Hellenistic Greek Temples and Sanctuaries

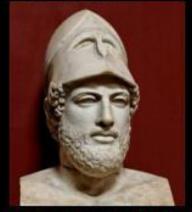
Late 4th centuries – 1st centuries BC

II. Introduction: The Hellenistic Period in Architecture

Hellenistic period: 338 – 31 B.C.

Hellas meant Greece in Greek (modern Greek Ellas)

Classical period: 481-338 B.C.



Pericles, democratic leader

From

From the defeat of the Persians at Salamis in 481 B.C.

to

Battle of Chaeronea in 338 B.C.



Alexander the Great, king and emperor

From

Alexander 's father Phillip II ends independence of Greek city-states in Battle of Chaeronea in 338 B.C.

to

Romans conquer Cleopatra's Egypt in 31 B.C.

II. A. What major political event ushered in the Hellenistic period?

Reign of Alexander the Great 336-323 B.C. as king of the Hellenistic Empire



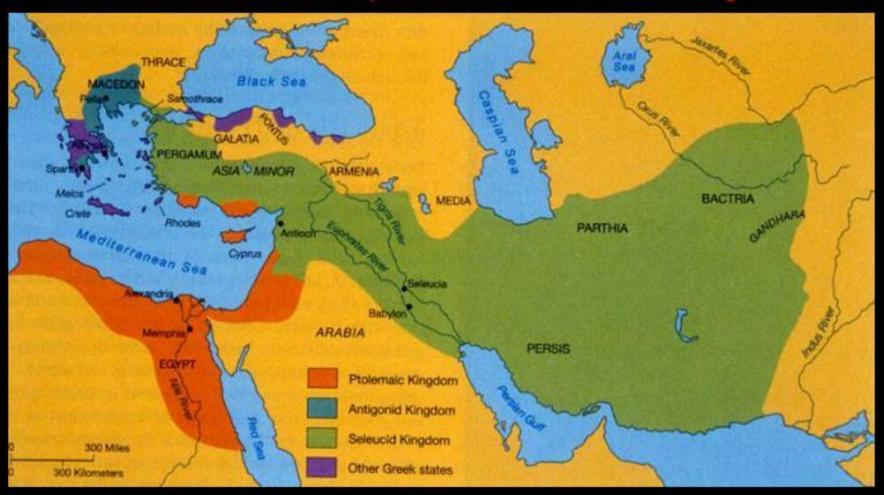
II. B. What political system was imposed upon the Greek lands?

The Hellenistic Empire of Alexander the Great, 334-323 B.C.



Hellenistic assimilation of Greek culture far beyond the Aegean Sea

Division of Alexander's empire into 5 smaller Hellenistic kingdoms



II. C. What were some general trends in Hellenistic architecture?

Hellenistic Greek architecture







Monarchy: Ruler cult and its architecture

Subjectivity: stress on introspection/interior experience

Theatricality: drama and/or pictorial illusion in design

Choreography: directed paths

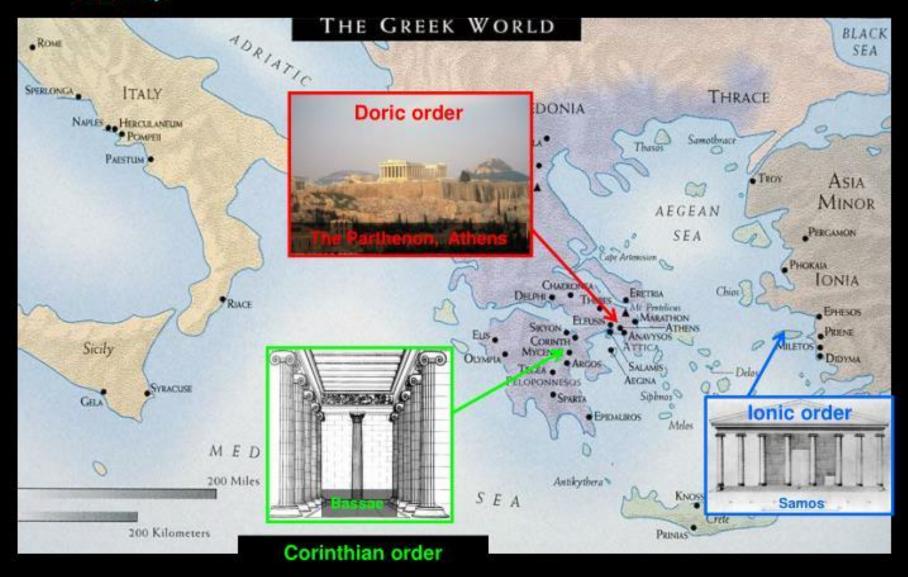




Other Themes:

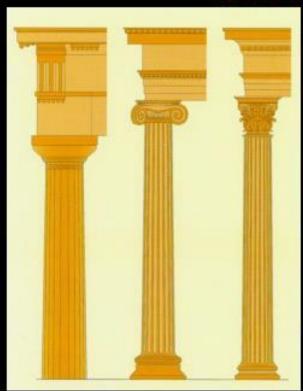
- Corinthian Order
- **Dramatic Interiors**
- Didactic tradition

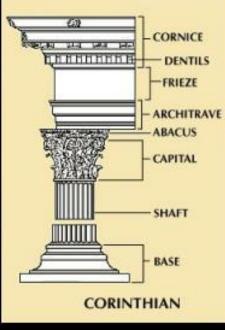
I. B. 2. The Corinthian order: why was it used first on monuments that highlight immortality or fame in some way?



I. B. 2. a. What were the features of the Corinthian order and what advantaged did it have over the lonic order?

Corinthian order





Corinthian capital



from the tholos at Epidauros

The «Corinthian Order»



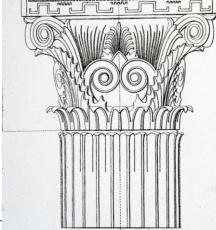
The «Normalkapitelle» is just the standardization (prevalent in Roman times) whose origins lays in the Epudaros' tholos. However during the Hellenistic period there were multiple versions of the Corinthian capital.

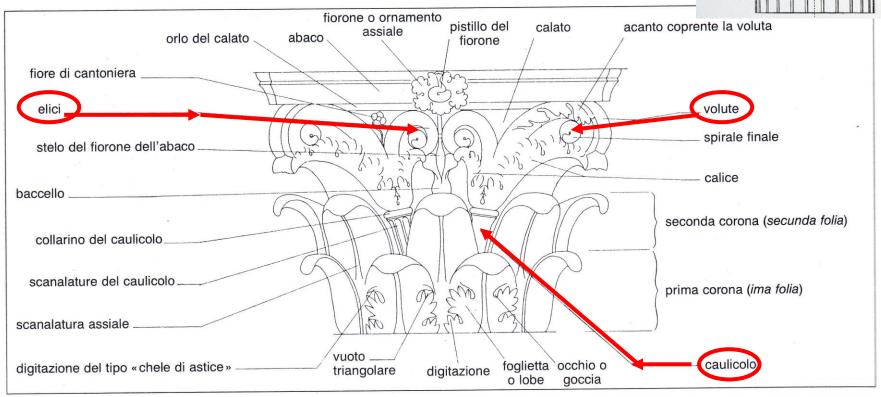


Epidauros' Capital
(The cauliculus is still not present but volutes and helixes are in the right position)

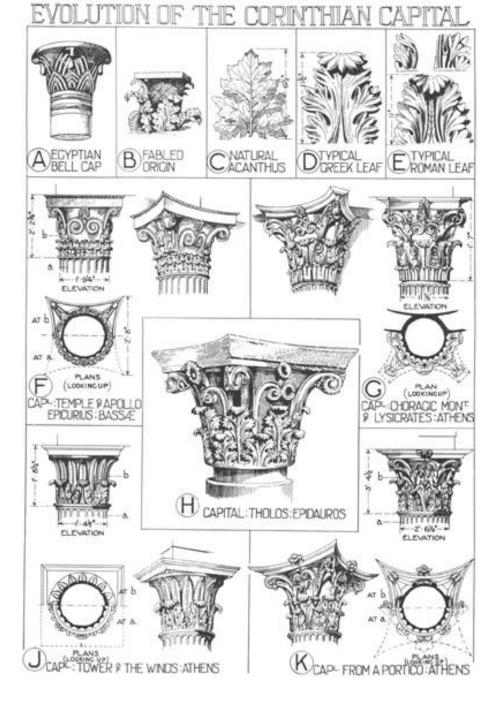
So-Called "Normal Corinthian Capital», compared to Basse

Bassae 1830 drawing Today the capital is no preserved





Gli elementi costitutivi del capitello corinzio «normale».



