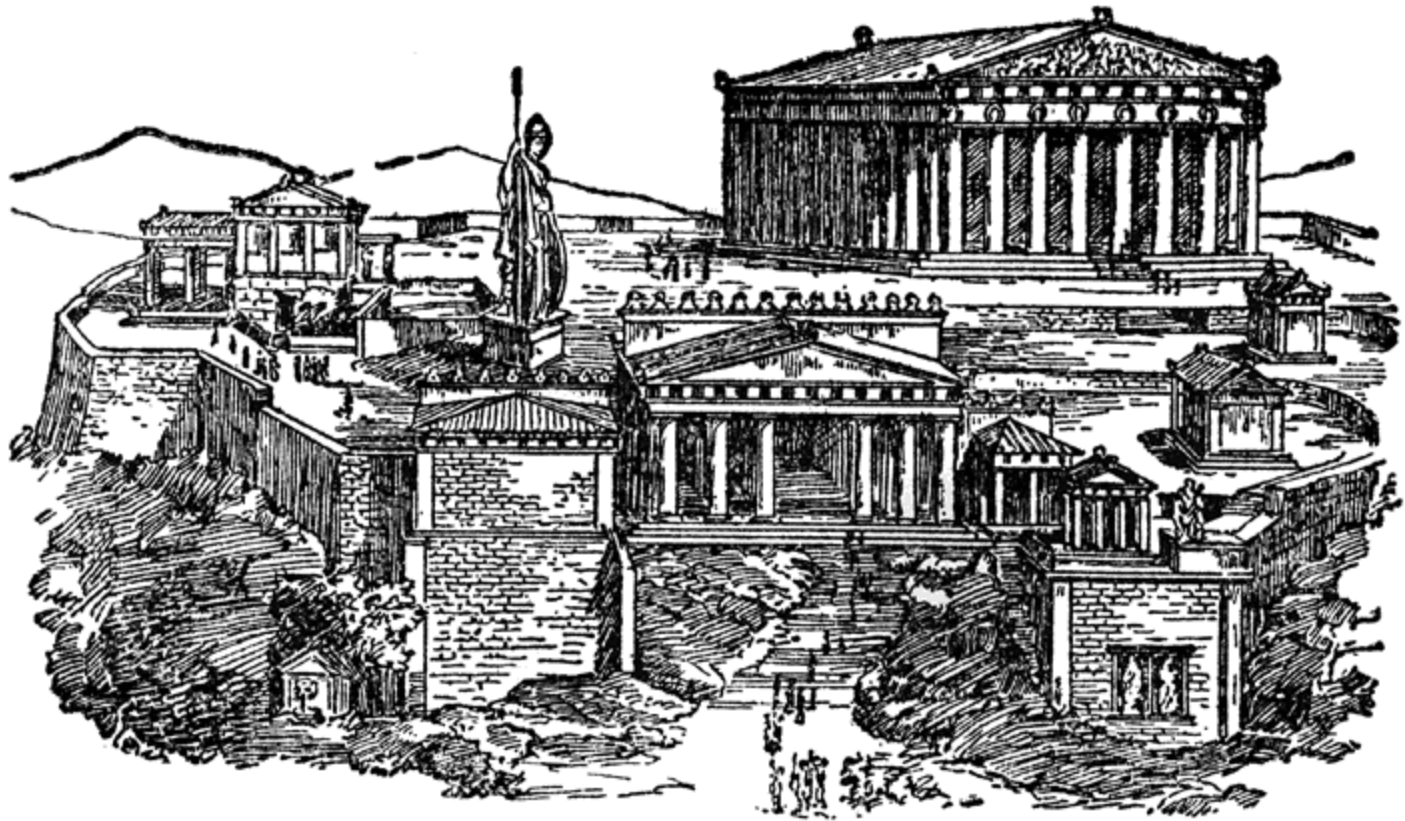
- The city was burnt by Xerxes in 480 BC, but was soon rebuilt, and was adorned with public buildings especially by Pericles, in whose time (461-429 BC) it reached its greatest splendor.
- Its beauty was chiefly due to its public buildings, for the private houses were mostly insignificant, and its streets badly laid out.
- Towards the end of the 404 BC, it contained more than 10,000 houses, which at a rate of 12 inhabitants to a house would give a population of 120,000, though some writers make the inhabitants as many as 180,000.

