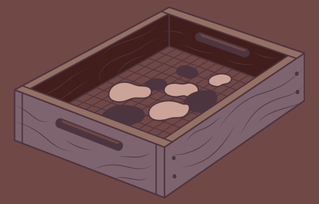
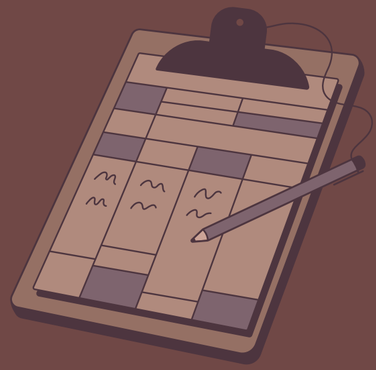
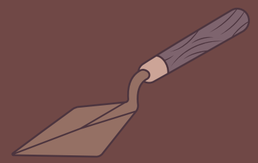




Archaeologist

Max Mallowan

1904-1978

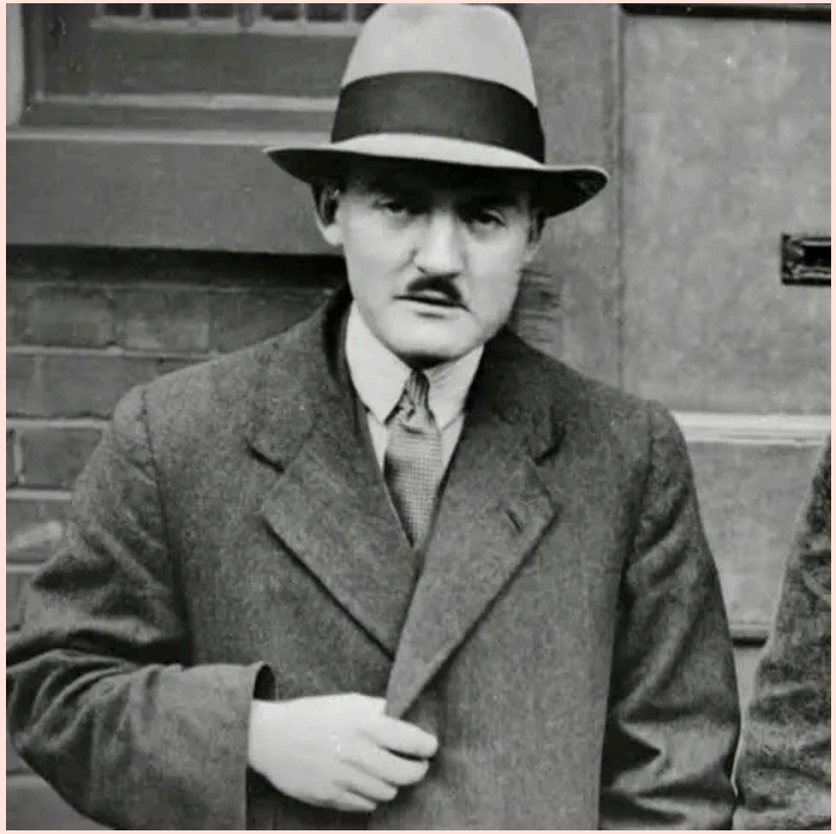







Early Life

Born on the 6th of May 1904 in Wandsworth, London.

Educated at Rokeby School, a boys' preparatory school, and Lancing College, an independent boarding school.

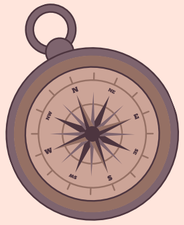


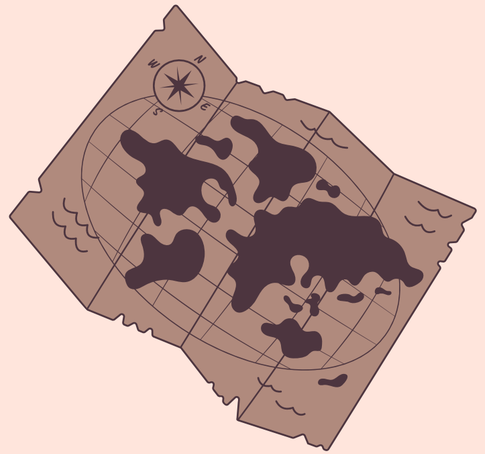
Education

Mallowan studied classics at the University of Oxford.

He was trained in archaeology by Leonard Woolley at Ur and Reginald Campbell Thompson at Nineveh (major Mesopotamian cities)





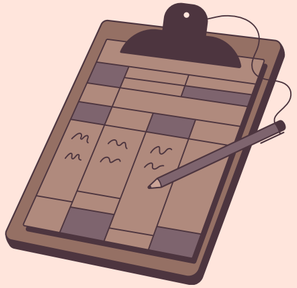
Early Career



Subsequently, Mallowan directed a number of archaeological expeditions sponsored by the British Museum and the British School of Archaeology in Iraq, including the prehistoric village at Tell Arpachiyah, and the sites at Chagar Bazar and Tell Brak in the Upper Khabur area (Syria).