«Evolution» (???)

of the Corinthian capital

II. B. 2. c. What were the origins of the Corinthian order as commemorative/funerary order?

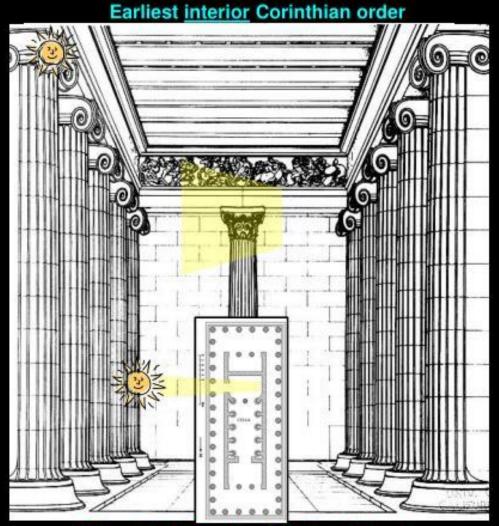


Corinthian capital from the tholos at Epidauros





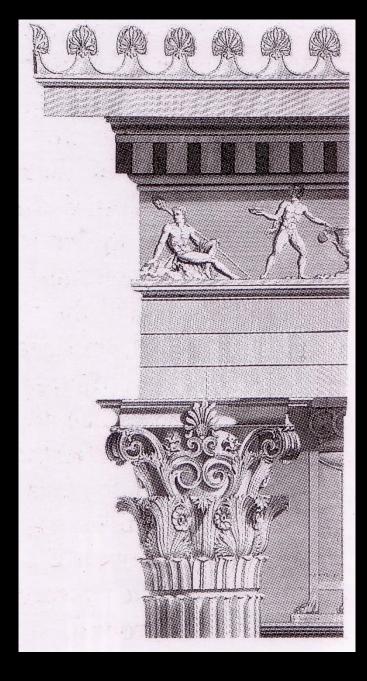
I. B. 2. b. What were the contexts for the earliest use of the Corinthian order?



Earliest exterior Corinthian order



Choragic monument to Lysicrates Athens, Greece, 335 B.C.



Choragic Monument of Lysikrates in Athens Late 4th Century BC

First istance of Corinthian order used outside.





Athens, Agora Temple of Olympian Zeus.







FIRST PHASE. An earlier temple had stood there, constructed by the tyrant Peisistratus around 550 BC. The building was demolished after the death of Peisistratos and the construction of a colossal new Temple of Olympian Zeus was begun around 520 BC by his sons, Hippias and Hipparchos. The work was abandoned when the tyranny was overthrown and Hippias was expelled in 510 BC. Only the platform and some elements of the columns had been completed by this point, and the temple remained in this state for 336 years. The work was abandoned when the tyranny was overthrown and Hippias was expelled in 510 BC. Only the platform and some elements of the columns had been completed by this point, and the temple remained in this state for 336 years.

SECOND PHASE (HELLENISTIC). It was not until 174 BC that the Seleucid king Antiochus IV Epiphanes, who presented himself as the earthly embodiment of Zeus, revived the project and placed the Roman architect Decimus Cossutius in charge. The design was changed to have three rows of eight columns across the front and back of the temple and a double row of twenty on the flanks, for a total of 104 columns. The columns would stand 17 m (55.5 feet) high and 2 m (6.5 ft) in diameter. The building material was changed to the expensive but high-quality Pentelic marble and the order was changed from Doric to Corinthian, marking the first time that this order had been used on the exterior of a major temple.

However, the project ground to a halt again in 164 BC with the death of Antiochus. The temple was still only half-finished by this stage, however it is fairly possible that the roman remans now visible at least partly reflect Antiochus' temple.

SULLA DESTRUCTIONS. Serious damage was inflicted on the partly built temple by <u>Lucius Cornelius Sulla</u>'s sack of Athens in 86 BC. While looting the city, Sulla seized some of the incomplete columns and transported them back to Rome, where they were re-used in the <u>Temple of Jupiter</u> on the <u>Capitoline Hill</u>. A half-hearted attempt was made to complete the temple during <u>Augustus'</u> reign as the first <u>Roman emperor</u>, but it was not until the accession of Hadrian in the 2nd century AD that the project was finally completed around 638 years after it had begun.



THIRD PHASE (HADRIANIC): During the Roman period the temple -that included 104 colossal columns- was renowned as the largest temple in Greece and housed one of the largest cult statues in the ancient world. In 124-125 AD, when the strongly Philhellene Hadrian visited Athens, a massive building programme was begun that included the completion of the Temple of Olympian Zeus. A walled marble-paved precinct was constructed around the temple, making it a central focus of the ancient city. Cossutius's design was used with few changes and the temple was formally dedicated by Hadrian in 132, who took the title of "Panhellenios" in commemoration of the occasion. The temple and the surrounding precinct were adorned with numerous statues depicting Hadrian, the gods, and personifications of the Roman provinces. A colossal statue of Hadrian was raised behind the building by the people of Athens in honor of the emperor's generosity. An equally colossal chryselephantine statue of Zeus occupied the cella of the temple. The statue's form of construction was unusual, as the use of chryselephantine was by this time regarded as archaic. It has been suggested that Hadrian was deliberately imitating Phidias' famous statue of Athena Parthenos in the Parthenon, seeking to draw attention to the temple and himself by doing so.

Uzuncaburç (Diokaisareia), Temple of Zeus Olbios) 2nd century BC

During the <u>Hellenistic period</u>, the area of <u>Diokaisareia</u> was a part of the <u>Seleucid</u> <u>Empire</u>. The region around Uzuncaburç was controlled by the local kings and queens of <u>Olba</u> on behalf of the Seleucid Empire.

Uzuncaburç was the sacred place of the Olba people, but their main settlement was in Ura,4 kilometres (2.5 mi) east of the site of Diokaisareia

<u>The mordern Turk name derives from</u> the Hellenistic tower: <u>Uzuncaburc</u>, which means "tall bastion" in <u>Turkish</u>.

Temple of Zeus:

It is in the middle of the site. It is a <u>peripteros</u> type temple. 36 columns survive. It was probably commissioned by <u>Seleucus I Nicator</u> (r. 305–281 BC) but other scholars date the end of its building phase in the 2nd century BC.

In the Hellenistic period, the cult of Zeus, the most important deity of the Greek pantheon, arrived in Cilicia. As often happens in the history of religion, the character of Zeus was there identified with the local deity, and as a result, it developed into the cult of Zeus Olbios. The most famous sanctuary of this god was located in Dioceasarea. The great temple of the Corinthian order, erected there during the reign of the Seleucids, was located in the place that, most probably, had been previously occupied by the sanctuary dedicated to the local deity.

About 100 meters after the ceremonial portal, on the left (southern) side of the road, there is the most important monument in the village - the remains of the temple of Zeus Olbios. It was the first temple in Asia Minor that was decorated with the columns in the Corinthian order.

The temple was an impressive structure, measuring 40 to 21 meters, with a single row of columns along its sides. It is thought that the temple was erected in a location where an earlier shrine, dedicated to the Hittite god od storm - Tarhunna - had stood. In the early Christianity period, and more precisely - in the 5th century CE, the building was converted into a church with major architectural changes.





NOTE: the "non-normal" Hellenistic Corinthian capital



Uzuncaburç (Diokaisareia), Temple of Zeus Olbios) 2nd century BC

Unfluted lower parts, Like in stoai



ALTAR ALTAR 75 **0

PRIENE, temple of Athena

Priene, temple of Athena, plan. Dedicated in 334 B.C.

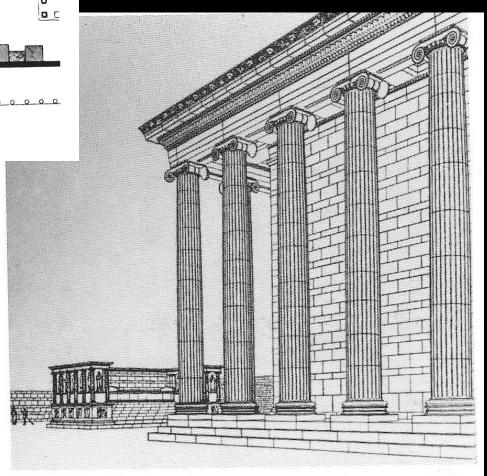
(334 BC)

The didactic tradition

- Ground plan: perfect grid of squares made of 6x6
Attic feet

- This temple is a «Textbook Exercise»
- Architect: Pytheos (one of the mausoleum in Halikarnassos)
- Author of a treaty about abandoning Doric order for Ionic.