# Acropolis of Athens

- The **Acropolis of Athens** is the best known acropolis in the world.
- Although there are many other acropolises in Greece, the significance of the Acropolis of Athens is such that it is commonly known as **The Acropolis** without qualification.
- The Acropolis is a flat-topped rock that rises 150 m (490 ft) above sea level in the city of Athens, with a surface area of about 3 hectares.
- There were temples, statues, alter and administrative offices.



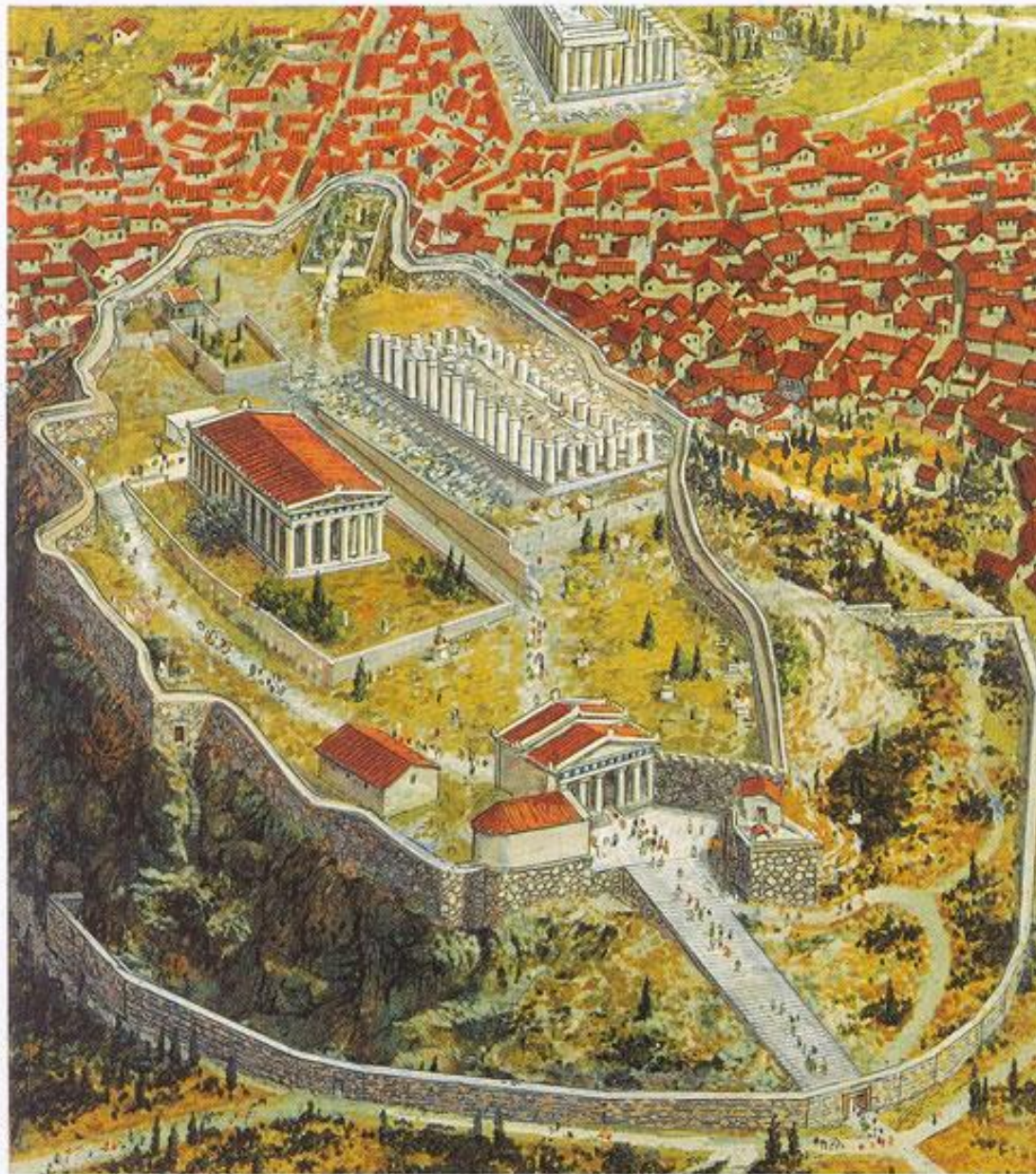
# Acropolis of Athens



# Acropolis of Athens







54. The Acropolis as it would have appeared in 480 B.C., with the old temple of Athena (ca. 510–500 B.C.) on the left and the half-finished older Parthenon (started ca. 490 B.C.) on the right. (Watercolor by Peter Connolly)







# Statues of Athena



Athena. Bronze group by Myron. Photo ©Maicar Förlag-GML



# Agora of Athens

- The civic life of ancient Athens was centered on the agora (marketplace).
- Socrates wandered the streets annoying the pseudo-intellectuals.
- The Agora served as a place to talk about current events, politics, nature and business.

# Public Buildings of Athens

- ***Temples.*** Of these the most important was the *Olympieion*, or Temple of Olympian Zeus, southeast of the Acropolis.
- The *Bouleuterion* (Senate House), at the west side of the Agora.
- The *Tholos*, a round building close to the Bouleuterion.
- *Stoae*, or Colonnades, supported by pillars, and used as places of resort in the heat of the day, of which there were several in Athens.
- ***Theatres.*** The *Theatre of Dionysus*, on the southeast slope of the Acropolis, was the great theatre of the state.
- ***Panathenaic Stadium***, south of the Ilissos, in the district Agrai, where the athletic portion of the Panathenaic Games were held.

# Athens Housing

- The residential area of Athens consisted of narrow, winding streets and small, poorly constructed houses.
- Somewhat paradoxically, it was not until the fourth century B.C: when Athens' economy was declining that houses began to be constructed in a more luxuriously style.
- The houses of the poor consisted of only one room, divided up into two different spaces by makeshift platforms.