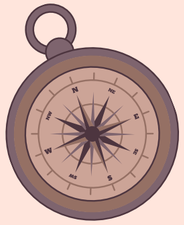
He was also the first to excavate archaeological sites in the valley of the river Balikh, to the west of the Khabur basin.

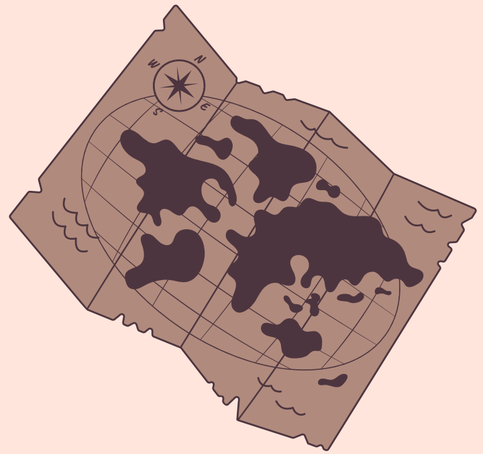
In December 1933, he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (FSA).



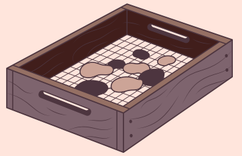
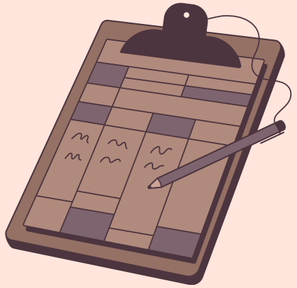


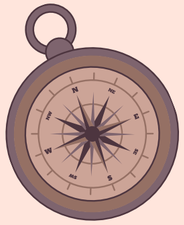



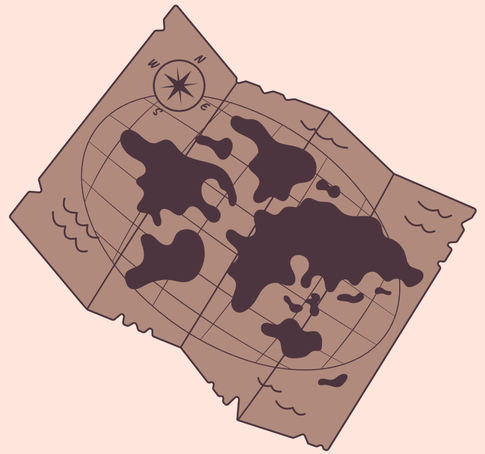
Interval: WW2

When the Second World War began, Mallowan served with the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve in North Africa, eventually reaching the rank of Wing Commander.



Later Career



In 1947, Mallowan was appointed Professor of Western Asiatic Archaeology at the University of London. He also served as director of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq from 1947 to 1961.

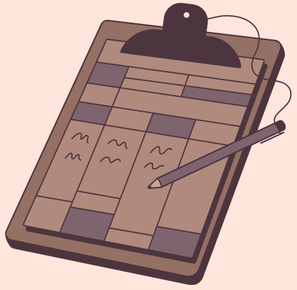


In 1954, he was elected a Fellow of the British Academy (FBA).

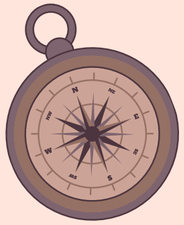
He served as vice-president of the BA from 1961 to 1962.

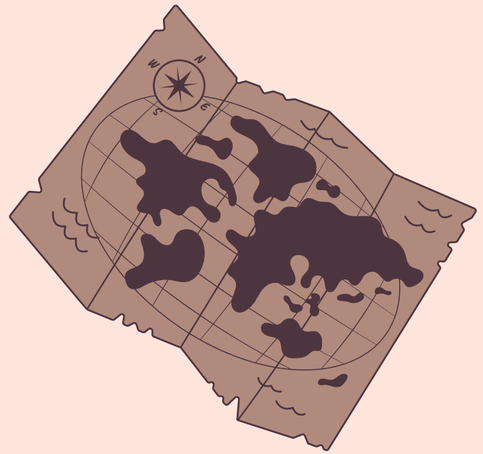
In 1962 he was elected a fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

Mallowan was knighted in 1968.





Publications

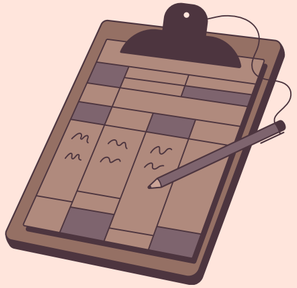
Twenty-five Years Of Mesopotamian Discovery (1956)

Early Mesopotamia and Iran (1965)




Nimrud and Its Remains, 3 vol. (1966)

lamite Problems (1969)






Personal Life



Max Mallowan met the writer Agatha Christie in 1930 and the pair married the same year.

After her death in 1976 he married fellow archaeologist Barbara Hastings Parker.

Mallowan died on 19 August 1978.