The «DIDACTIC TRADITION» in the Ionic Order Erudite attempts to standardize the Ionic Order



Priene, temple of Athena, reconstruction.

The «DIDACTIC TRADITION» in the Ionic Order Erudite attempts to standardize and codify the Ionic Order

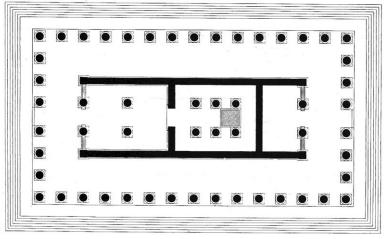
Hermogenes (2nd century BC)

- Like Pytheos he condemns the Doric Order
- According to Vitruvius he created the «Pseudo-dipteral» model (untrue: Sicilian prototypes)
- He devised comples models for organizing Ionic temples (later to be used also by Roman Corinthian temples): Pycnostyle (Dense columns), Systile (close columns), Diastyle (open system), araeostyle (the far apart system), eustyle (harmonious system) which according to Vitruvious was the most perfect and widespread.
- Unlike Pytheos he preferred ad-hoc given internal units rather than Attic Feet.
- Temple of Artemis Lukophryene in Magnesia by Hermogenes: pseudypteral...but it does not fit any of the models which Vitruvius said were created by Hermogenes! It is almost (but not perfectly) diastyle.
- Perhaps Hermogenes' rules were more flexible and open to influence than what Vitruvius seems to imply.

-	Inter-	Inter-	Column	
	columniation	axial	height	
Pycnostyle	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	10	
Systyle	2.	3	$9^{\frac{1}{2}}$	
Diastyle	3	4	$8\frac{1}{2}$	
Araeostyle	$3^{\frac{1}{2}}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	8	
Eustyle	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$3^{\frac{1}{4}}$	$9^{\frac{1}{2}} (\text{or } 9^{\frac{1}{4}})^*$	

^{*(}Vitruvius says $9\frac{1}{2}$. William Dinsmoor, in order to keep the total of $12\frac{1}{2}$ intact, proposed that Vitruvius was mistaken and that Hermogenes' figure was $9\frac{1}{4}$.)9

The didactic tradition



Ahb 90 Compiled do Astronion Widoshatalland 1996Min

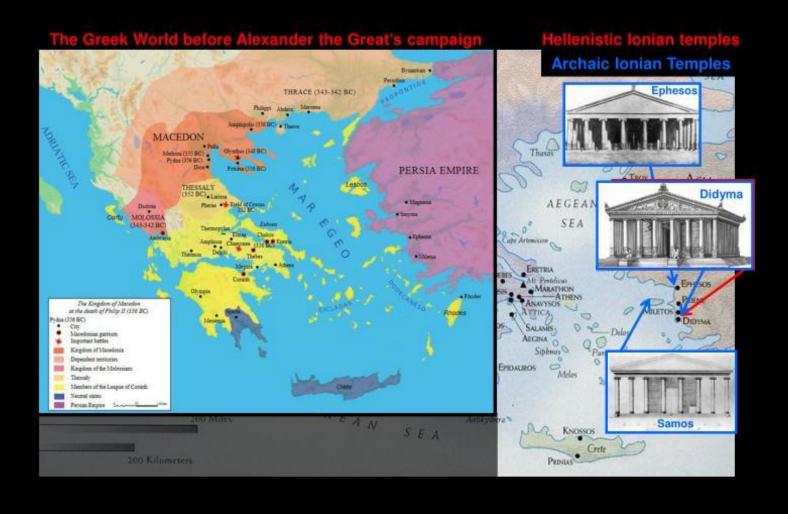
Magnesia on the Maeander, temple of Artemis Leukophryene, plan. Ca. 200-150 B.C.



Magnesia on the Maeander, temple of Artemis Leukophryene, reconstruction.

- In the Hellenistic period there was not just the Didactic Tradition of the Ionic Order.
- The ancient tardiation of IONIC GIANT TEMPLES whose construction periods continued well into this time.

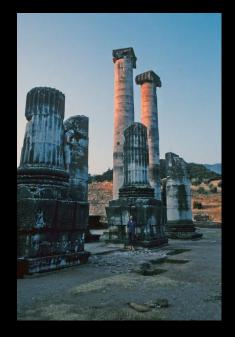
Ш.



Sardis, Temple of Artemis.

It is the fourth largest lonic temple in the world

- begun in c. 300 BC (original phase, just an open podium). The colossal building was probably begun under the Seleucids, soon after the battle of Korupedion in 281 BC when Seleukos I, the founder of the dynasty, defeated Lysimachos near Sardis.
- 175-150 BC a psuedo-dipteral Ionic colonnade was added with majectic spaces on the lateral sides.
 Several scholars have suggested that this phase reflect the growing influence of Hermogenes and his renowned Temple of Artemis at Magnesia-on-the-Meander







Dramatic interior settings in a giant:
The Temple of Apollo in Didyma (Miletus),
(from late 4th century BC onwards)





III. Hellenistic temple design: stress on subjective experience, theatricality

Temple of Apollo, Didyma, Turkey, c. 301-150 B.C. Architects: Pythios of Priene and Hermogenes of Alabanda



hypothetical rendering of the temple midway through construction

Didyma was an <u>ancient Greek sanctuary</u> on the coast of <u>lonia</u> and belonged to <u>Miletus</u>. Apollo was the main deity of the sanctuary of Didyma, also called *Didymaion*. It contained <u>temples</u>f for the twins <u>Apollo</u> and <u>Artemis</u>. The Didymaion was well known in antiquity because of its <u>oracle</u>.

EARLY HISTORY

In Greek *didyma* means "twin", but the Greeks who sought a "twin" at Didyma ignored the <u>Carian</u> origin of the name. The <u>Carians</u> settled this area before the Ionian Greeks. Didyma was first mentioned among the Greeks in the <u>Homeric Hymn</u> to Apollo. But its establishment should preceded literacy and even the Hellenic colonization of Ionia around 1000 BC. In contrary the first archaeological evidences of Didyma date in the 8th century BC.

The 6th century temple of Apollo enclosed a smaller temple that was its predecessor, which archaeologists have identified. Its treasury was enriched by gifts from <u>Croesus</u>. **Persians** destroyed the temple in 494 BC.

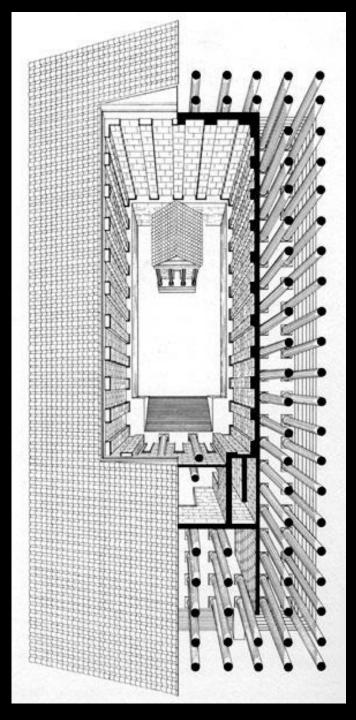
THE HELLENISTIC TEMPLE

After his capture of Miletus in 334 BC, Alexander the Great reconsecrated the oracle and placed its administration in the hands of the city, where the priest in charge was annually elected. About 300 BC <u>Seleucus I Nicator</u> brought the bronze <u>cult image</u> back, and the Milesians began to build a new temple, which, if it had ever been completed, would have been the largest in the Hellenic world. <u>Vitruvius</u> recorded a tradition that the architects were Paeonius of Ephesus, whom Vitruvius credited with the rebuilding of the <u>Temple of Artemis</u> there, and Daphnis of Miletus.

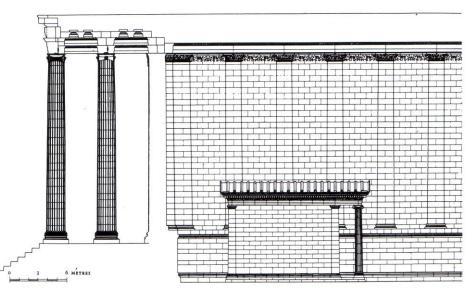
The <u>peripteral</u> temple^I was surrounded by a double file of <u>lonic columns</u>. With a <u>pronaos</u> of three rows of four columns, the approaching visitor passed through a regularized grove formed of columns. The door usually leading to a <u>cella</u> was replaced by a blank wall with a large upper opening through which one could glimpse the upper part of the <u>naiskos</u> in the inner court (<u>adyton</u>).