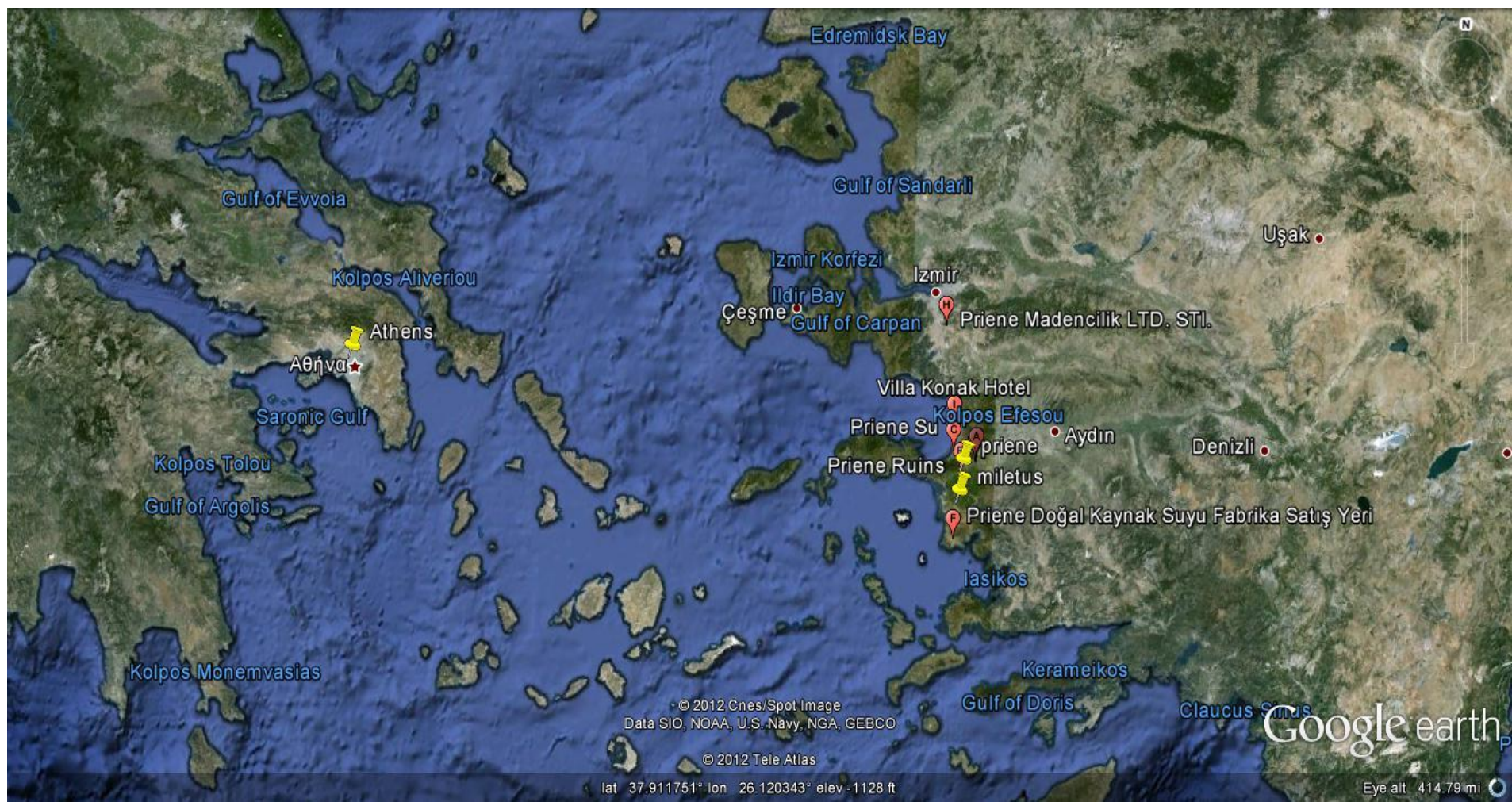


City of Priene

# City of Priene

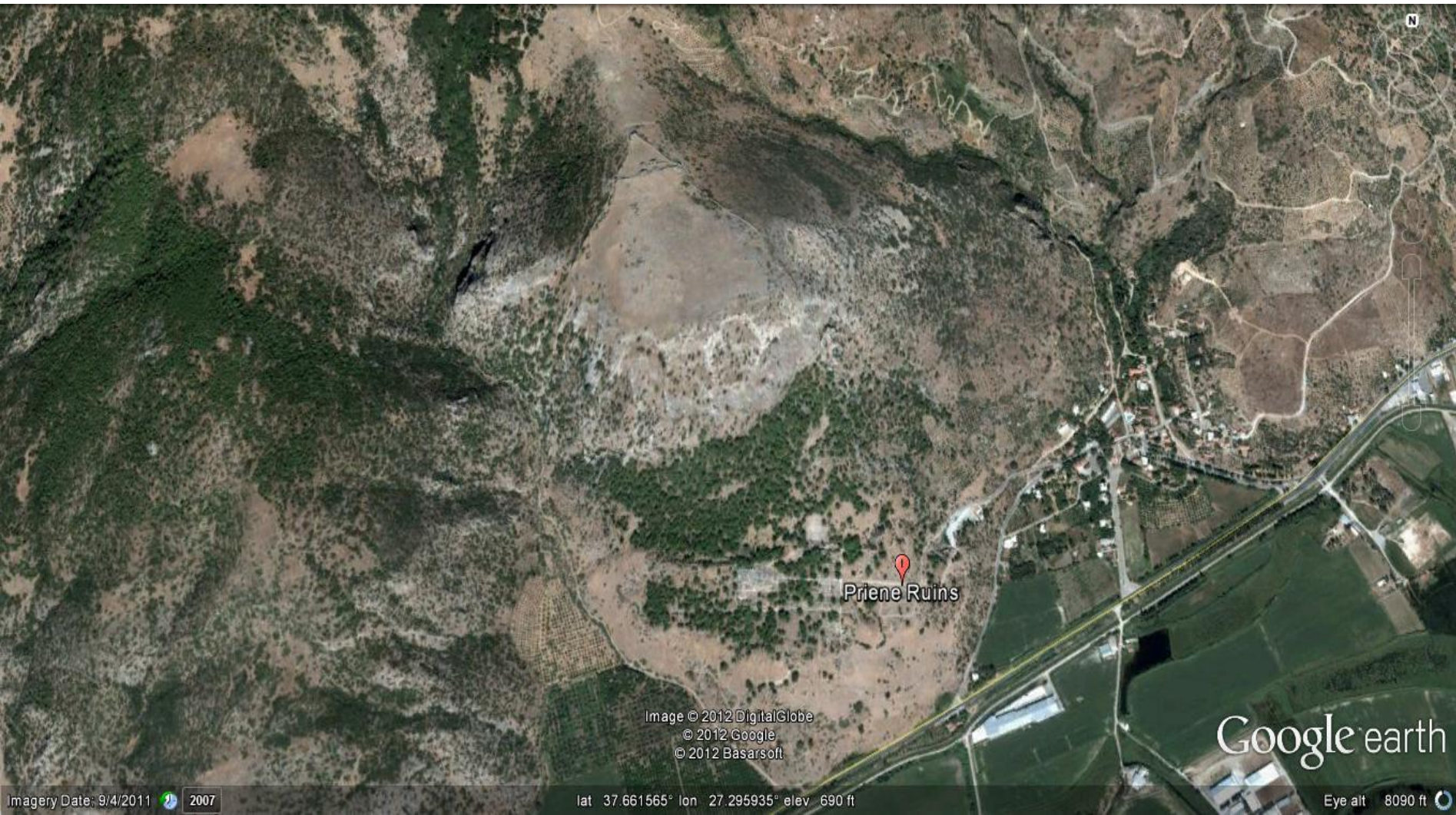
- Priene was a little town on the east coast of the Aegean, in ancient Ionia (now located in present-day Turkey).
- It is generally considered to be one of the first examples of city planning on a sophisticated grid, as well as a prime example of passive solar orientation.
- The city backed up to the mountain, providing protection from the north wind, with all homes facing south to capture winter sun. The high ridge of Mycale towered above it; Miletus faced it across an estuary; Samos stood out seawards to the west.

# Location of Priene





# Location of Priene







# City of Priene

- It had been worn down in the fifth century between the upper and the nether millstone of the rival powers of Samos and Miletus.
- Early in the Macedonian age it was refounded.
- The old Acropolis was given up.
- 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 77 acres. It had, as its excavators calculate, about 400 individual dwelling-houses and a population possibly to be reckoned at 4,000.



