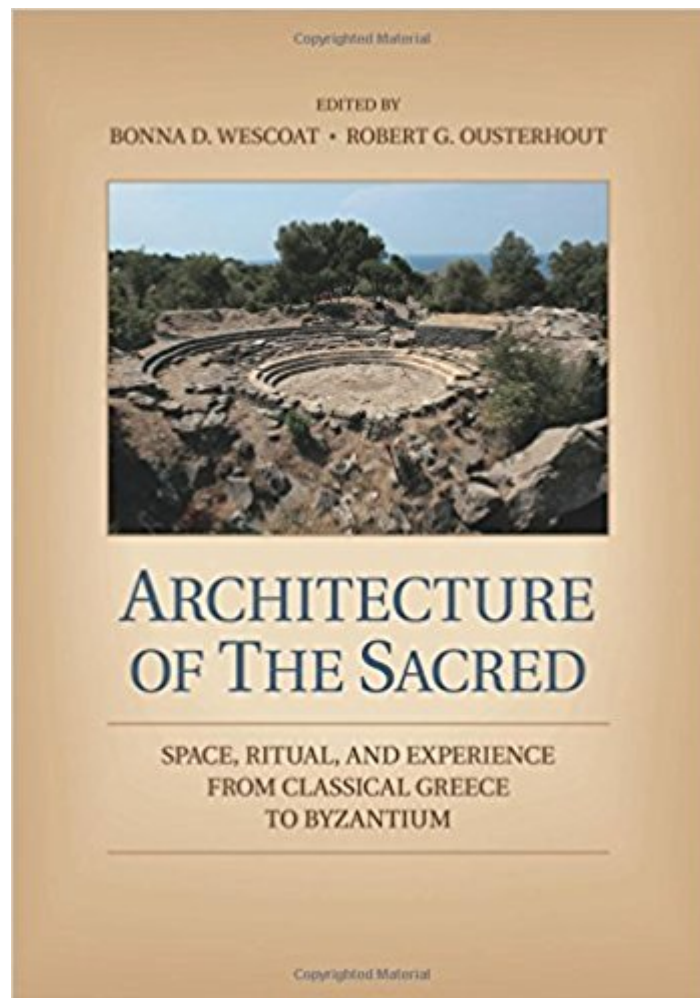




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Architecture Of The Sacred: Space, Ritual, And Experience From Classical Greece To Byzantium



Synopsis

In this book, a distinguished team of authors explores the way space, place, architecture, and ritual interact to construct sacred experience in the historical cultures of the eastern Mediterranean. Essays address fundamental issues and features that enable buildings to perform as spiritually transformative spaces in ancient Greek, Roman, Jewish, early Christian, and Byzantine civilizations. Collectively they demonstrate the multiple ways in which works of architecture and their settings were active agents in the ritual process. Architecture did not merely host events; rather, it magnified and elevated them, interacting with rituals facilitating the construction of ceremony. This book examines comparatively the ways in which ideas and situations generated by the interaction of place, built environment, ritual action, and memory contributed to the cultural formulation of the sacred experience in different religious faiths.

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"... this is an outstanding collection of essays, or "micro-histories", as the editors note, providing both breadth and specificity in its examination of the complex problem of architecture, space, and ritual." Jessica Paga, Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians

In this book, a distinguished team of authors explores the way space, place, architecture, memory, and ritual interact to construct sacred experience in ancient Greek, Roman, Jewish, early Christian, and Byzantine cultures. Collectively they demonstrate that architecture and its setting participated as active agents in the ritual process. Architecture did not merely host events; rather, it magnified and elevated them, interacting with rituals and facilitating the construction of ceremony.

This collection of insightful and revealing studies highlight for the reader concepts connecting architecture, ritual and memory in sacred spaces of the Eastern Mediterranean world stretching from the Ancient Greek through to the Byzantine era. An excellent foundation for understanding the interplay of architecture, art, society and religious belief in the Greek legacy.

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