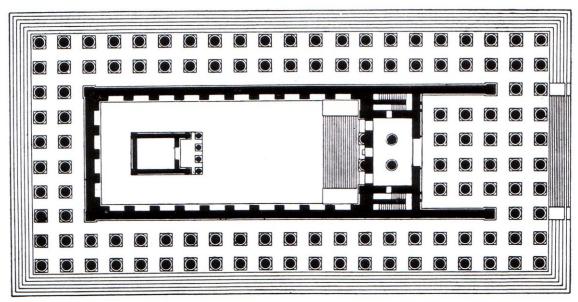
The entry route lay down either of two long constricted sloping passageways built within the thickness of the walls and giving access to the inner court, still open to the sky but isolated from the world by the high walls of the cella. This was the location of an ancient spring, the *naiskos*—which was itself a small temple, containing in its own small cella the bronze <u>cult image</u> of the god—and a grove of laurels, sacred to Apollo. The inner walls of the cella were articulated by pilasters standing on a base the height of a man (1.94 m). Turning back again, the visitor saw a monumental staircase that led up to three openings to a room^[19] whose roof was supported by two columns on the central cross-axis.

The oracular procedure so well documented at Delphi is unknown at Didyma and <u>must be</u> reconstructed on the basis of the temple's construction, but it appears that several features of Delphi were now adopted: a priestess and answers delivered in classical <u>hexameters</u>. At Delphi, nothing was written; at Didyma, inquiries and answers were written; a small structure, the *Chresmographion* featured in this process; it was meticulously disassembled in the Christian period.





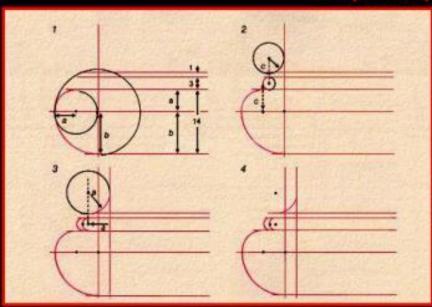




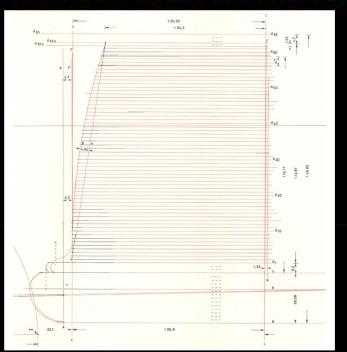


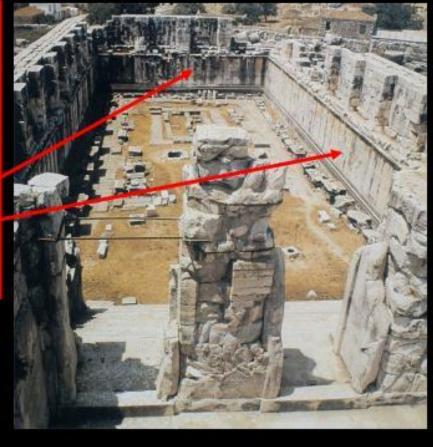


Temple of Apollo at Didyma



Full-scale "blueprints" etched into podium





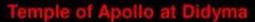
Drawings engraved by crafters on stone may be the only surviving proof of the Greek way of making a project.

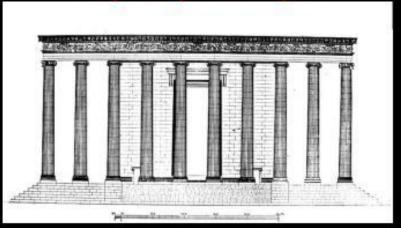
III. A. The Hellenistic determination of the subjective experience of the individual

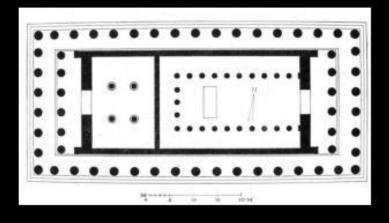
1. What are the basic elements of the plan in the Temple of Apollo?













III. B. 1Classical sociesale the Hellenistic period: Compare the Ionic order of the Classical period with the Hellenistic version at Didyma

Temple of Apollo at Didyma



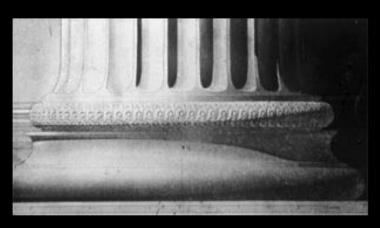
Erechtheion, Athens (Classical)



III. B. 2. in terms of decorativeness

Erechtheion, Athens (Classical)

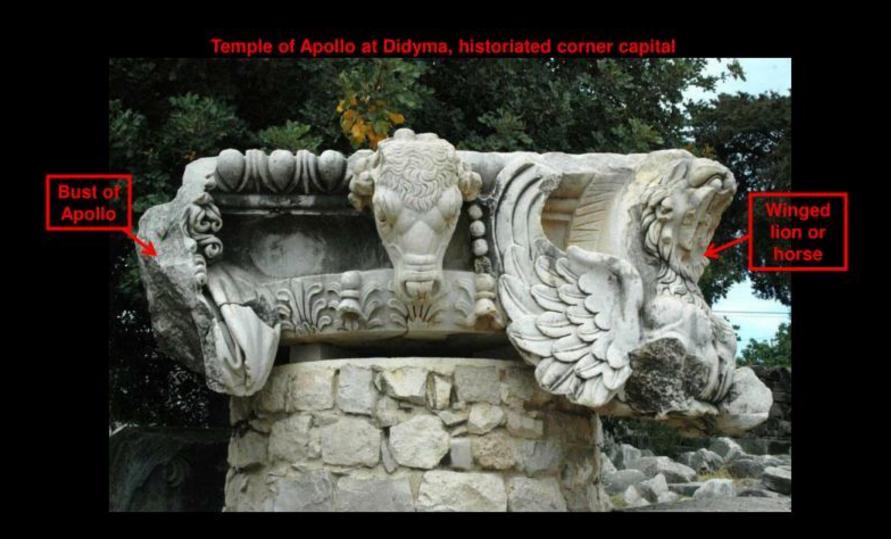




Temple of Apollo at Didyma (Hellenistic)



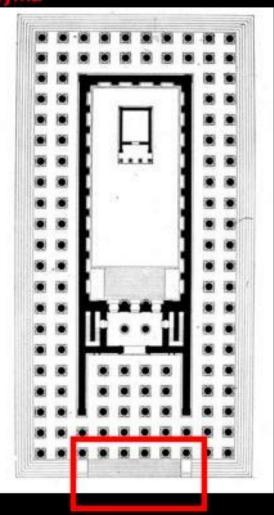




III. A. 2. How does the plan of the Apollo at Didyma pre-determine the experience of the individual?

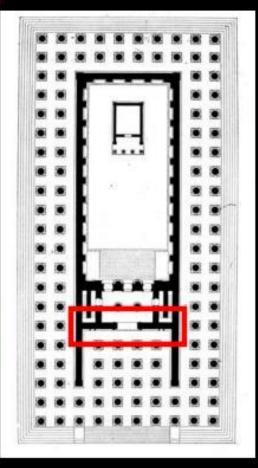
frontal approach = directed experience



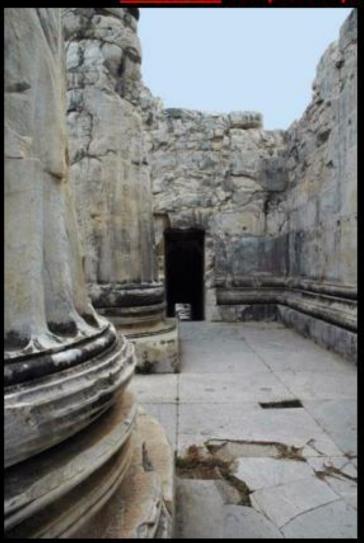


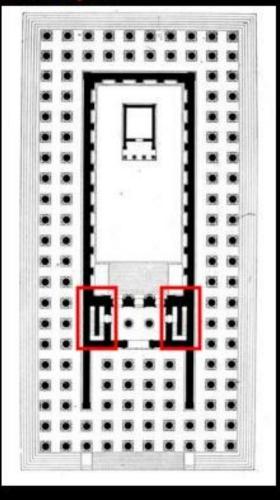
partial revelation - mysterious obstacle





