Greek Architecture

Greek monument building was the temple:
Greek Architecture

Post and Beam (lintel) construction

Egypt

Greece
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture

Temple architecture consisted of 5 elements:

1. cella or nucleus of the building
2. columns
3. entablature
4. roof (gabled or flat)
5. pediment
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture

The cella or nucleus of the building was a rectangular chamber to house the statue of the god.
Greek Architecture

In Ancient Greek temples the cella:

- a room at the center of the building containing a statue representing the god worshipped in the temple
- an area to receive offerings to the god/goddess
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture

Columns form the support for the porch and the roof and surround the cella
Greek Architecture

west end of the Parthenon
Greek Architecture

Column parts:
- capitol
- shaft
- base
Greek Architecture

Columns are formed from drum sections
Greek Architecture

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Greek Architecture
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Greek Architecture

Doric Order:

• oldest
• Doric columns had no base
• vertical shafts were fluted
• capital was made of a circle topped by a square
• frieze has simple patterns
Greek Architecture

Doric Order:

- above frieze are metopes and triglyphs
- metope = smooth stone sections decorated with reliefs of the gods
- triglyph = 3 vertical lines between the metopes
- best example: Parthenon on the Acropolis
Greek Architecture

Doric Order:
fluted shaft
capital round
no base
metopes
triglyphs
Greek Architecture

west end of the Parthenon
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture

Ionic Order:

• base resembles stacked rings
• vertical shafts have flutes
• capital consists of scrolls above the shaft
• column taller, looks more slender than the Doric
Greek Architecture

Ionic Order:

• shafts have entasis = bulging to make column look straight
• more decorative than Doric
• best example: Temple of Athena Nike on the Acropolis
Greek Architecture

entasis = bulging to make column look straight
Greek Architecture

Ionic Order:
fluted shaft
capital scrolled
ringed base
plain frieze
Greek Architecture

Temple of Athena Nike
Greek Architecture

Corinthian Order:

- base resembles stacked rings
- vertical shafts have flutes
- ornate capital decorated with flowers, acanthus leaves and scrolls
- column maybe more slender than the Ionic
Greek Architecture

Corinthian Order:

- shafts have entasis = bulging to make column look straight
- most decorative
- flat roof
- best example: Olympic Zeus
Greek Architecture

entasis = bulging to make column look straight
Greek Architecture

Corinthian Order:

- fluted shaft
- capital flowers, leaves, and scrolls
- ringed base
- plain frieze
- flat roof
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture

Entablature

the lintel or beam that rests on the capitals of the columns
Greek Architecture

Entablature:
1. architrave
2. frieze
3. cornice
Greek Architecture

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2. frieze
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- triglyph
- metope
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture

East metopes: battle between the Olympian gods and the Giants
Greek Architecture

west metopes: battle of the Athenians against the Amazons
Greek Architecture

south metopes: battle of the Lapiths against the Centaurs
north metopes: the sack of Troy
Greek Architecture

Parthenon cella exterior wall friezes by Phidias
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture

roof (gabled or flat)
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture

Pediment:
• triangular section found above the entablature
• often decorated with sculptures and reliefs demonstrating scenes of Greek mythology
Greek Architecture

west end of the Parthenon
Greek Architecture

- East pediment of the Parthenon: the birth of Athena
West pediment of the Parthenon: contest between Athena and Poseidon to become patron god of Athens
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture
Greek Architecture

optical enhancements:

entasis = bulging to make column look straight

distortion = bending to make stairs look straight
Greek Architecture

optical enhancements:

entasis = bulging to make column look straight
Greek Architecture

distortion = bending to make stairs look straight
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