

HANDOUT - SECTION 3: Buildings and Representations in Time

Example: The Parthenon, Athens

Topics

- Adaptation, restoration, reconstruction: how buildings change in time
- Modes of architectural representation and their uses
- The relation between representations and current, past, or future “realities” of a building

Key Terms

Building terms

temple/naos
pediment
frieze
entablature
entasis
church/cathedral
apse
narthex
basilica
mosque
minaret
orientation to Mecca
polychromy

Types of representation

plan
elevation
section
poché
isometric
axonometric
bird’s eye
worm’s eye
perspective
one point
two point

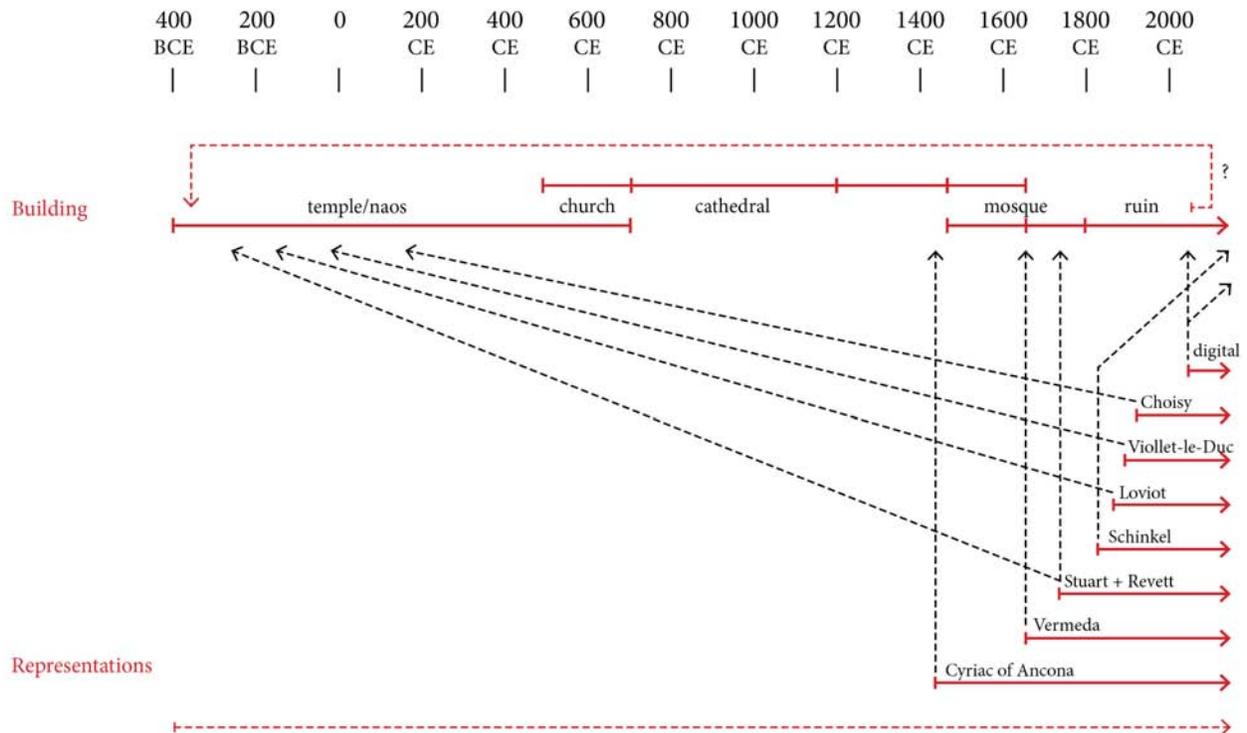
Timeline: The Parthenon

- c. 400 BCE Parthenon built as “temple”/naos (architect: Perikles)
- 312-13 Christianity the official religion under Constantine; gradual conversion of pagan sites in 4th c.
- 395-6 Visigoth sack of Athens
- 582-3 Slavonic sack marks end of Athens as a cultural center
- 5th-6th c. Parthenon burned, likely left in ruins before conversion to church; elevation to Cathedral by 693
- 8th-9th c. Byzantine iconoclasm—pagan iconography on metopes + pediment defaced; parts of frieze remain intact
- 12th c. major reconstruction of church; apse enlarged, Byzantine painting + mosaics added; tower built by Crusaders c. 1204
- 1456 Ottoman conquest of Athens; Acropolis becomes fortress + residence of Turkish military commander
- c. 1460 conversion of Parthenon into mosque; minaret added
- 1687 Venetians lay siege to Athens; mortar explodes munitions stored in Parthenon, destroying central portion of building
- after 1699 small mosque for fortress troops built inside ruins
- 1802 Lord Elgin removes marble sculptures from upper walls
- 1821-43 Greek independence (Otto, King of Bavaria declared King of Greece 1832); mosque destroyed

Selected representations of the Parthenon

- 1436 Drawing of west façade of with sketched frieze figures, after Cyriac of Ancona
- 1707 G. M. Vermeda, the bombardment of the Parthenon, Sept. 26, 1687 (in F. Fanelli, *Atina Antica* [Venice, 1707])
- 1762 James Stuart and Nicholas Revett, *Antiquities of Athens*
- 1834 Karl Friedrich Schinkel, *Royal Palace on the Acropolis* (project)
- 1872 Eugène Emmanuel Viollet-le-Duc, analytical construction drawing, in *Étudiens sur l'architecture*
- 1879-80 Benoit Loviot, reconstruction of the Parthenon
- 1899 Auguste Choisy, worm’s-eye axonometric and perspective views, in *Histoire de l'architecture*

- c. 1994 The Parthenon as church, section and plan (after Travlos 1971)
 Plan of the mosque inside the Parthenon (after Travlos 1971)
 Korres, reconstruction of the Parthenon as a mosque, seen from northwest
- 2007 Diagram of reconstruction of north side of Parthenon (projected)
- 2011 Mark M. Jarzombek and Vikramaditya Prakash, *A Global History of Architecture*,
 2nd ed. (Wiley, 2010), pp. 130-131



Additional Bibliography

Robert Ousterhout, “‘Bestride the Very Peak of Heaven’: The Parthenon after Antiquity,” in Jenifer Neils, ed., *The Parthenon: From Antiquity to the Present* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2005).

Richard A. Etlin, “The Parthenon in the Modern Era,” in Jenifer Neils, ed., *The Parthenon: From Antiquity to the Present* (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2005).

Panayotis Tournikiotis, ed., *The Parthenon and its Impact in Modern Times*, trans. Cox and Solman (Athens: Melissa and New York: Abrams, c. 1994).

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