a disorienting passage



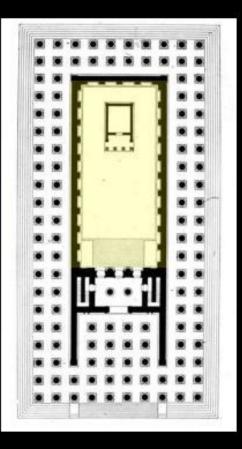


III. C. Hellenistic creation of dramatic and theatrical experience

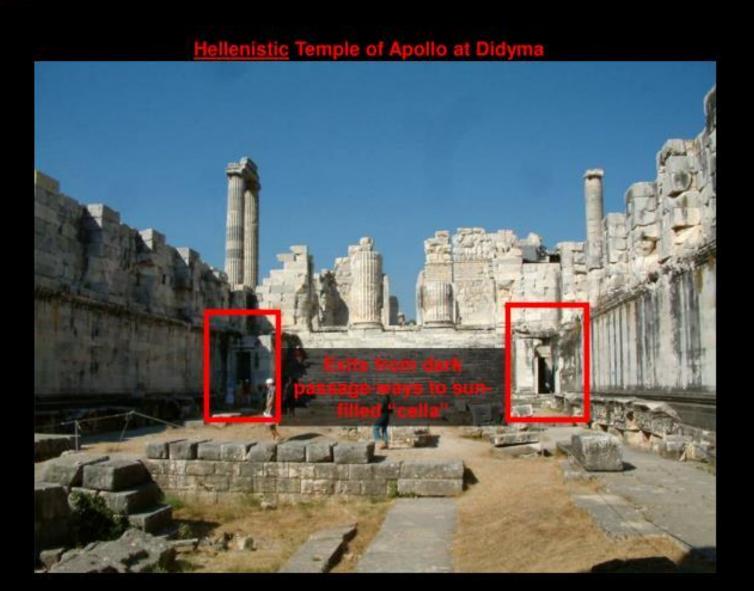
1. experience of the determined path and ramp ("labyrinths")







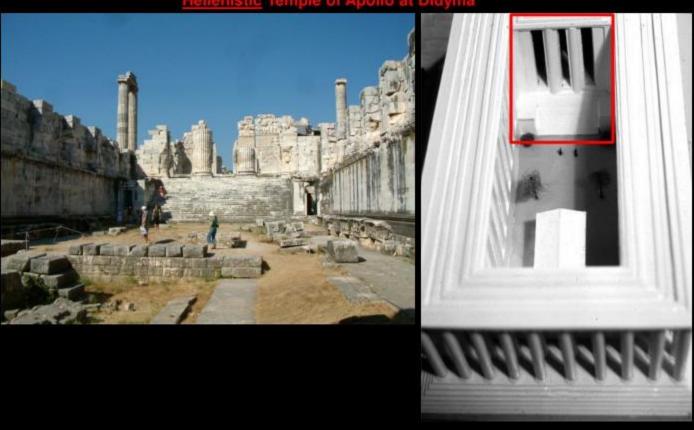
3.



III. C. 2. theater of revelation in the cella

elevated stage setting for oracles

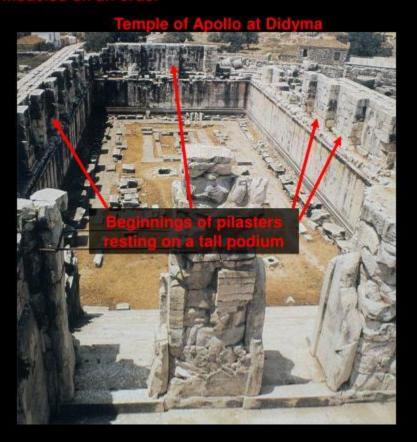
Hellenistic Temple of Apollo at Didyma



III. C. 3. pilasters in the "cella"

pilaster -- a shallow, flattened, rectangular column or pier attached to a wall and often modeled on an order



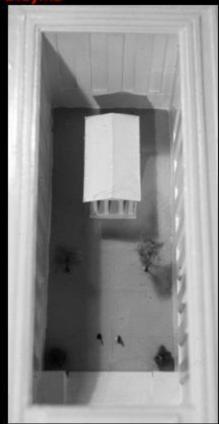


III. C. 3.

pilaster, a <u>Hellenistic</u> development: blurs distinction between wall and column excites surface through plastic articulation

Temple of Apollo at Didyma



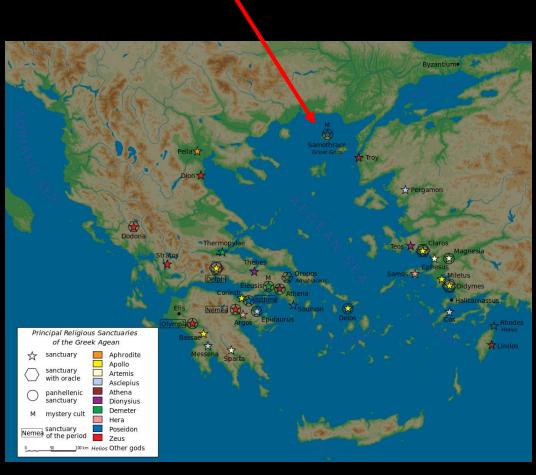


an interior world within a world



AN ARCHITECTURAL LANDSCAPE CREATED FOR MISTERY CULT: the SANCTUARY OF THE GREAT GODS OF SAMOTHRACE





The <u>Samothrace</u> Temple Complex, known as the <u>Sanctuary of</u> the <u>Great Gods</u> (<u>Modern Greek</u>: Ιερό των Μεγάλων Θεών *Ieró* ton Megalón Theón), is one of the principal Pan-Hellenic religious sanctuaries, located on the island of <u>Samothrace</u> within the larger Thrace.

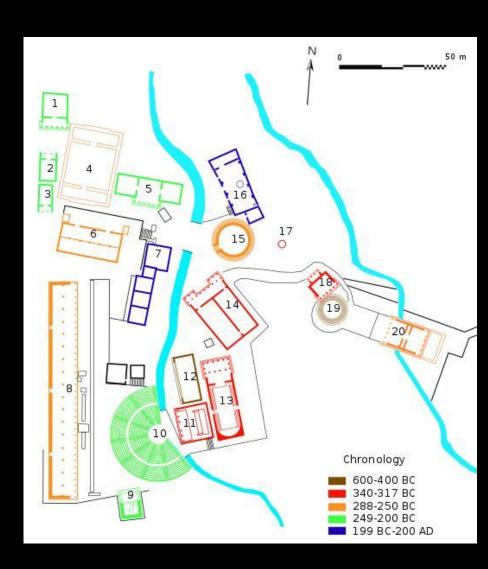
It was celebrated throughout Ancient Greece for its Mystery religion. Numerous famous people were initiates, including the historian Herodotus - one of very few authors to have left behind a few clues to the nature of the mysteries, the Spartan leader Lysander, and numerous Athenians. During the Hellenistic period, after the investiture of Phillip II, it formed a Macedonian national sanctuary where the successors to Alexander the Great vied to outdo each other's munificence. According to Plutarch, this is how Macedonian king Phillip II met his future spouse Olympias, the Epirote princess of the Aeacid dynasty, during their initiation to the mysteries of Samothrace. This historical anecdote defines the Argead dynasty's allegiance to the sanctuary, followed by the two dynasties of the Diadochi; the Ptolemaic dynasty and the Antigonid dynasty who continually attempted to outdo one another in the 3rd century BC, during their alternating periods of domination over the island and more generally the Northern Aegean.

The identity and nature of the deities venerated at the sanctuary remains largely enigmatic, in large part because it was <u>taboo</u> to pronounce their names. Literary sources from antiquity refer to them under the collective name of "<u>Cabeiri</u>"

(<u>Greek</u>: Κάβειροι *Kábeiroi*), while they carry the simpler epithet of *Gods* or *Great Gods*, which was a title or state of being rather than the actual name, (<u>Mεγάλοι Θεοί Megáli Thei</u>) on inscriptions found on the site.

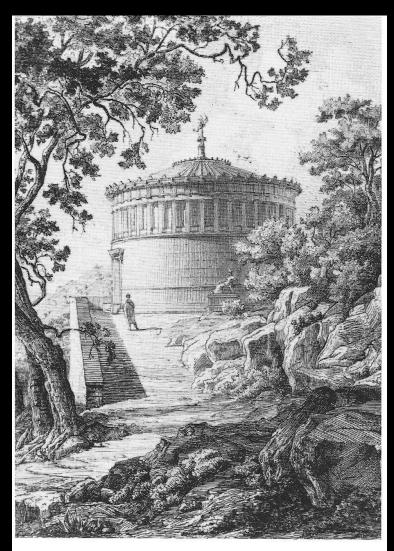
The whole of the sanctuary was open to all who wished to worship the Great Gods, although access to buildings consecrated to the mysteries was understood to be reserved for initiates. These rituals and ceremonies were presided over by the priestess in service to the people. The head priestess, and often a prophetess, was titled a Sybil, or Cybele.