# City of Priene

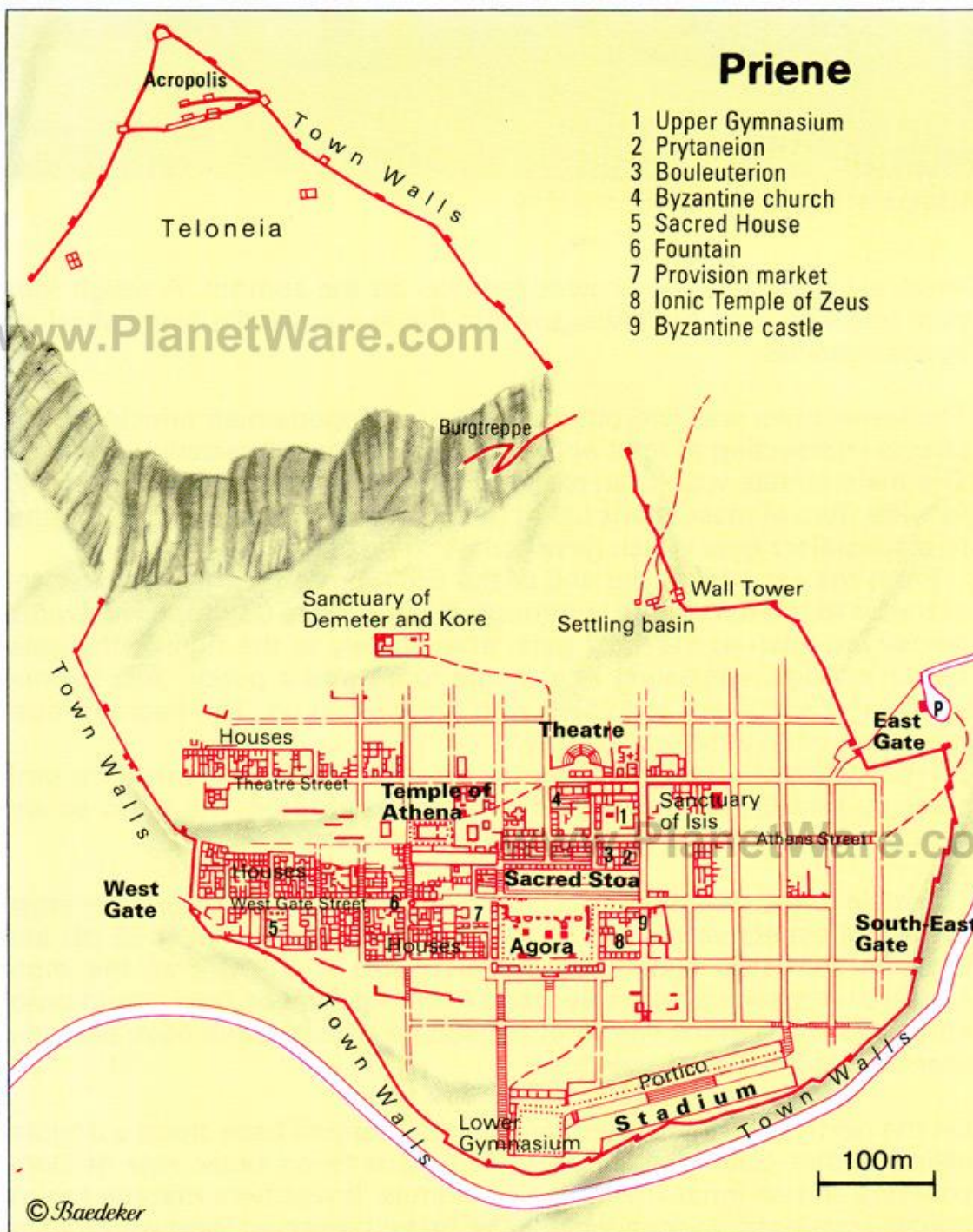
- It had a spectacular location on sloping ground at the foot of a nearly perpendicular cliff, some 1000 feet high, that was the acropolis.
- Priene was based on rectangular blocks 120 x 160 feet.
- Many of the steep streets were stepped, but there was excellent east-west communication.
- The agora occupied a central terrace overlooking the gymnasium.

# Priene

- 1 Upper Gymnasium
- 2 Prytaneion
- 3 Bouleuterion
- 4 Byzantine church
- 5 Sacred House
- 6 Fountain
- 7 Provision market
- 8 Ionic Temple of Zeus
- 9 Byzantine castle

