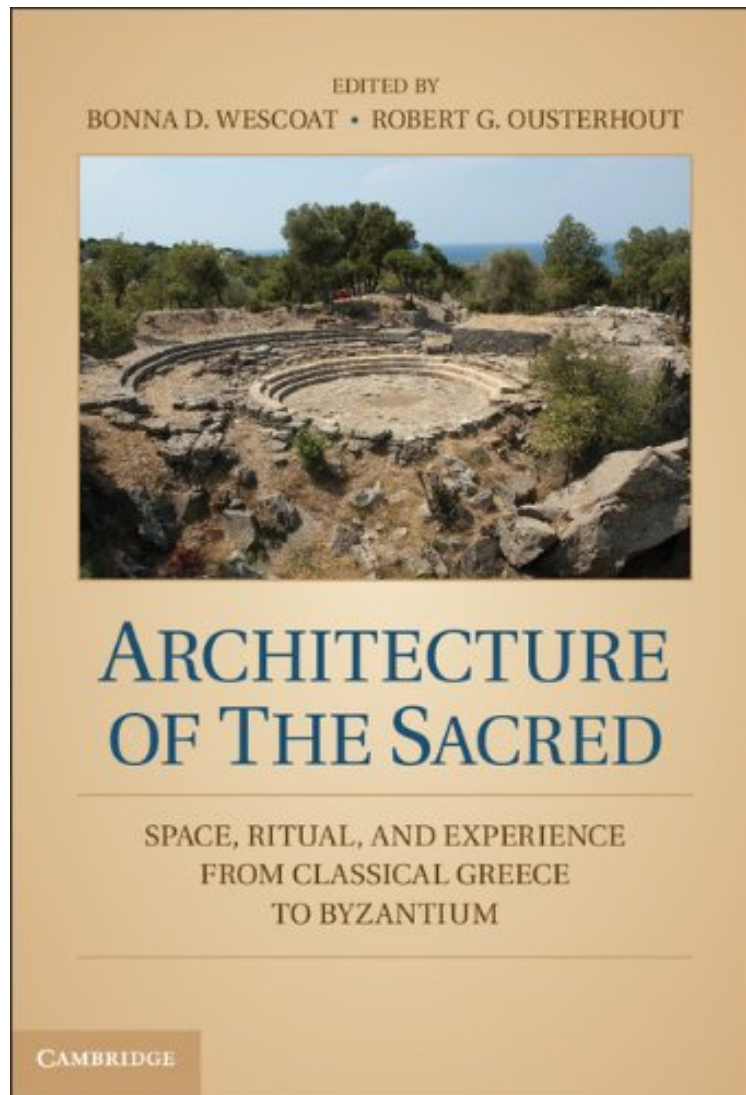


## Architecture of the Sacred

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**From Cambridge University Press : Architecture of the Sacred** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Architecture of the Sacred:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. insightful and revealing studiesBy KostasThis 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.

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.

"... 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*

About the Author Bonna D. Wescoat is Associate Professor of Art History at Emory University, Atlanta and Director of the Institute of Fine Arts excavations at the Sanctuary of the Great Gods, Samothrace, Greece. Her research concentrates on ancient Greek sacred architecture and iconography. Recent works include *The Temple of Athena at Assos* (2012) and *The Monuments of the Eastern Hill (Samothrace)* (2015). Robert G. Ousterhout is Professor of the History of Art at the University of Pennsylvania, where he directs the Center for Ancient Studies. A specialist in Byzantine art and architecture, his research focuses on the vanishing architectural heritage of the Eastern Mediterranean. He is the author of numerous books, including *Master Builders of Byzantium*, 2nd edition (2008), *The Byzantine Monuments of the Evros/Meric River Valley* (2007, with Ch. Bakirtzis), and *A Byzantine Settlement in Cappadocia*, 2nd edition (2011).