AN ARCHITECTURAL LANDSCAPE CREATED FOR MISTERY CULT: the SANCTUARY OF THE GREAT GODS OF SAMOTHRACE

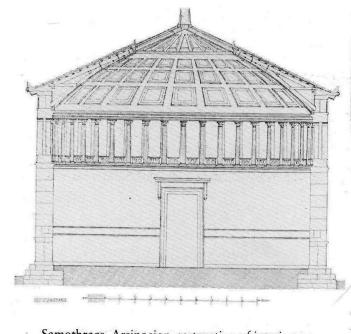


"INTERIOR COMPLEXITY"

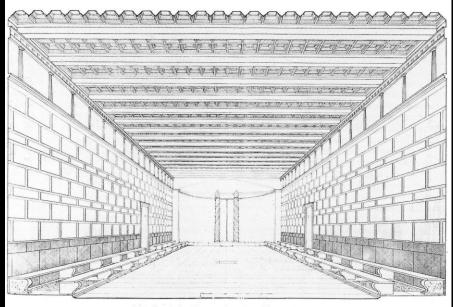
Wide internal spaces for hidden, mystery cults with never-before seen large inner spaces.



Samothrace, Arsinoeion, restoration. 289-281 B.C.



Samothrace, Arsinoeion, restoration of interior.

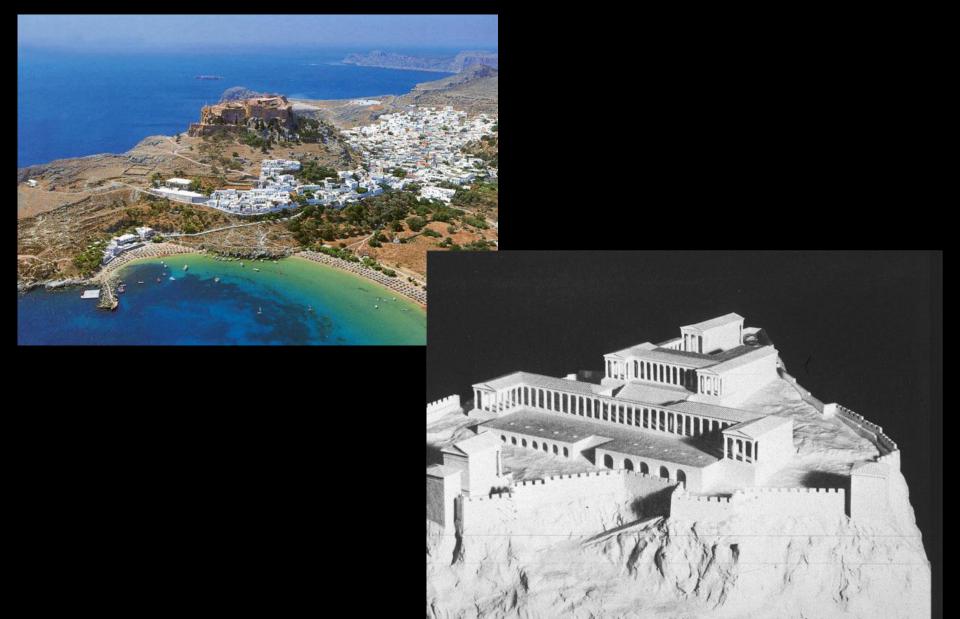


Samothrace, the Hieron, restoration of the interior. Ca. 325 B.C.

An "external" theme: THEATRICAL USE OF THE LANDSCAPE: Sanctuary of Athena, Lindos on the island of Rhodes



Sanctuary of Athena, Lindos, Greece, 3rd – 2nd century B.C.



Classical acropolis design



The Acropolis in Athens

Hellenistic acropolis design

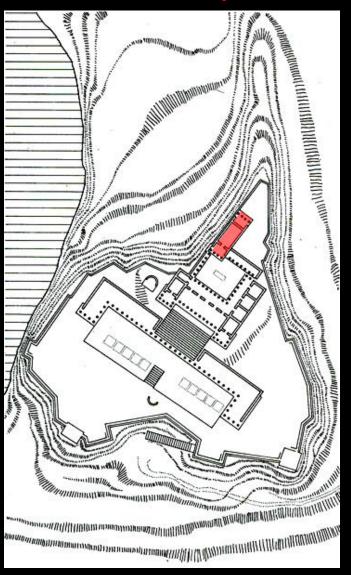


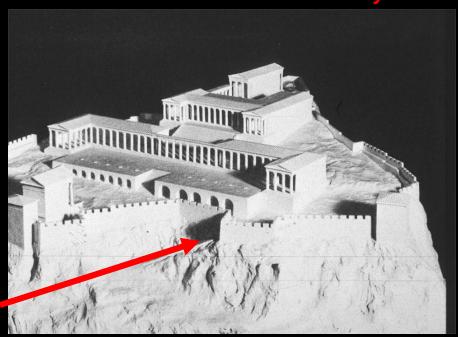
Sanctuary of Athena at Lindos

in the Classical period

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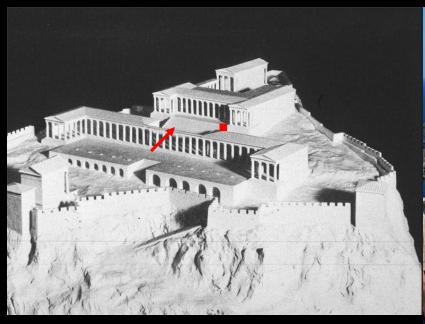
in the Hellenistic period









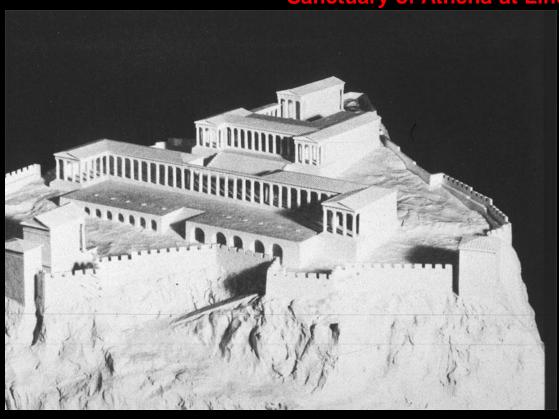


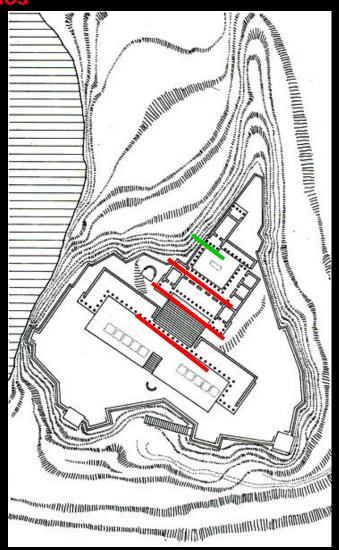
through the winged Doric stoa in front of a propylaia



