THE PANTHEON

The Pantheon is one of the most important architectural monuments of all time. Completed by Emperor Hadrian in approximately AD 125 on the site of its Augustan predecessor, it brilliantly displays the spatial pyrotechnics emblematic of Roman architecture and engineering. The Pantheon provides an up-to-date account of new research on this best preserved of all ancient buildings from the time of its construction to the twenty-first century. Each chapter addresses a specific fundamental issue or period; together, the chapters shed light on essential aspects of the Pantheon’s creation and establish the importance of its checkered history for the understanding of its ancient fabric and heritage, its present state, and its special role in the reception of ancient architecture and the very image of modern Rome.

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THE PANTHEON

FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE PRESENT

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CONTENTS

List of Plates and Figures  page vii
List of Contributors  xv
Acknowledgments  xvii
Note on Usage  xix

1  INTRODUCTION
TOD A. MARDER AND MARK WILSON JONES  1

2  AGrippa's PANTHEON AND ITS ORIGIN
EUGENIO LA ROCCA  49

3  NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE DATING OF THE PANTHEON
LISE M. HETLAND  79

4  THE CONCEPTION AND CONSTRUCTION OF DRUM AND DOME
GIANGIACOMO MARTINES  99

5  SOURCES AND PARALLELS FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE PANTHEON
GENE WADDELL  132

6  THE PANTHEON BUILDERS: ESTIMATING MANPOWER FOR CONSTRUCTION
JANET DELAINE  160

7  BUILDING ON ADVERSITY: THE PANTHEON AND PROBLEMS WITH ITS CONSTRUCTION
MARK WILSON JONES  193

8  THE PANTHEON IN THE MIDDLE AGES
ERIK THUNO  231
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 IMPRESSIONS OF THE PANTHEON IN THE RENAISSANCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARNOLD NESSELRATH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 THE PANTHEON IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOD A. MARDER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 NEOCLASSICAL REMODELING AND RECONCESSION, 1700–1820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUSANNA PASQUALI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 A NINETEENTH-CENTURY MONUMENT FOR THE STATE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROBIN B. WILLIAMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 THE PANTHEON IN THE MODERN AGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RICHARD A. ETLIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIST OF PLATES AND FIGURES

PLATES

I. Exterior view of the Pantheon
II. Interior of Pantheon; painting by Giovanni Paolo Pannini, 1747
III. Plan of Pantheon and urban context
IV. Diagrams of cavities in the wall
V. Plan of pavement, niches, and high altar; anonymous seventeenth-century drawing associated with the Bernini workshop
VI. Interior view featuring pier with Raphael’s tomb and flanking niches
VII. Portion of attic register of Pantheon interior that was restored to original design by Alberto Terenzio in the 1930s
VIII. Attic register of Pantheon interior as renovated beginning in 1753 by Paolo Posi
IX. Dome and oculus
X. Pantheon interior elevation laid flat with proportions overlaid
XI. Cutaway axonometric projection of the Pantheon by George Chédanne, 1891
XII. Virtual visualization of the Pantheon’s geometry
XIII. Visualization of the sequence of operations in building the Pantheon
XIV. Plan of Pantheon overlaid with reconstruction of Agrippa’s Pantheon, according to Rodolfo Lanciani
XV. Schematic reconstruction of Augustan Pantheon, according to Gerd Heene
XVI. Aerial view of alignment between Pantheon and Mausoleum of Augustus
XVII. Pantheon, reconstruction views, intended (below) and as executed (above)
XVIII. Plan of 1891–1892 excavations
XIX. Composite section combining information from excavations under portico and rotunda
XX. Section detail of 1891–1892 excavations illustrated in Figure 2.3, looking toward pilaster framing east side of entrance portal
XXI. Section combining information from excavations under portico and rotunda
XXII. Pantheon, east stair, sounding “S7” near the top of the rotunda
PLATES AND FIGURES

XXIII. West stair, detail of sounding on level 2
XXIV. Manfredo Manfredi, permanent tomb of Vittorio Emanuele II, lateral niche of the Pantheon, begun 1884

Plates follow page 196.