www.PlanetWare.com

Miletus



© Baedeker

Güllübağçe

Söke

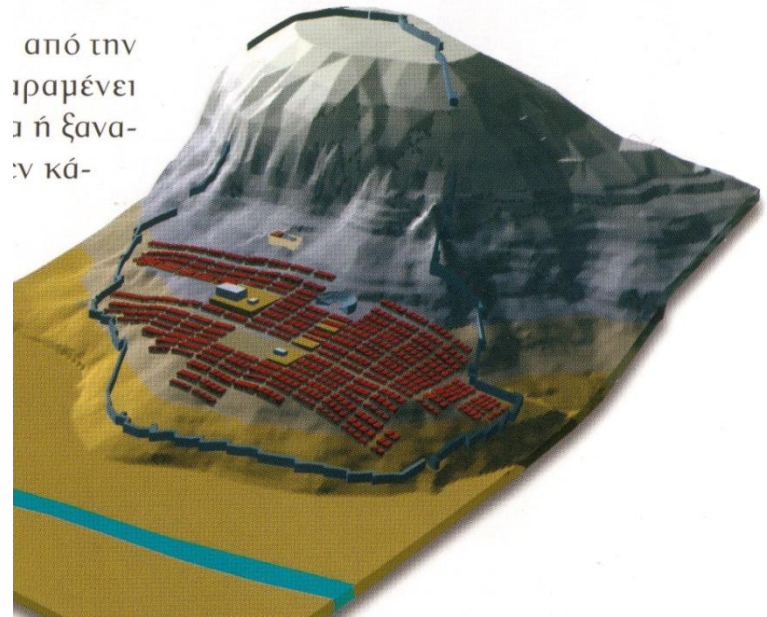
100m

# City of Priene



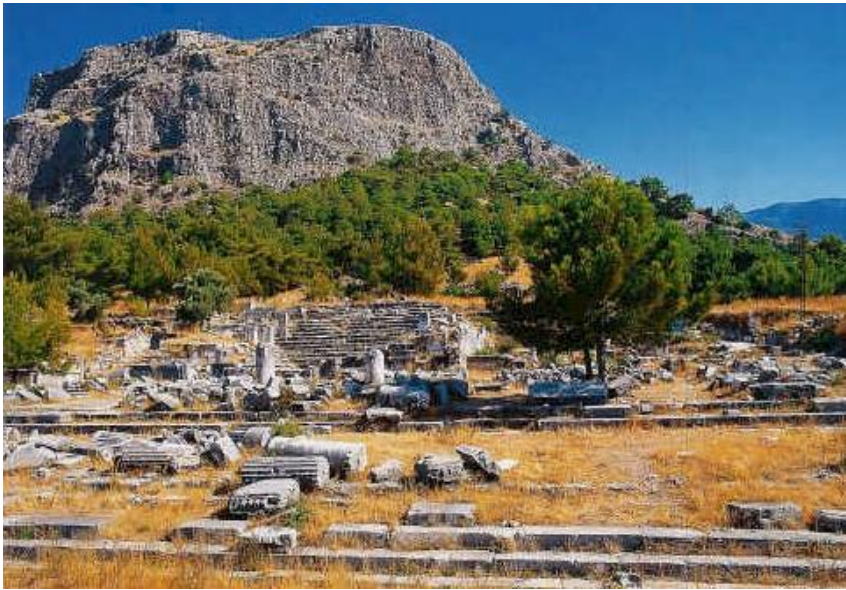
κατά του

από την  
ιραμένει  
η ή ξανα-  
ον κά-





# City of Priene





# City of Priene

- Priene is only 40 km away from Kusadasi.
- And the city was set at the mountain of Mycale( today Samsun).
- Once the city was full of very beautiful and well decorated houses.
- There was a special house for Alexander the Great as well.
- Priene was the first city where the grid plan was used for city planning. Hippodamos used it for the first time in Priene and then Miletus and other cities followed them to use this system.
- Priene is most beautiful in spring season when the trees are blossoming and all the flowers are welcoming you to the ancient city.