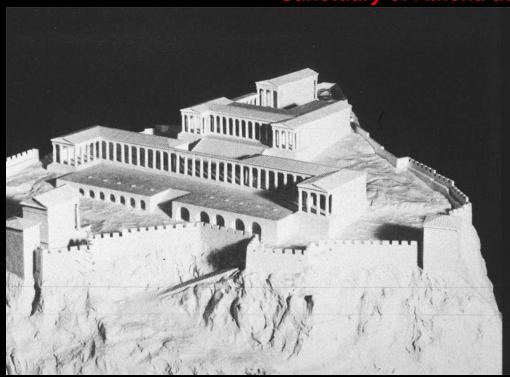






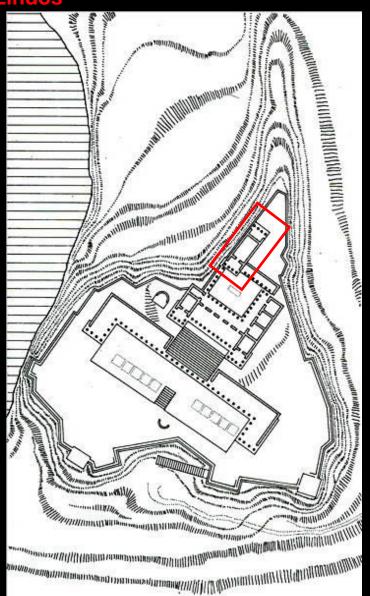




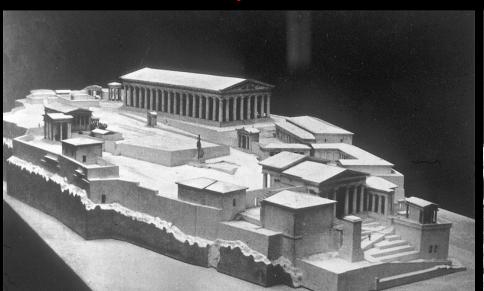


dynamic tension between the old temple and the new setting

columns do not line up



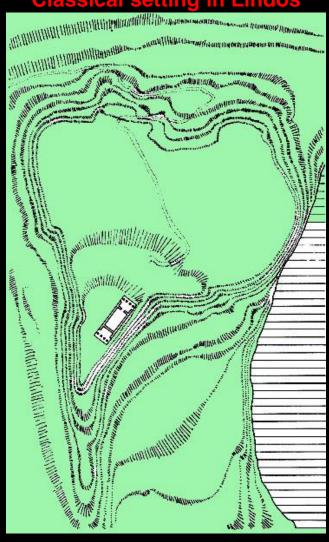
Classical acropolis in Athens



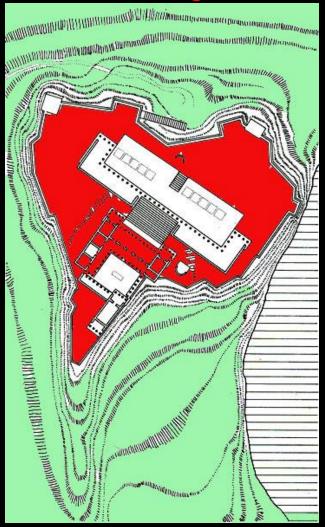
Hellenistic acropolis in Lindos



Classical setting in Lindos

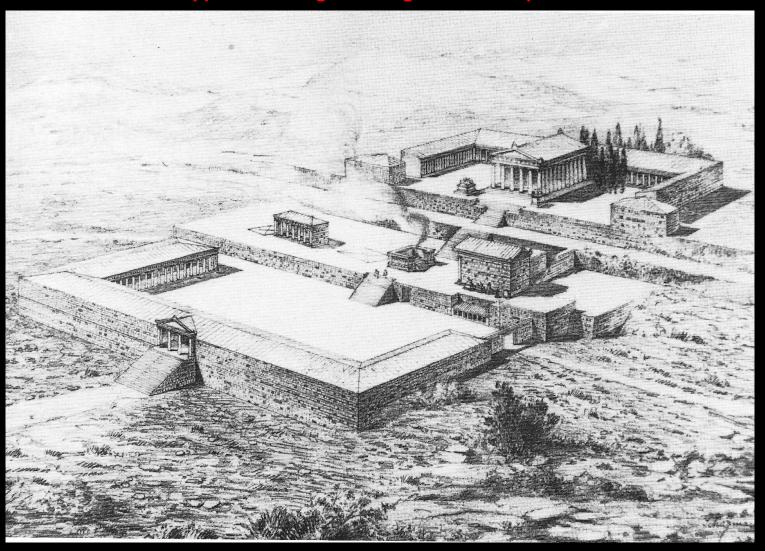


Hellenistic redesign in Lindos



KOS, Sanctuary of Asklepios

- From 3rd to 2nd centuries BC
- Theatrical use of the landscape
- Ritual sense of procession (like in Didyma or in Lindos) The sick of the initiated approached to god through several steps.



Pergamon: the masterwork of theatricality in the use of sacred landscape

Portrait of King Attalos I

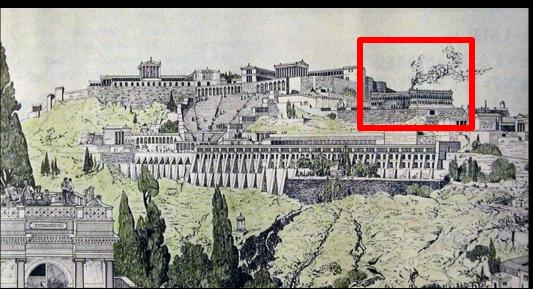
Pergamon, Turkey capital of the Attalid dynasty, 282-133 B.C.





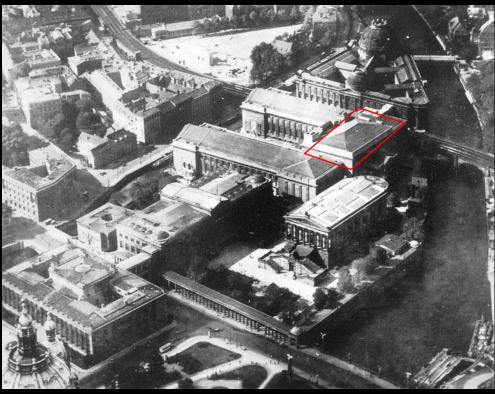
4. City plan and Great Altar in Pergamon, Turkey, 282-133 B.C.





Pergamon's Great Altar as reconstructed in Berlin's State Museum in 1929







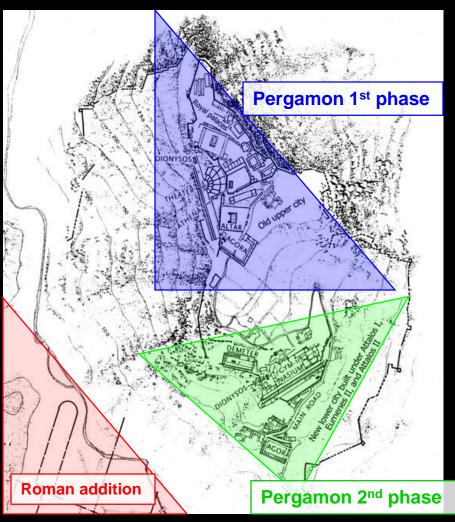






Pergamon, Turkey (Ionia)





Bronze-Age citadel/palace

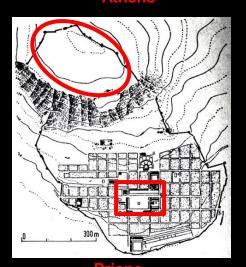


Mycenae, Greece

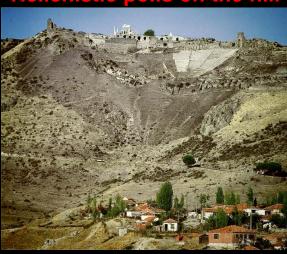
Classical polis



Athens



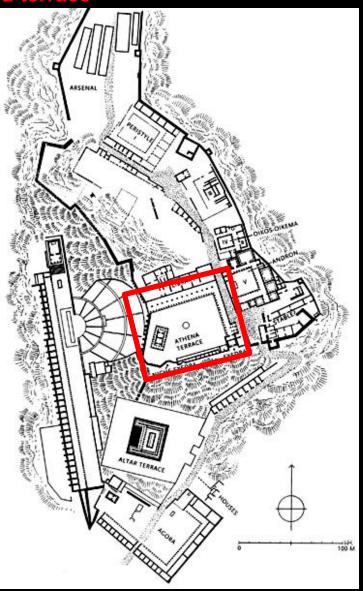
Hellenistic polis on the hill



Pergamon

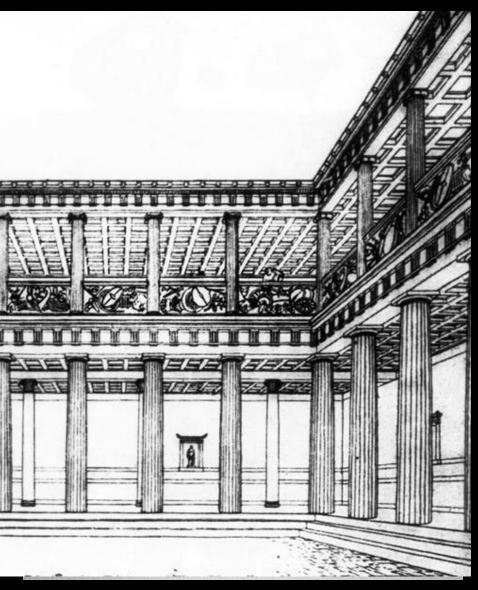
Pergamon – the Athena terrace





Propylon gate entrance to the Athena terrace Stoa on the Athena terrace





Royal Palace addition by King Eumenes II BUND BEER S

Royal Palace buildings

ARSENAL

ARSENA

Pergamon





COMPARISONS: theatrical sanctuaries

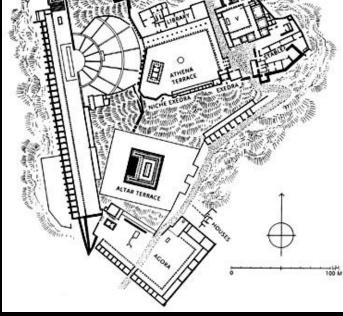
5.

