

CGR4M0 Grade 12 Environmental and Resource Management
Origins of Cities

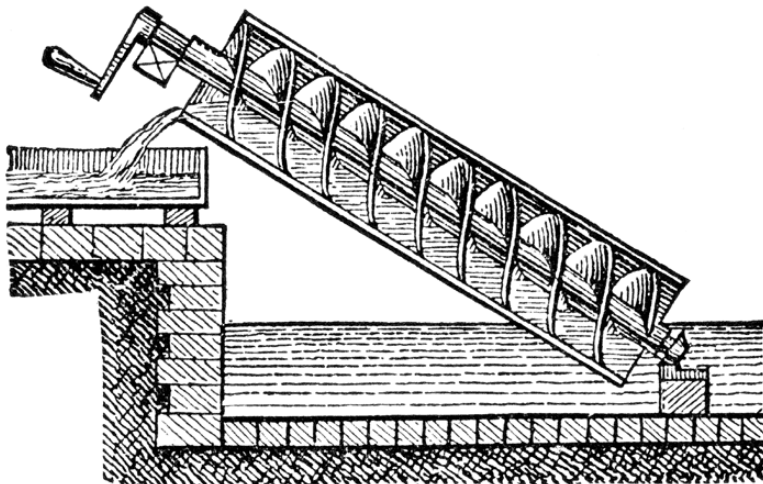
The history of human settlement is that of the movement of people from a rural subsistence existence to one of living together in complex social and economic structures. The following list provides a simple explanation about why cities began. Rather than any one factor contributing to their settlement and development, a combination of factors is most likely the case.

Factors Contributing to the Origin of Cities

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____

Agricultural Surplus

- _____
- _____
- _____
- (ex. _____)
- _____
- _____



The Archimedes' screw, Archimedean screw, or screw pump is a machine historically used for transferring water from a low-lying body of water into irrigation ditches. It was one of several inventions and discoveries traditionally attributed to Archimedes in the 3rd century BC.

Hydrological Factors

- _____

- _____
_____ (ex. _____)

Population Pressures

- _____
_____ (ex. _____)
- _____

- _____

Trading Requirements

- _____

- _____
_____ (ex. _____)

Defense Needs

- _____
- _____
_____ (ex. _____)
- _____
_____ (ex. _____)

Religious Causes

- _____
_____ (ex. _____)
- _____

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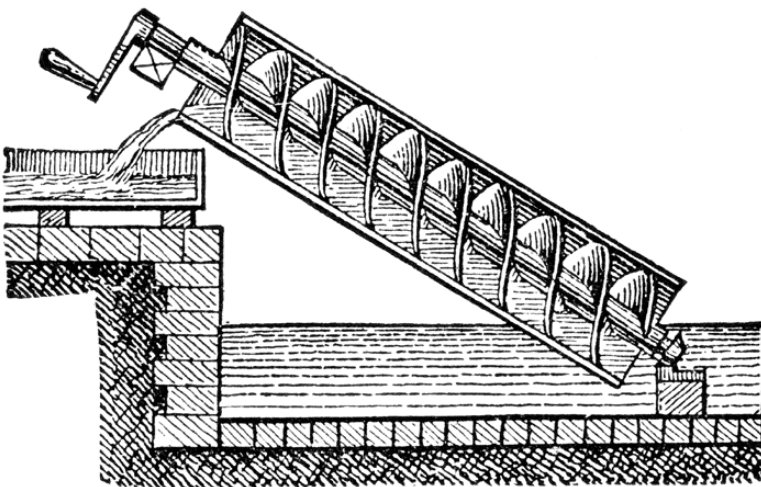
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Factors Contributing to the Origin of Cities

- 1) agricultural surplus
- 2) hydrological factors
- 3) population pressures
- 4) trading requirements
- 5) defense needs
- 6) religious causes

Agricultural Surplus

- primitive agricultural methods of slash and burn provided small groups of populations with a variety of produce
- population demands increased the need for more food production
- larger scale farming developed and the need for better practices, particularly in the area of irrigation methods were required (ex. along the desert margins of the Nile River in Egypt and the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in Iraq)
- larger scale production of food resulted in surplus of food for future consumption
- soon developed centres of commerce around agricultural surplus



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Hydrological Factors

- most major centres are situated near a source of water for transportation for trade, to irrigate crops and for human consumption (ex. Boston)
- as settlements grew, the bodies of water also provided a location to which to get rid of waste

Population Pressures

- pressures for raw materials and for land on which to farm could have been the reasons for early exploration such as the Norse (ex. L'Anse aux Meadows)
- further migrations of Europeans to the Americas centuries later, would result from the pressures of excess population in Europe as people moved from rural areas to crowded cities
- later, in 19th century United States, westward expansion resulted from the pressures of an Atlantic coast bound population that was expanding and requiring additional land

Trading Requirements

- demand for natural resources like wood, fur and fish in Europe resulted in the development of extensive trade networks that caused growth in North America in the 16th century
- the networks established trading posts that eventually became settlements and cities (ex. Winnipeg)

Defense Needs

- settlements provided security from both animals and invaders
- fur trade forts were walled with wooden palisades while in Europe, castles and walled centres are a permanent record of many old-world cities (ex. Carcassonne, France)
- as large nations expanded, their global territorial possessions and defense of trade routes became necessary (ex. Gibraltar, Spain)

Religious Causes

- religious centres have historically been the focus of large scale religious worship and pilgrimages (ex. Jerusalem, Mecca)
- along the routes of these pilgrimages, secondary centres would develop to provide food and lodging