FIGURES

1.1. View of Pantheon facade, piazza, and fountain  page 2
1.2. View of the Pantheon from the front, at high level  5
1.3. Plan of Agrippa’s Pantheon facing south, orientation now in question  6
1.4. View of portico interior; drawing by Maarten van Heemskerck, ca. 1532–1536  9
1.5. Schematic geometry of the Pantheon  10
1.6. a) West corner of pediment, and b) full-scale etching of profiles for portico elevation, limestone paving in front of Mausoleum of Augustus 12
1.7. Exterior view of Pantheon; anonymous sixteenth-century drawing  13
1.8. Door and vault in portico; drawing by Raphael  14
1.9. Exterior of intermediate block, west side  15
1.10. Interior seen along main axis  18
1.11. Corinthian capital from the interior  19
1.12. Section showing gradations of heavy-to-light concrete from bottom to top  21
1.13. Cutaway of the Pantheon showing its construction  22
1.14. Exterior view of Pantheon; sixteenth-century engraving by Etienne Duperac  26
1.15. Proposed refashioning of the Pantheon elevation; sixteenth-century drawing by Antonio da Sangallo the Younger  29
1.16. Interior view of Pantheon; sixteenth-century drawing by Raphael  30
1.17. Section and detail of interior elevation; sixteenth-century woodcut engravings by Sebastiano Serlio  31
1.18. Section and detail of interior elevation; sixteenth-century woodcut engravings by Andrea Palladio  32
1.19. Northeast capital of portico with detail of Barberini bee and, on cornice, the later Chigi stars and mounts  35
1.20. View of Piazza della Rotonda after removal of vendors, repair of the portico, and rebuilding of the Chapter house; engraving by G. B. Falda, ca. 1665  36
1.21. Scheme for enlarging Piazza della Rotonda during the Napoleonic occupation of Rome under Camille De Tournon  42
1.22. Facade of Pantheon before 1882–1883; period photograph  43
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plate/Figure Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.23.</td>
<td>Facade of Pantheon after removal of bell towers in 1882–1883; period photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.24.</td>
<td>Scheme by Pietro Comparini for enlarging Piazza della Rotonda to commemorate King Victor Emmanuel II, 1882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.25.</td>
<td>a) Plan for a Foro Mussolini uniting Piazza Colonna and Piazza della Rotonda by Armando Brasini, 1927; and b) bird’s-eye view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.</td>
<td>Plan showing the Campus Martius in the Augustan period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2.</td>
<td>Plan of excavations under portico in 1892–1893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3.</td>
<td>a) Transverse section showing column bases and foundations of portico, and b) longitudinal section of trench cut in the central aisle of portico, revealed in excavations of 1892–1893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4.</td>
<td>Section of pilaster framing east side of entrance portal and substructure, revealed in excavations of 1892–1893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5.</td>
<td>Annotated sketch of structures exposed under portico during excavations of 1892–1893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6.</td>
<td>Partial plan of 1892–1893 excavations in southeast quadrant of rotunda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7.</td>
<td>Section reconstruction of two stairs belonging to the present Pantheon and Agrippan Pantheon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8.</td>
<td>Actual plan of portico compared to Agrippa’s portico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9.</td>
<td>Axial alignment of the Pantheon and the Mausoleum of Augustus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.10.</td>
<td>Plan (a) and model (b) of ancient elliptical building excavated in Chester, England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.11.</td>
