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Art of Sub-Saharan Africa



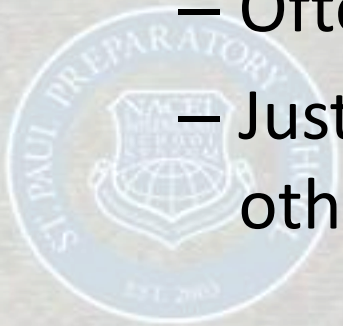
Sub-Saharan Africa

- Area located below the saharan desert in Africa
- 1000s of different cultural and ethnic groups
 - Large diversity in art based off regional and cultural characteristics



The Dark Continent

- African Art often overlooked due to Eurocentric study of Art
 - Often served as inspiration to European Art
 - Just as developed and intricate as art found in other places in the world



History

Case Study: Great Zimbabwe

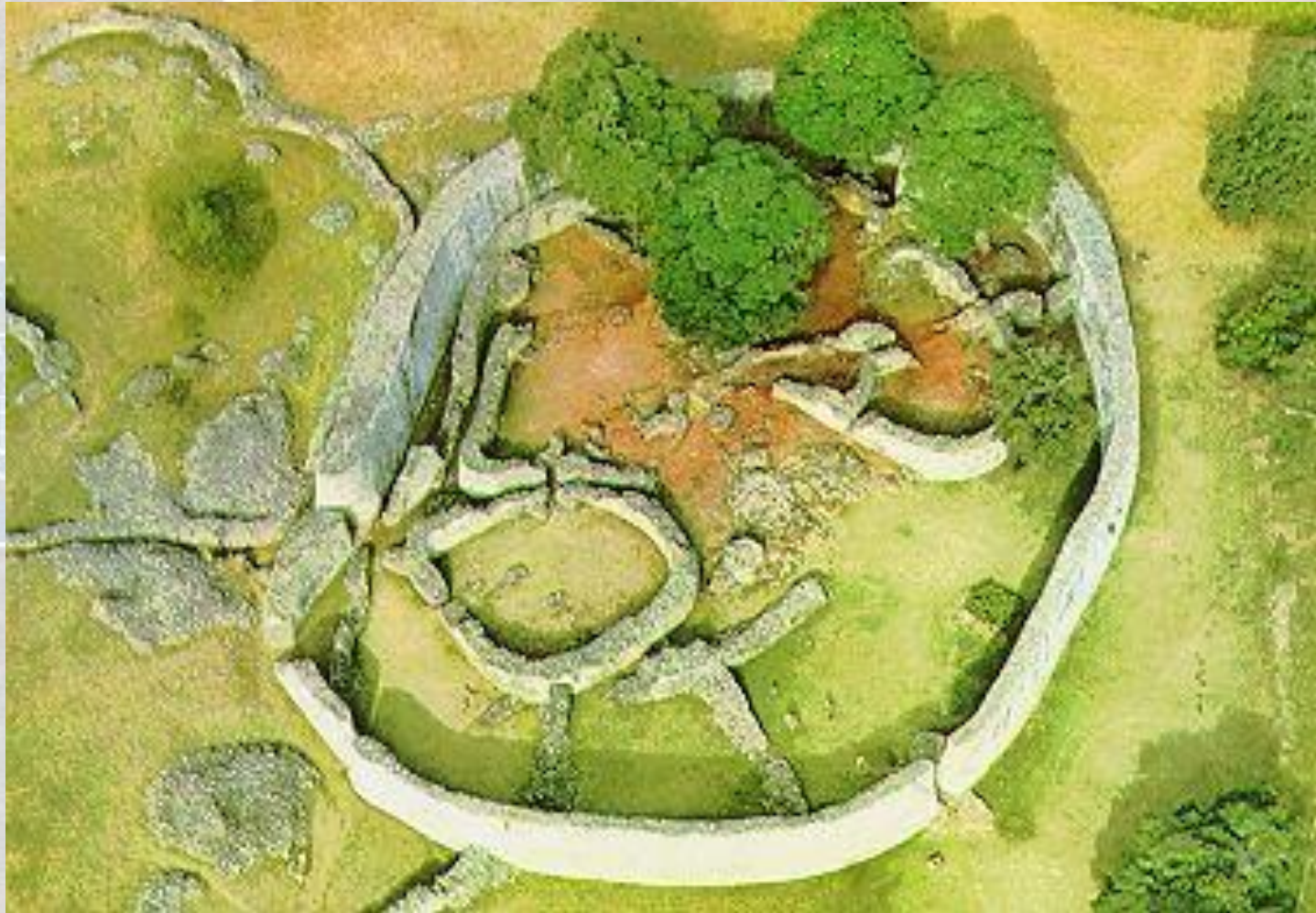
- Civilization that existed in modern day Zimbabwe between 11th – 14th Centuries
- Primarily famous for stone carvings and stone walls
 - City of 20,000 (Only 300 within great enclosure)
- Created by Bantu ancestors of the Shona people



A 4 The Great Enclosure – 36ft tall walls



Great Enclosure of Great Zimbabwe



Conical Tower



- Walls thought to be purely a show of power, provide privacy for elites, and provide a barrier against commoners

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Outer Enclosure



Soapstone Birds

- Six found in total featuring Avian and human characteristics
- Thought to symbolize royal power or ancestral heritage



Zimbabwe's Current Flag

