

Parthenon:

Form (2): This exterior peripteral peristyle gives the Parthenon the same look all the way around the temple and provides us its rectangular form/shape. Also had Doric columns on pronaos and opisthodomos. (Note: Octastyle and fluted columns) (1)

Purpose (2): The spiritual home of Athena Parthenos, celebrates Athens' golden age and also holds the cult statue of Athena.

Location (2): Built on top of the Acropolis, Athens. Surrounded by all other Temples of Greek Gods and warriors to have one area connecting all spiritual, religious, traditional and historical aspects to observe at once and keep the history together.

Decoration (2): Metopes placed above Doric columns, explaining/showing the historical/mythological war between the Centaurs and Lapiths on the south side of the building, Giants and gods on the east side, Amazons and Athenians on the west, Greeks v Trojans on the north (1) – links to Greek religion and beliefs.

Sacrifices/Rituals (2): An altar was placed outside the Parthenon to sacrifice animals for celebrations/festivals, beginnings and endings of wars, and to acknowledge the gods.

Auckland Museum:

Form (2): Formed/shaped non rectangular (the Parthenon was rectangular) but has similar Doric columns on both (two) entrances – Pseudo-peripteral. (Note: Octastyle and fluted columns)

Purpose (2): The spiritual place of acknowledging national/international treasures, acknowledging (mainly) national and international history and time phases, also to hold ceremonies and acknowledge the losses and sacrifices in WWI.

Location (2): Built on top of the Auckland Domain hill, New Zealand. Purpose for this location was the flat geometry to build and landscape the building, also on its own hill to show its individual importance. Having the Museum near Auckland City attracts tourists as it's the most populated area in New Zealand and has done so since 1852.

Decoration (2): Metopes also above Doric columns and contains the metope which explains/shows us the story of the men who fought for New Zealand in both WWI and WWII (1939-1945) – originally only WWI, WWII added post 1945.

Sacrifices/Rituals (2): Sculpture placed outside of external steps which lists all the names of the men who risked their lives for their country during the WWI and WWII. Ceremonies held at the harbour side of museum – war memorials, ANZAC day commemorations etc.

Form, function and themes

The Parthenon is an ideal temple for Athenian people which was built in the 5th century BCE. The temple was created as a dedication and gift to the Greek goddess Athena Parthenos. The frieze and metopes explain messages of historical background and expectations of what was ideal to their religion and cultural standards as seen through the mythological stories on the metopes and ionic frieze. The ideal theme for the Parthenon is war, rage and conflict between Greek Gods, creatures, and mankind (4) – which could be reflective of the war recently won by the Athenians against the Persians (3). The frieze and metopes show the stories in more detail though they continue right around the rectangular temple. There are scenes of violence and victory – with one figure often being lower than the victor in a metope (2). The stories told were long and descriptive that continued or repeated for the viewer to worship and remember.

The Auckland Museum is one of New Zealand's national icons as it holds the most historical and international treasures. The metopes of the Museum provide viewers with stories of men who fought for New Zealand in WWI and WWII. This was an intentional acknowledgment of sacrifice

but was not religious, like the Parthenon was due to New Zealand being less religious than ancient Greece (4). The story of the men was to celebrate their contribution to our nation and for intimacy and compassion. The theme throughout the Auckland Museum (externally) is war and battle which has the sculpture praising the men in honour who fought for our peace and describes their experiences to knowledge us with facts of our heritage (4).

The museum is octastyle with Doric, fluted columns which are similar to the Parthenon. Though it is not rectangular but symmetrical down the middle which gave it balance. This building is not identical to the Parthenon but when observing there are Greek ideas which can be considered to have influenced the museum - octastyle and fluted, Doric columns with internal, detailed ionic columns. The architect was so inspired by the buildings he saw in Greece that he wanted to grace Auckland with a similar structure (3/4).

The function of the Parthenon is to hold the cult statue of Athena Parthenos and tell the stories of her life and the battle between Centaurs and Lapiths through frieze form and metopes. Circulated around the external walls of the Auckland Museum are Metopes' telling stories of men who fought for New Zealand's peace and happiness in WWI and WWII. These ideas are celebration as are the ideas of the battles between Athena and Centaurs and Lapiths, though the meaning of the Museums story is more cultural rather than religious and spiritual e.g. The Athenians/Greeks worshipped and prayed for the stories, Athena's cult statue and altar for festivals and historical dates whereas us New Zealander's only remember and appreciate what these men had done for us (4). Because the two contrasts are connected through emotions the museum is identical in the respect it provides its own historical story as the Parthenon does, only in a different value (spiritual/cultural vs. individually historical/semi cultural for New Zealand alone.) (4).