<td>Axial alignment of the Pantheon and the Mausoleum of Augustus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.</td>
<td>View of entablature and tympanum at night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.</td>
<td>Brickstamp in situ, Caseggiato del Serapide, Ostia, from the Severan period, ca. AD 193–198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.</td>
<td>Selected brickstamps: CIL XV 966.7 (first century BC); CIL XV 315 (Trajanic period, from the Pantheon); CIL XV 20 b (AD 115, from the Pantheon); CIL XV 801 (AD 123)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4.</td>
<td>Detail of exterior brickwork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.</td>
<td>Plan of Pantheon by Giuliano da Sangallo, after 1465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2.</td>
<td>Exploded perspective of Trajan’s Column</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3.</td>
<td>West elevation of Pantheon; engraving by Francesco Piranesi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4.</td>
<td>Study of structure in upper part of drum by Josef Durm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5.</td>
<td>Perspective rendering of the structure over an exedra of the rotunda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6.</td>
<td>Interior elevations projected flat, showing the bare structure (a) and the structure in relation to principal marble elements (b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7.</td>
<td>Engraving illustrating brick stamps, construction of attic level, brick skeleton for a portion of the dome, and an elevation detail of the oculus by Francesco Piranesi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.8. Section (a), plan (b), and model (c) by Filippo M. Martines of Octagonal Hall in the Domus Aurea, Rome 120
4.9. Detail of dome intrados at the springing with plaster knocked off, 1892 125
4.10. Section through a casiddu near Santa Cesarea Terme, Puglia 128
4.11. Nuraghe “Is Paras,” near Ìsili, Sardinia, detail of corbeled dome 129
5.1. Plan of the Mausoleum of Augustus (a) and plan of the Pantheon (b) at both pavement level and at the springing of the dome 134
5.2. Plan of Trajan’s Baths 136
5.3. Pair of exedras in Trajan’s Baths; the coffering only aligns with the niches on the main and diagonal axes 137
5.4. Imperial Fora, Rome, including Trajan’s Forum and Trajan’s Markets 138
5.5. Trajan’s Markets 138
5.6. So-called Maritime Theater, Hadrian’s Villa, Tivoli 141
5.7. East exedra of Trajan’s Baths 144
5.8. Typical Roman brick-faced concrete wall with triangular pieces of bessales separated by layers of bipedales 149
5.9. Plan of Serapeum, Hadrian’s Villa, Tivoli 151
5.10. View of east side of Serapeum, Hadrian’s Villa, Tivoli, showing step-rings, concrete voussoirs, and openings to two of three levels of empty chambers in the walls 151
5.11. Section of Temple of Minerva Medica, Rome 152
5.12. Detail of brick-faced concrete with concrete voussoirs in the Arcus Neroniana (Caelumontana), built under Nero (AD 54–68) and reinforced during the reign of Septimius Severus (AD 193–211), who inserted a similar arch underneath 155
5.13. Diagram of brick-faced concrete showing the construction of concrete voussoirs 156
5.14. Pantheon, cutaway view 157
6.1. Ground plan 162
6.2. Half plans of upper levels 163
6.3. Half sections through the rotunda 164
6.4. Longitudinal section 164
6.5. Isometric rendering from rear, showing the so-called grotoni (grottoes), the Basilica of Neptune, and the triple-arched connection or “bridge” between the two at high level 165
6.6. Laser scan of longitudinal section 171
7.1. Armature of relieving arches embedded in the Pantheon 195
7.2. Interior elevation of the rotunda, projected flat, showing the principal cracks in the structure 196
7.3. Proposals for the centering used to construct the dome 199
PLATES AND FIGURES