Hellenistic Lindos



Hellenistic Pergamon



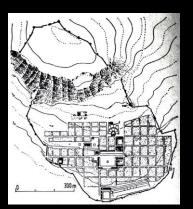


COMPARISONS: contrast with classical mentality

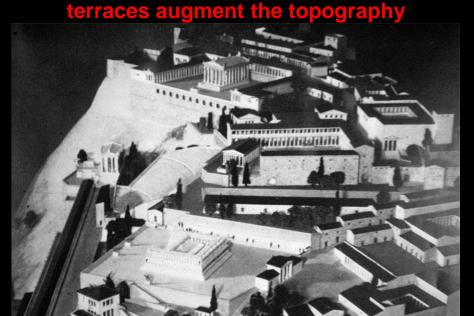
terraces ignore topography in order to "reveal" Pythagorean substratum



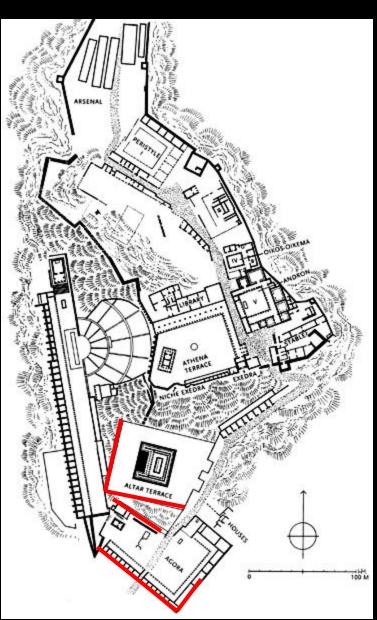
Priene, Turkey (Ionia)



Classical Priene

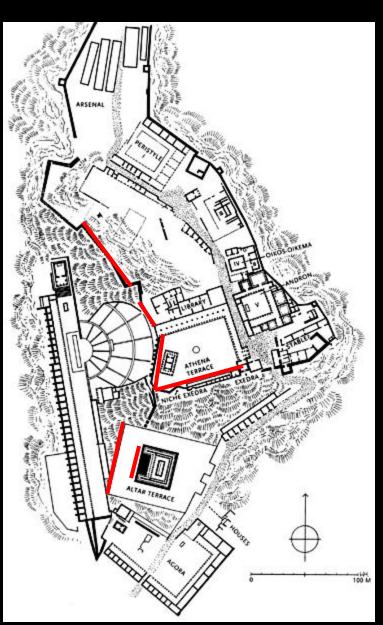


Pergamon, Turkey (Ionia)



Pergamon

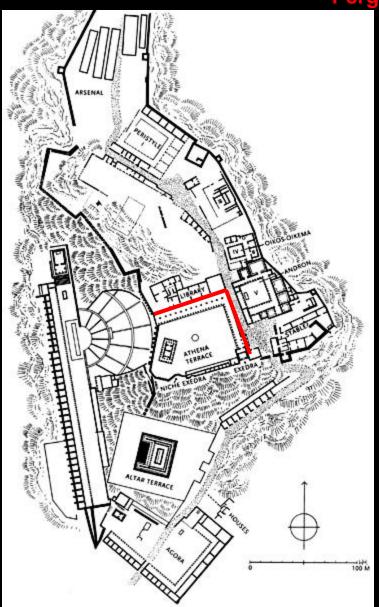




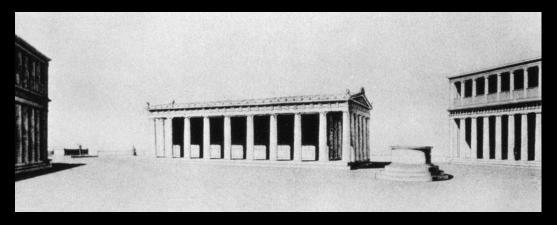
Pergamon



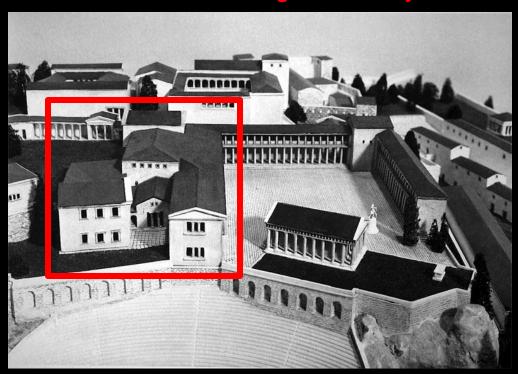
Pergamon – Athena Terrace

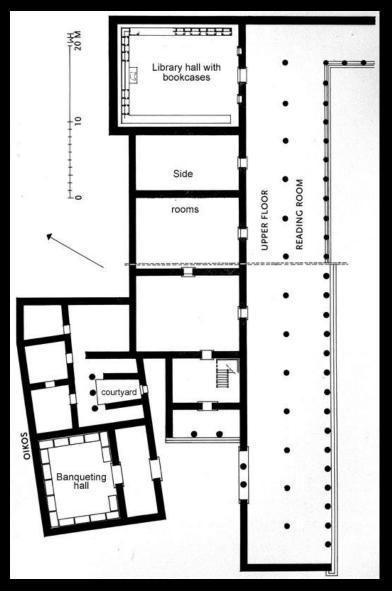




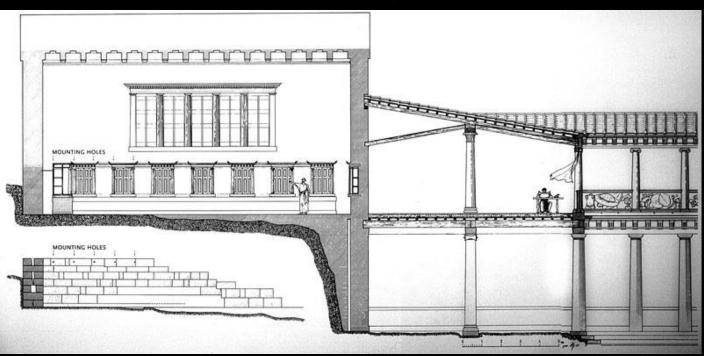


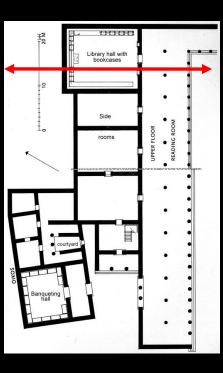
Pergamon library on the Athena terrace



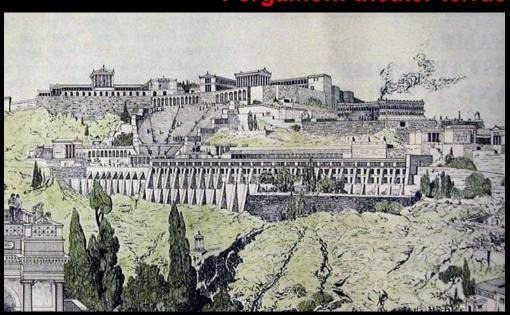


Pergamon library section

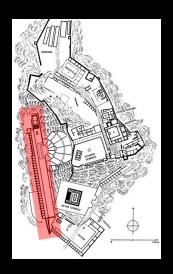




Pergamon: theater terrace and 700' long stoa



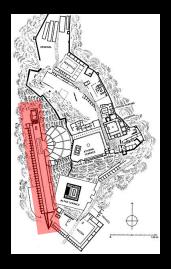




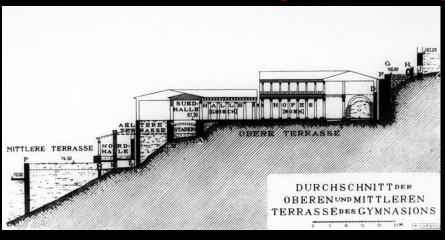
Pergamon upper city: theater terrace and 700' long stoa







Pergamon lower city: gym on three levels





Pergamon, Turkey (Ionia)





Hellenistic influences in Italy

Terracina: Temple of Jupiter Anxur



Hellenistic influences in Italy

Palestrina: temple of Fortuna Primigenia





Hellenistic influences in Italy

PIETRABBONDANTE

