Athenians Project

Database Search

News & Events

The **14th International Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy,** August 27 - 31, 2012.

Printed Volumes: Persons of Ancient Athens

Articles

Lettered ATTICA: E-Epigraphy Reflections on Three Decades of Computing Attic Inscriptions

ATHENIANS: The Persons of Ancient Athens

An Athenians Celebration - The Biographical Dictionary Nears Completion

Bringing Computers To Classics
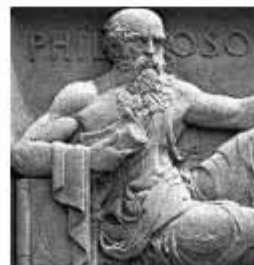
Map of ATTICA

Ἀθηναῖος

Classics, the study of ancient Greek and Roman civilization, has been considered for centuries a quintessential research subject for the education of humanity. It gained its foothold in many European countries in the 1800's and 1900's diminished only by the occurrence of World War II. In this modern day 21th Century, the passion thrives again as researchers from all over the world utilize innovative methods and technologies to enrich the many facets of the study of the rich ancient world.

The **Athenians Project** is a multi-year, ongoing project of the study of the persons of ancient Athens. Athens was the largest city in Greece, and controlled a region called Attica. Nestled between the many mountains were fertile valleys, with many luscious farms. The abundance of valuable resources including silver, lead and marble that lie beneath Attica funded the opulence of Athens. In the classical period, Athens was a center for the arts, learning and philosophy. It was also home of Plato's Akademia and Aristotle's Lyceum. Prominent philosophers, writers and politicians of this ancient world such as Aeschylus, Euripides, Pericles, Plato, Socrates, Sophocles were all from Athens. Because of its cultural and political achievements from 500BC to 400BC, Athens is widely referred to as the cradle of Western Civilization and the birthplace of democracy.

The **Athenians Project** began back in the 1970s. In the last 40 years, efforts were made to preserve, compile and document handwritten card-files of Dr.Benjamin Dean Meritt on the persons of Ancient Athens. This effort also included data collected by Johannes Kirchner who lent his work to the field of epigraphy and prosopography of ancient Athens in his book "Prosopographia Attica" on the citizens of Ancient Athens to the pre-Augustan period.

The **Athenians Project** is now headed by Professor Emeritus **John S. Traill** of the University of Toronto in the Classics Department. Under Professor Traill's leadership and by using modern technology, over a 100,000 entries have been digitized and maintained in an **Empress Embedded Database** . The database is used to search data in a variety of ways for further study. The entries includes Athenian citizens at home and abroad, slaves, resident aliens, and foreigners honored at Athens—all the known men and women of Athens from the beginning of alphabetic writing to the Byzantine period. Part of the data is made available to anyone via the **Website Attica** and on this website. The complete Athenians Project data is available in set of hardbound **printed volumes** titled "**Persons of Ancient Athens**".