7.4. Schematic cross section showing extent of a hypothetical doughnut-shaped centering tower for constructing the dome

7.5. Rotunda viewed from the south, above the grottoni

7.6. Pantheon, east stair, section

7.7. Pantheon, east stair

7.8. Pantheon, east stair, plan

7.9. Junction of the rotunda, transitional block, and portico on the east side, at high level

7.10. Pantheon, vestibule, and transitional block at the junction with the portico

7.11. Junction of the rotunda, transitional block, and portico on the west side

7.12. Pantheon plans and elevations, intended and as executed

7.13. The portico as built and as intended

7.14. The vestibule and door, seen on axis with view through to the rotunda beyond

8.1. Madonna and Child icon from the Pantheon, seventh century?

8.2. Exterior of Mausoleum of Tor de’Schiavi, Rome, c. 300

8.3. Exterior of Theodoric’s Mausoleum in Ravenna, early sixth century

8.4. Exterior of S. Adriano, the former Roman Curia, Rome

8.5. Interior of S. Stefano Rotondo, Rome

8.6. S. Andrea, with chapels labeled, attached to Old St. Peter’s

8.7. Ape mosaic of S. Stefano Rotondo

8.8. Detail of the Pantheon in a fresco by Cimabue, Upper Church of Assisi

8.9. Columns and shafts

8.10. Reconstruction drawing of medieval Pantheon facade based on elevation drawing of Antoine Desgodetz

8.11. Porch of Lateran Baptistery

8.12. Porch of Studios Church, Constantinople

9.1. Exterior view of the Pantheon; hand of the Anonymous Escurialensis, sixteenth century

9.2. Exterior view of the Pantheon; drawing from circle of Baldassare Peruzzi

9.3. Marble reliefs in the entrance hall of the Pantheon; Roman sculptor from the early sixteenth century

9.4. Second aedicule to the right of the entrance; Trecento fresco of the Coronation of the Virgin

9.5. Grave of the lawyer Paolo Scocciapile, third alcove to the right of the entrance, early fifteenth century

9.6. Ground plan of Pantheon; drawing by Hermann Vischer, sixteenth century
9.7. Section of the Pantheon; drawing by anonymous draftsman of the seventeenth century 270
9.8. Aedicule in the Pantheon; by anonymous draftsman from the circle of Giuliano da Sangallo 272
9.9. Tomb of Raphael, likely after his own designs 273
9.10. Aedicule from the Pantheon; drawing by Giuliano da Sangallo 274
9.11. Two aedicules from the Pantheon; drawing by Bernardo della Volpaia 275
9.12. Flank of the portico and detail of interior elevation; drawing by Antonio da Faenza, 1520–1535 276
9.13. Aedicule from the Pantheon; drawing by Gregor Caronica of a missing folio from a codex of 1577 277
9.14. Lead roof tile from the former cover of the cupola of the Pantheon 280
9.15. Timbering in the portico of the Pantheon; anonymous French draftsman, late sixteenth century 281
9.16. Pantheon studies; drawings by the Anonymous Foro Semproniensis(?) 284
9.17. Capital from rectangular alcove of the Pantheon 287
9.18. Capital by Brunelleschi from the Pazzi Chapel, fifteenth century 288
9.19. Longitudinal section of the Pantheon; drawing by Bernardo della Volpaia 292
9.20. King Josiah Destroys the Temples of Ashtoreth, Chemosh, and Milcom; Philipp Galles after Maarten van Heemskerk 294
10.1. Truss work at the Pantheon; drawing by Francesco Borromini, 1625 300
10.2. Inscriptions erected in 1632 by Urban VIII flanking entrance portal 301
10.3. Truss work in portico 303
10.4. Project to refashion interior elevation of the Pantheon; drawing by Francesco di Giorgio, fifteenth century 306
10.5. Longitudinal section of Pantheon; drawing by Baldassare Peruzzi 308
10.6. Elevation of Pantheon; wash drawing from Bernini workshop 311
10.7. Project for decorating the coffers with the arms of Alexander VII Chigi; ink and wash 315
10.8. Transverse section showing proposed coffer decorations; drawing in several hands from workshop of Carlo Fontana 316
10.9. Project for glazing the oculus of the Pantheon; ink and wash drawing from Bernini workshop 318
10.10. Plan of Piazza della Rotonda with proposed changes on east border; anonymous drawing, ca. 1660 321