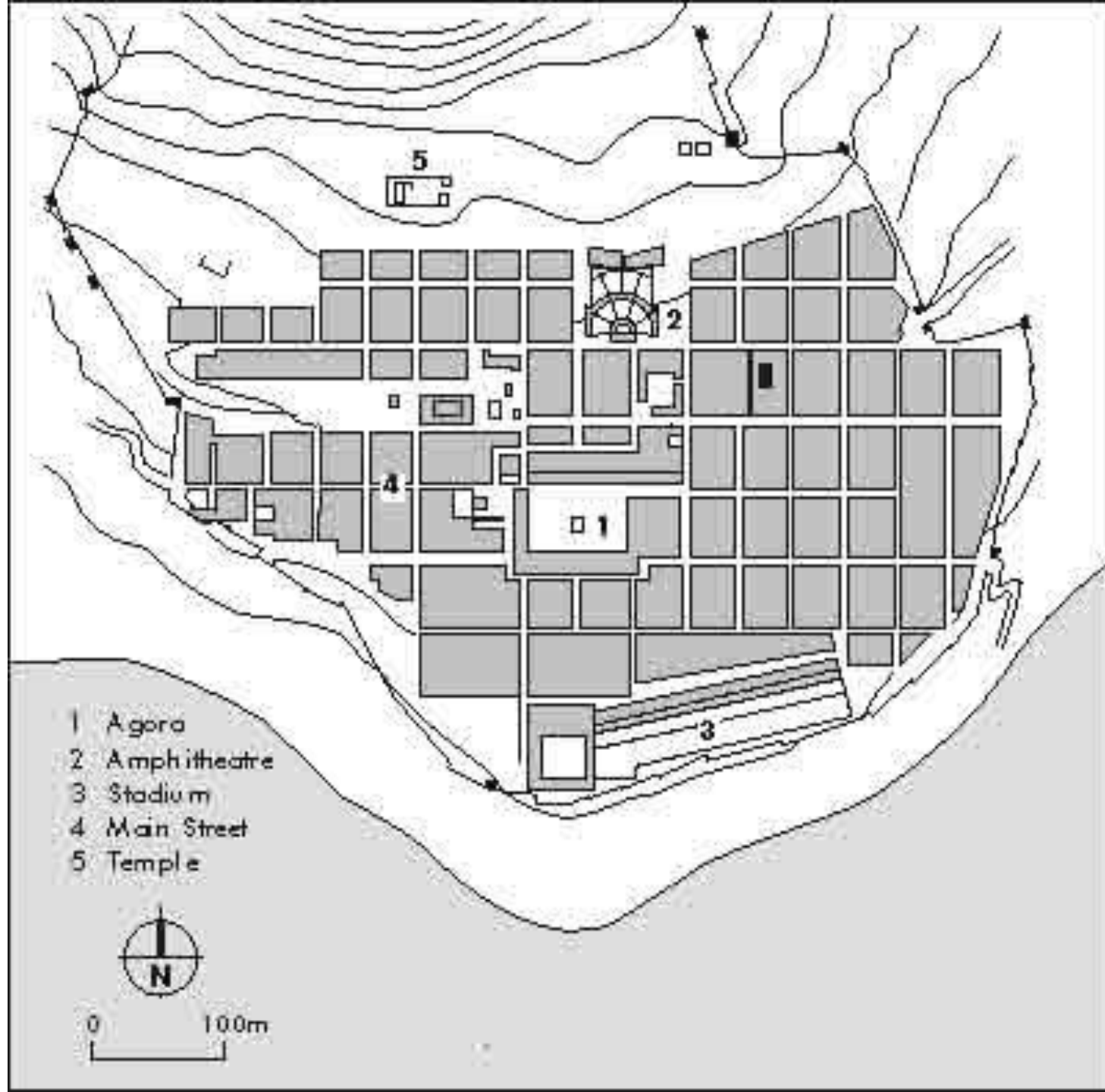
# City Layout

- The city was constructed of marble from nearby quarries on Mycale and wood for such items as roofs and floors.
- The public area is laid out in a grid pattern up the steep slopes, drained by a system of channels.
- The water distribution and sewer systems survive.
- Foundations, paved streets, stairways, partial door frames, monuments, walls, terraces can be seen everywhere among toppled columns and blocks.
- No wood has survived. The city extends upward to the base of an escarpment projecting from Mycale.
- A narrow path leads to the Acropolis above.

# City Layout

- On the lower slopes of the acropolis was a sanctuary of Demeter.
- The town had six main streets, about 6 m (20 ft) wide, running east and west and fifteen streets about 3 m (10 ft) wide crossing at right angles, all being evenly spaced; and it was thus divided into about 80 blocks.
- Private houses were apportioned eight to a block.
- The systems of water-supply and drainage can easily be discerned.
- In the western half of the city, on a high terrace north of the main street and approached by a fine stairway, was the temple of Athena.
- At the lowest point on the south, within the walls, was the large stadium, connected with a gymnasium of Hellenistic times





# Theatre & Temple of Athena



# Agora of Priene