10.11. Study for the capitals and entablature to repair the east side of the Pantheon portico, with Chigi star and mounts; anonymous ink and wash drawing 323
10.12. Plan of Piazza della Rotonda; drawing by Felice della Greca, 1663, with handwritten additions of 1704 325
10.13. Sketch plan for the Pantheon and flanking streets; chalk drawing by Gianlorenzo Bernini, 1662 to early 1663 326
10.14. Elevation project for the facade and flanking blocks; chalk drawing by Gianlorenzo Bernini, 1662 to early 1663 326
10.15. Hexastyle facade project in plan, with flanking streets; pen and ink drawing, hand of Alexander VII, 1662 to early 1663 327
10.16. Hexastyle facade project; chalk drawing by Gianlorenzo Bernini, 1662 to early 1663 328
11.1. Interior of Pantheon; painting by Giovanni Paolo Pannini 331
11.2. Cross section as reconstructed by Carlo Fontana depicting the Pantheon under Augustus, and reconstructed cross section depicting the Pantheon during the Republic 335
11.3. Interior and exterior of Pantheon showing medieval high altar, its pergola, and other decorations in the apse; drawing by G.T. Vergelli, etched by P.P. Girelli 336
11.4. Project for Chapel of S. Giuseppe di Terrasanta in the Pantheon; drawing attributed to Alessandro Specchi 340
11.5. Reconstruction of altar and related components predating the restorations of Clement XI (1700–1721), and the choir as described in an anonymous drawing of 1711 341
11.6. Mobile scaffolding invented and realized in 1756 by Tommaso Giovanni Corsini to restore the interior of the Pantheon dome 344
11.7. Detail of Figure 11.1 showing traces of decoration in the interior of the dome that were added by Carlo Fontana’s workshop during the reign of Alexander VII, 1655–1667 345
11.8. Design proposal for Pantheon attic; drawing by Paolo Posi, ca.1757 347
11.9. Commemorative medal by O. Hamerani, officially represented in 1757, showing proposed attic design by Paolo Posi 347
11.10. Posi’s attic design 348
12.1. Capriccio of ancient and papal Romes, by Philippe and Felix Benoist, with the Pantheon at center 356
12.2. View of the official funeral of Vittorio Emanuele II in the Pantheon showing the catafalque and temporary decorations, January 17, 1878; engraving by Dante Paolocci 361
12.3. Exterior of the Pantheon decorated by Luigi Rosso et al. for the state exequies of Vittorio Emanuele II, February 16, 1878 362
12.4. Interior of the Pantheon decorated by Luigi Rosso et al. for the state exequies of Vittorio Emanuele II, February 16, 1878; engraving by Dante Paolocci 364
12.5. First anniversary funeral commemoration for Vittorio Emanuele II in the Pantheon, with a catafalque designed by Giuseppe Massuero, January 15, 1879 369
12.6. Views of the 1884 national pilgrimage to the tomb of Vittorio Emanuele II, seen in the Piazza Barberini, behind S. Maria 369
Maggiore, at the Pantheon, at Termini train station, and in Piazza del Popolo

12.7. Giulio Monteverde, “simulacrum” of the proposed tomb of Vittorio Emanuele II in the Pantheon, seen during the national pilgrimage to the king’s tomb, January 1884; engraving by Dante Paolocci


13.1. View of the Forum Fredricianum, Berlin, with St. Hedwig’s Cathedral

13.2. Maximilian Godefroy, First Unitarian Church, Baltimore, 1818

13.3. Jacques Gondoin, anatomy amphitheater, École de Chirurgie (School of Surgery), Paris, 1769–1774

13.4. Étienne-Louis Boullée, Cenotaph to Sir Isaac Newton (project), 1784

13.5. Pierre-Adrien Pâris, tomb of Agamemnon in a crypt, set design, ca. 1783

13.6. Paul Philippe Cret, sketch from course on architectural form, University of Pennsylvania, ca. 1910


13.10. Thomas Jefferson, Rotunda, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, 1818–1828


13.12. Gunnar Asplund, public library, Stockholm, view into the reading room


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NOTE ON USAGE

Throughout this book “Rotunda” is used to refer to the whole building. The lowercased term “rotunda” is used to refer to the cylindrical body of that building with its domical vault.